

EVERGLADES SOCIETY FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Dedicated to our Unique History

P O Box 46, Everglades City, FL, 34139
email: ESHP@hotmail.com

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ESHP is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation. Our current project is the **restoration of the City Hall building** which was constructed in 1928 as the original Collier County Court House. The Society is also concerned with preserving all **historic sites, structures, documents, artifacts and memories** within the Everglades area.

DIRECTORS:

Patty Huff (President)
Carol Moseman (Vice President)
Marya Repko (Secretary)
Sheilah Strobel (Treasurer)
Robin Barnes (Fundraising)
Jean Schultz (Fundraising)
Daniel Summers (Architectural Consultant)
Mayor Sammy Hamilton (ex-officio)

COMMITTEES:

Fundraising
Membership
Grant Writing
Public Relations
Historical Research
Architecture & Engineering

*If you would like join any of the Committees, please contact
Patty by email or phone 695-2397.*

WISH LIST

What you can do right now to help:

- Donate one-hundred 39-cent stamps for newsletter circulation and membership mail-shots.
- Donate paper for newsletters and brochures.
- Put a bumper sticker on your car.
- Ask a friend or neighbor to become a new member.
- Give out ESHP Save City Hall brochures everywhere you visit or shop in Naples.

HELP NEEDED WITH WEBSITE

We are designing a website but need **technical help** to translate our ideas into HTML pages. If you have any experience, we would like to hear from you!!! Please email Marya on ESHP@hotmail.com.

TOWN CRIER

Newsletter

of the
EVERGLADES
SOCIETY FOR
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION

April 20, 2006
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SPECIAL EDITION



sketch courtesy of Jurg Furrer

CITY HALL RESTORATION

Mayor Sammy Hamilton announced at the "town hall meeting" on Tuesday, April 18, that the cost of restoring City Hall is estimated to be \$3,450,000.

Work has already begun on the **foundations** which sunk so badly that the building was beginning to collapse. A specialist sub-contractor with hydraulic jacks was called in to shore up the structure which is now stabilized. Permanent repairs should be finished before rainy season starts. The temporary **roof** should also be replaced by then.

The Mayor relayed to the gathering the long saga of his **negotiations** with FEMA; how he had to convince the authorities not to tear down the building and put up a new one, how the first project officer retired because of illness without leaving any paperwork, how he had to get the replacement officer up to scratch, and how helpful the State was in his relations with the federal government. Furthermore, with all the publicity he garnered from the media and with persistent persuasion, our application got to the top of the pile at FEMA.

The result of all these arduous discussions is that **\$3 million** has been awarded to the City for the reconstruction of the building. That means that we still **have to find almost \$500,000** but the Mayor is hopeful that there is money and goodwill out there to complete the project.

His optimistic goal is to have the building ready for Seafood Festival 2007.



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CITY HALL RESTORATION BUDGET

Some of the items in the budget presented on 4/18/06 for City Hall restoration are:

Interior:

Flooring	\$100,000
Doors, Trim	\$ 75,000
Walls, Painting	\$ 75,000
Cabinetry	\$ 50,000

Exterior:

Windows/Doors	\$190,000
Stucco	\$ 50,000
Painting	\$ 65,000
Detail, trim	\$ 60,000
Landscaping	\$150,000

Broken down like this, the total amount is not so daunting. We hope that individual donors will **adopt one of the categories** and fund the work.

It is vital to ensure that the **details** are right so that our building is restored to all the codes, including that for historic preservation. For example, the windows will have to be replaced but replicas of the original design are planned so that they are in keeping with the architecture. And, the wonderful wood floors, which have been hidden under carpet, will be refinished to their former glory.

Historic Societies Gather

Palm Cottage in Naples is hosting a function on Sunday, April 30, at 2:00 p.m. for local historical societies. It will be the first time that we have all got together. The highlight of the event will be the handover of historic photos by the Naples Historical Society (formerly the Collier County Historical Society) to the Marco Island Historical Society. The pictures will be displayed in Marco Town Hall until their new museum is built.

If you would like to attend and meet other people from Southwest Florida who are also interested in preserving our past, RSVP to Patty at 695-2397 or Marya at 695-2905.



FUND RAISING

We have almost \$14,000 in the bank. **Income** has been from sales of T-shirts and other items, from membership, and from events like George's dinner last spring and the community yard sale. We also had generous donations, including a large memorial for former Mayor Mildred Cooke. **Expenditure** has mostly been the purchase of T-shirts, postage, office supplies, and miscellaneous start-up costs.

Now that we know more about plans for City Hall, we are accepting **pledges** for donations to be paid within the next year. A form is included with this newsletter. Your contribution is tax deductible if you file an IRS 1040 Schedule A enumerating all your expenses.

A **special commemorative brick** will be placed in a reserved area for all donations of \$500 or more in recognition of your support. If you wish to remain anonymous or to dedicate your donation to another person, please indicate that on your pledge form.



BRICK BY BRICK

The collection of commemorative bricks will be placed in front of City Hall after major reconstruction work is finished and landscaping is started.

We have selected a few little pictures, like this flag, which you can include with your words. You can pick up an order form and see a **sample brick** at City Hall

MEMBERSHIP

We have 58 paid members plus 14 who have not renewed for 2006. We send the newsletter to 46 of them by email, saving almost \$18 per issue. If we do not have **your email address**, please send a short message to ESHP@hotmail.com. We also email the news to over 40 politicians, community leaders, and historical groups.

Welcome to **new members** since our last newsletter:

Joyce Hester Laeser, Chokoloskee & Los Alamos, NM
Varick & Nick Niles, ECity & Naples
Mr & Mrs Barrett Morris, Chokoloskee & Lexington, KY