

Monthly Publication from the Zephyrhills Historical Association

Volume 21 – Number 4

April 2019

The next Zephyrhills Historical Association meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 7th in the meeting room of the *Zephyrhills Public Library*, 5347 8th Street. A board meeting is scheduled for 5 p.m., followed by a regular business meeting at 5:30 p.m. and the program at 6 p.m. Refreshments include drinks, which are provided, and food brought in to share by members.

Speakers



Our friend and member Steve Spina stopped by in April to introduce Billy Poe, who will be his replacement as City Manager when he retires this summer. We were finally able to present Steve with his plaque for being a Charter Member that we voted to give him some time ago. Billy was an excellent speaker. He talked about his family and growing up in Zephyrhills. He was, most recently, City Manager for Dade City, and he obviously enjoyed his time there, but he related how wonderful it made him feel to be coming back to his home town. It will give him an opportunity to give back to the community that supported him in his youth. We are confident he will make a great city manager, as Steve has been.

Our program in May will be a return performance by the Zephyrhills High School Chorus, under the direction of Luan Gore. This has become a tradition for us. I believe this will be the fifth May appearance for the group. The members of the group, of course, have changed, but Luan remains, and we have never been disappointed by their presentation. We enjoy ourselves each year. We'll have pizza and drinks for the students, as we have other years, but folks still need to bring in the usual food for our meeting. We hope you'll join us.



Tuesday, May 21st, is our next Give-Back Scholarship Fundraiser

at **Sergio's Italian Restaurant** on Hwy. 54 West in Zephyrhills. We are meeting at 4 p.m.

Contact Patty Thompson (813-780-8559 – pattycakeclown1@aol.com) for information.



E54 SELF STORAGE

38461 County Road 54
Zephyrhills, FL 33542

813-788-5969

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Jeff Miller

Pasco County Historian

For a walk down memory lane visit

www.fivay.org

Please consider contributing old photos for the website.

My email address is on the opening page

ZHA Mission Statement

The mission of the Zephyrhills Historical Association is to research, gather, and share local historical information with all generations, through our literature, programs, and scholarships, and to volunteer assistance to the Zephyrhills Depot Museum and WWII Barracks Museum.

<u>Executive Board</u>		
President	Jerry Pricher
Vice President	Rod Rehrig
Secretary	Anna Boone
Treasurer	Andrew Nagy
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		Clereen Brunty
		Polly Gill
		Beverly Holmes
		Patty Thompson
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Refreshments	Polly Gill
Newsletter	Jerry Pricher
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Programs	Jerry Pricher
Scholarship	Louie Holt
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Archivist	Louie Holt
Depot Museum	Carolyn Dean
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 Maryhelen Clague
 Greg First
 Bill Kustes
 Jackie & Terry Lindsey
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Scholarship Boosters

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 Carolyn Dean
 Greg First
 Thea Johnson
 Bill Kustes
 Dr. Richard Moore
 Andrew Nagy
 Anna Poe
 Jerry Pricher
 Linda Sante
 Margaret Seppanen

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 <p>Clereen Morrill Brunty ZHS Alumni Contact clereen@tampabay.rr.com 813-782-8763</p>	 <p>chalet flowers Kim Tim Maryann Sanders owners Ph: 813-788-2874 chaletflowersfl.com 5002 7th Street Zephyrhills, FL 33542</p>
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A GO FOR POE

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Zephyrhills Hires Native Son to Replace Outgoing City Manager



Zephyrhills City Manager Steve Spina, set to retire in July of 2019, will hand the reigns over to the newly hired Assistant City Manager Billy Poe, right.

Story and photos by Dave Walters


When a young Billy Poe was a physical education teacher working at Woodland Elementary School, he would tell his student Jordan Flores to tell her grandfather to give him a job.

The grandfather was Zephyrhills City Manager Steve Spina, who ultimately gave Poe that job with the Zephyrhills Planning Department. That experience launched him into a position to become the City Manager of Dade City.

Last week, Poe was selected for another city job, but this one is to eventually become Spina’s replacement as the Zephyrhills City Manager.

Flash back to 15 years ago; Spina did send a job application back with Jordan and the rest is history.

In a Nov. 7 public job interview before the members of Zephyrhills City Council, Poe was selected to be the Assistant City Manager and ultimately replace Spina, who plans to retire in July. Poe’s competition for the job was Melanie Kendrick Romagnoli, Program Administrator for the Pasco County Office of Economic Growth.



Zephyrhills Museum of Military History
A City of Zephyrhills Facility
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“There’s excitement, nervousness and several emotions going on right now,” Poe said, after being offered the position. “There’s more pressure because this is my hometown and I know people here. I hope I can live up to their expectations.”

Poe was born and raised in Zephyrhills. He is a graduate of Zephyrhills High School, his children go to school in Zephyrhills and his son Josh Fiallo graduated from ZHS.

“To come back to my hometown is really cool,” said Poe, who couldn’t stop smiling. “I get to influence where I live and what grew me [up] and made me what I am today.”

Throughout his tenure in Dade City, Poe has relied on Spina as a mentor who was just a phone call away for guidance. Now Poe will shadow his mentor until Spina retires in the summer.

“I think it will be great working side-by-side with Steve,” Poe said. “To be able to sit even closer to Steve and take what I learned in Dade City and take what I learn from him enhances it even more.”

The interview process was rapid-fire questioning from city council members and Poe was able to edge out Romagnoli for the job.

“It was interesting. I didn’t expect to be standing at a podium,” Poe said. “I think I felt a little calmer standing at the podium. The longer I was standing there, the more comfortable I became.

”Poe’s contract with Dade City calls for him giving a 90-day notice prior to leaving although that aspect of his contract is negotiable. Under the 90-day stipulation, Poe wouldn’t be able to be in his office at the new City Hall until February.



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From son James

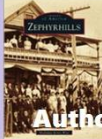
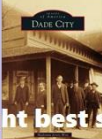

God Bless America

Honoring Steve Spina




Steve Spina was given a plaque at our most recent meeting for being a charter member of the Zephyrhills Historical Association, organized in 1980. His chosen replacement for the City Manager’s position, Billy Poe, was our guest speaker. Billy’s mother, Anna, was also in attendance and provided the following pictures. Thanks, Anna.



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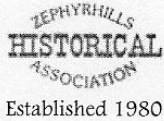
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ZEPHYRHILLS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 2ND, 2019

President Jerry Pricher called the Regular Business Meeting to order, giving the Invocation and leading in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Meeting commenced at 5:30 P.M.

The Secretary's Report was read and amended, as Clereen Brunty pointed out that Joe Radecki was a guest and not a member as listed in the minutes. There was a motion by Rod Rehrig to approve the amended minutes, seconded by Andy Nagy and agreed to by all.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Andy Nagy, approved by Clereen Brunty, seconded by Beverly Holmes and accepted by the group.

Visitors Michael and Sheila Navoy were welcomed to the meeting. They have lived here for a few years, coming originally from New Hampshire where they participated in the historical society.

Guest Dick Woodworth was back and got an application to join. He is a hobbyist who collects presidential campaign posters. He brought in a large jigsaw puzzle depicting presidential campaign candidates throughout the years.

Old Business: Patty Thompson brought in flyers for the April 16 Scholarship Fundraiser at Sergio's. All are encouraged to be there at 4 P.M. to fellowship though the flyers will be honored all day 11 A.M - 9 P.M. Patty also had raffle tickets at \$5 each for an Olive Garden \$50 gift card and she reported that \$250 has been collected so far.

Regarding the Scholarships, Jerry talked to Louie Holt. There have been no applications submitted to the Association so Jerry will talk to the high school principal. Andy asked if the Scholarship Committee members can get copies of the applications. There was discussion about how to award the money, possibly to at least one high school senior and three previous recipients for continuing education. Al Stone said that the Chamber of Commerce has already had a lot of scholarship applicants, suggesting we call someone at the Chamber.

As for the Founders' Day recap, our organization won the parade plaque which was brought in for all to see. Andy asked where are our plaques displayed, and Clereen said they are in storage.

Clereen reported about the audit committee, which included Clereen, Anna and George Boone with Treasurer Andy Nagy present. The books for 2018 balanced perfectly.

Other Old Business: There was none.

New Business: Rod Rehrig made an announcement concerning the Memorial Day Ceremony to take place at 11 A.M., May 27th. at Oakside Cemetery. There will be the Presentation of the Colors by the JROTC, as well as participants and speakers from various Veterans' organizations.

Beverly announced that if anyone wants to, there will be volunteers needed to place flags on Veterans' graves at Oakside as has the JROTC and Boy Scouts in the past.

Other New Business: None

Rod made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Bill Kustes and agreed to by everyone. The meeting ended at 5:52 P.M.

Steve Spina was presented with a plaque honoring him as a charter member of the Zephyrhills Historical Association.

Respectfully submitted, Anna V. Boone, Secretary, Zephyrhills Historical Association

Our guest speaker is William Poe who works in the City Manager's Office with Steve Spina.