



**CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FLORIDA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**

Meeting Date: May 5, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

From: B. Francis, City Manager

Subject: Lancaster House (Green House at 5003 Randolph)

Background: The City sent a letter to the Pone Castle Historical Society requesting the society send the City Council a plan for renovating and moving the Lancaster house. PCHS responded to the letter stating that PCHS was declining the City's donation of the house due to time, funding and historical preservation issues. I was contacted last week by a private individual who would be interested in moving the house to her property. Commissioner Gold spoke to the individual regarding the house and they would move the house if the City would donate it to them and they could live in it.

During these past few weeks, the city has received correspondence from individuals representing other entities supporting the City continue to keep the house and look for partners to renovate it, yet none of these entities volunteered either time or money to assist the City. CCA Board stated that CCA will assist with the cost of the move.

Staff Recommendation: If the individual could get the necessary approvals to permit the house to be put on her property including moving the house, by August 1, 2020, then the staff recommends donating the house. If the permits and approvals are not done by August 1, then demolish the house. If the house is demolished, the City will purchase an historical marker to be placed on the spot where the house was.

Suggested Motion: I move we accept the staff's recommendation.

Alternatives: Move forward with demolition.

Fiscal Impact: \$5,000-\$6,000

Attachments: Letter to PCHS
PCHS Letter to City Council



CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FLORIDA

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Belle Isle, Florida 32809
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March 19, 2020

Gail Padgett, President
Pine Castle Historical Society
c/o Pine Castle Women's Club
5901 S. Orange Ave.
Orlando, FL 32809

SUBJECT: Lancaster House

Dear Gail:

In February 2019, the City Council approved a motion to donate the Lancaster House to the Pine Castle Historical Society (PCHS). A year has passed with no progress done on the Lancaster House by PCHS; therefore, at the Council meeting held on March 18, 2020, the City Council passed a motion to have the PCHS move the Lancaster House by July 1, 2020 as part of the additional conditions listed here.

The conditions are as follows:

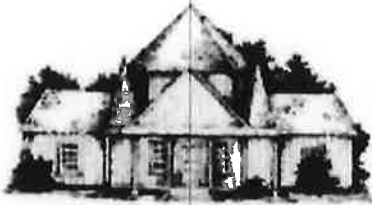
1. Submit the SHPO application for the Lancaster House by April 30, 2020. PCHS should make note on the application that the house needs to be moved to a new location, but within the Pine Castle Urban Preservation District. As the City is still the owner of the house, the City will have to sign the application.
2. Develop a plan for moving the Lancaster House (PCHS could use the plan that was developed for the Crawford House.) The plan will include cost, sources of funds, project leader, and move the house no later than July 1, 2020. If the City assisted in the Crawford House move, it would provide those same services for the Lancaster House move.
3. Provide a copy of the SHPO application and the moving plan to the City by May 12, 2020.
4. Provide a funding plan for the rehabilitation of the Lancaster House by June 1, 2020. The plan will include:
 - a. List of rehabilitation items
 - b. Cost of rehabilitation list
 - c. Sources of funding

- d. Project Leader
- e. Contractor
- f. Expected completion date

It is further stipulated that PCHS cannot transfer, sell, or deed the Lancaster House to any other entity without City Council approval.

Sincerely,

Bob Francis, ICMA-CM
City Manager



Pine Castle Historical Society
"Preserving Old Florida"

631 Wilks Avenue, Orlando, FL 32809
www.pchsm.com

MISSION

Our Mission is to Preserve and Promote the rich history of Pine Castle; and pursue economic vibrancy through visitor engagement, building community, education and publications.

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City of Belle Isle
1600 Nela Avenue
Belle Isle, FL 32809

RE: Lancaster House

Dear Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers:

I am in receipt of a letter containing a recommendation which, among other things, provided for the Pine Castle Historical Society to submit a funding and moving plan for the Lancaster House within the next several months. While Pine Castle Historical Society is appreciative of this consideration, we must decline at this time due to timing, funding concerns, and historical preservation reasons.

As the owner of the Lancaster House and steward of this historical landmark for the current and future citizens of Belle Isle (and the greater Orange County community), the Pine Castle Historical Society is confident that the City will continue to champion the preservation of ever scarce historical resources within the community. We look forward to the Mayor and Council members continuing to partner with area non-profits and businesses to arrive at a creative solution to preserve the home of Belle Isle's first mayor and namesake of Lancaster Road and Lancaster Elementary School, Arthur Q. Lancaster.

Being located on the original homestead of town founder Will Wallace Harney will maximize its historical significance.

Best Regards,

Gail Padgett
Chairman, Pine Castle Historical Society

CC: Bob Francis, City Manager
Yolanda Quiceno, City Clerk