

A PROCLAMATION OF THE NASSAU COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GULLAH/GEECHEE CULTURAL COMMUNITY TRUST, INC., GRANT APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA'S DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES FOR THE ABANDONED AFRICAN AMERICAN CEMETERIES GRANT.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has received a request for a letter of support from the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Community Trust Inc. (GGCCT), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, in favor of its application to the Florida Department of State's Division of Historical Resources, Historic Preservation Grants Program Abandoned African American Cemeteries Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, GGCCT's proposed project entitled, "Restoring Crandall Cemetery: Life, Culture and Community," is a Cemetery Protection project for the purposes of repairing, restoring, and maintaining the cemetery at Crandall that has been inactive since the 1960s; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project will include planning to guide the long-term preservation of the Cemetery; including installing monuments, signage and beautification in a manner that is culturally representative and approved by the Division of Historic Resources, consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners recognizes the importance of historic preservation, however the Crandall Cemetery is located on private owned property and is not under the jurisdiction of the County. The Board supports the GGCCT's grant application and their efforts to preserve the Crandall Cemetery, contingent upon receipt of a letter of concurrence from the current property owner.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the Board of County Commissioners, the Chairman is authorized to sign a letter of support for the GGCCT's grant application.

DULY ADOPTED THIS 27th Day of November, 2023.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA

KLYNT A. FARMER
Its: Chairman

Attest as to Chairman's Signature:

Approved as to form by the
Nassau County Attorney:

JOHN A. CRAWFORD
Its: Ex-Officio Clerk

DENISE C. MAY



NASSAU COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
96135 Nassau Place, Suite 1
Yulee, Florida 32097

John F. Martin
A.M. "Hupp" Huppmann
Jeff Gray
Alyson R. McCullough
Klynt A. Farmer

Dist. No. 1 Fernandina Beach
Dist. No. 2 Amelia Island/Fernandina Beach
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Dist. No. 5 Callahan/West Yulee

TACO E. POPE, AICP
County Manager

JOHN A. CRAWFORD
Ex-Officio Clerk

DENISE C. MAY
County Attorney

November 27, 2023

State of Florida
Division of Historical Resources
R.A. Gray Building
500 S. Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

To Whom It May Concern,

Please accept this letter of support for the Gullah Geechee Cultural Community Trust for their Abandoned African American Cemeteries Grant application. The GGCCT works hard to preserve the rich heritage of the Gullah Geechees, a group of Africans that have extensive history here in Nassau County.

One place of historical significance is the Crandall Cemetery, located on the St. Marys River west of the Roses Bluff Area. The sacred burial ground includes ancestors of the Gullah Geechees, however it has been inactive for several decades. The Gullah Geechees are applying for the grant with hopes to repair, restore and maintain this historic site. The Board of County Commissioners supports their efforts and looks forward to seeing the site refurbished.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (904) 530-6010 or via email at kfarmer@nassaucountyfl.com.

Sincerely,

Klynt A. Farmer
Chairman

cc: Gullah Geechee Cultural Community Trust