

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA**

June 18, 2024
5:00 P.M.

MINUTES

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call

Jerry Bowman

Tobi Aycock

Barbara Armbrister Boynton

Micah Johnson

James Morehead

Mona Silverstein

Karen Moreland - Absent

Robert Whitsett – Alternate #1

Ken Stolar - Alternate #2 - Voting

Maggie Barszewski, Planner, COPB

Rhonda DiBiase, Secretary II

SECTION FOR MARK BEAUDREAU

**F. Paul J. Hurt Pompano Beach Ocean Rescue Headquarters
Mark Beaudreau – Director, Parks & Recreation Department**

Mr. Bowman introduced Mark Beaudreau regarding the renaming of a building on Pompano Beach for Ocean Rescue Headquarters. Mr. Bowman stated the Hurt family is a pioneer family of Pompano and Paul Hurt was the first lifeguard for Pompano back in 1949.

Mark Beaudreau thanked the members for their time and said it is nice to be here. He stated he wanted to read a letter from the Hurt family, back up materials, his own thoughts and the application. Mr. Beaudreau said you have all seen the General Obligation Life Guard Station building on the Beach came to fruition as part of that series of meetings and the community approved all those recreation projects, streetscapes projects and fire projects. It is a beautiful facility they just had their grand opening and started to occupy it last month and it is functioning. Mr. Beaudreau went on to read the following letter from Paul Hurt's daughter-in-law which was addressed to the Vice Mayor McGee:

"Dear Vice Mayor McGee:

My name is Kathy Hurt, my husband is Paul A. Hurt (he was a decorated policeman serving Pompano Beach for 31 years!) His father was the first lifeguard for City of Pompano Beach. I am inquiring to see if it is possible to name the new Ocean Rescue office after Paul J. Hurt.

Paul J Hurt was hired as the first lifeguard for the City of Pompano Beach In 1949. He was working for Mr. William Kester, when the city began discussing the need for a lifeguard. Mr. Kester said he had the perfect candidate. Paul was born and raised in Miami and served as a Medic in the Army. He was required to attend aquatic school in North Carolina to become certified. When Paul started, they didn't have a lifeguard stand so he had to stand on a beachfront shack on the main beach on Atlantic Blvd.

He wore many hats in the beginning, not only as a lifeguard, but he was also a sworn police officer. He did the diving for Pompano Police and Fire. He also did rescue and recovery work for other local police departments beside Pompano Beach. The latter part of his career he served on the city of Pompano Beach Pension Board. His career spanned over 33 years. He performed approximately 3,000 verified rescues and pullouts. The Pompano Beach Historical society did a special presentation on him several years ago and there are several articles and photographs."

Mr. Beaudreau continued stating, "That is the request and he is here to present it to them. It is the typical format and application that we usually do with naming's and renaming's."

Mr. Beaudreau went onto say he has a personal interest in this as he started with the city back in 1989, and he was one of the Lifeguard Lieutenants on the Beach. Jim Keyote was Captain at the time and always referenced Paul Hurt. Mr. Beaudreau continued saying, "Although, he had never met Paul Hurt, he feels as though he has known him since 1989 and struck up a conversation with daughter who submitted the application and who will be present at the meeting."

Mr. Beaudreau continued stating, "It was approved by the Historical Society at their May meeting and the HPC is the final step before the Commission gives their approval."

Mr. Bowman stated, "Paul J. Hurt is a legend on the beach and it is a perfect thing for the family to go through the process and give a \$500 deposit and an application. He is a great candidate for the building to be named the "Paul J. Hurt Lifeguard Building." Mr. Bowman said he was at the meeting when the son presented a program for the Historical Society for this pioneer beach lifeguard. Overtime, he collected a few artifacts from the beach, he is not sure if he gave any to the Historical Society, but he is sure he will give them at some point. Mr. Bowman said, "Our responsibility is to attest this is a historic person that has history on the beach and well-deserved naming if anybody is, for their name to be on that building."

Motion made by James Morehead to approve the renaming of the Ocean Rescue Building to the "Paul J. Hurt Pompano Beach Ocean Rescue Headquarters. Motion seconded by Barbara Armbrister Boynton. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Barbara Armbrister Boynton commented stating, "He is probably the person selected. He is a swimmer and has worked already with the City of Pompano Beach so I think he would probably be the best person selected. She doesn't know the other people and what their qualifications are."

Tobi Aycock stated, "She likes that he has over 3,000 rescues, that is pretty great."

Ken Stolar asked Mr. Beaudreau if there is going to be a plaque or something there with some of these stats on it, so if people ask, "Who is Paul Hurt?" it will give a historical background.

Mr. Beaudreau responded stating, "We hadn't discussed that, but there is always that possibility. There could be something housed in the new building that commemorates these individuals. With a QR code starting off and then later down the road, have something."

Mr. Bowman stated, "We give the concurrence. We are just part of the journey that this application goes through in the process. In other words, the family made the application, paid the fee, it comes to this committee and historical society. In this case, it is Recreation Department that is in charge of the lifeguards so Mr. Beaudreau is here because his is the Director of Parks and Recreation but we have a motion and asked if there was any further discussion?"

Mr. Bowman followed up by saying, "It is unanimous that we would concur with the process. The history of this person is documented and deserves this. Now it goes onto the City Commission. It was originally sent to Beach Commissioner, Andrea McGee, so she went through the process and the City did the right journey of the application so it goes on to the next step and thanked Mr. Beaudreau for his efforts."