

METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION (MHC)  
MINUTES

March 19, 2012

The Metropolitan Historical Commission held its regular meeting on March 19, 2012, in the conference room of the Historical Commission office at 3000 Granny White Pike, with Chairman Bill McKee presiding.

**Commissioners Present:** Dr. Bill McKee, Chair; Bob Allen, Menié Bell, Lula Brooks, David Currey, Don Cusic, Jim Forkum, Jim Hoobler, Lynn McDonald, Gerry Searcy, and Holly Sharp. Commissioners Clay Bailey, George Cate, Jr., Mark Rogers, and Linda Wynn not present.

**Staff Members Present:** Tim Walker, Sean Alexander, Melissa Baldock, Tara Mielnik, Scarlett Miles, Yvonne Ogren and Robin Zeigler.

**Guest Present:** Diane Lance from Mayor Dean's office

Commission Chair Bill McKee called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. after verifying that a quorum was present.

**Approval of Minutes:** *Commissioner Allen moved to approve the minutes from the January meeting as written. Commissioner Sharp seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

#### UPCOMING MHC BUDGET HEARING

Director Tim Walker gave information on MHC's budget hearing with Mayor Karl Dean, which was coming up on March 30 at 3:00. Commissioners were asked to attend if at all possible, and to arrive at least 30 minutes early. Commissioner Jim Forkum, who is a former Metro Council member, briefly explained the budget process and timeline.

#### PRESERVATION AWARDS- *Scarlett Miles*

Mrs. Miles reminded everyone of the schedule for the 2012 program and reported that judging day is scheduled on Friday, May 2. Only five nominations had been submitted, and commissioners were urged to reach contacts who may have been involved in recent infill or restoration projects.

#### NASHVILLE 102- *Tim Walker*

Mr. Walker gave an update on registrations for the upcoming Nashville 102 series, which will begin on April 3. Approximately 63 persons have registered for the series, with approximately 50 attending each week. Proceeds will benefit the Historical Commission Foundation.

#### UPDATE ON PLANS FOR METRO 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY- *Diane Lance, Mayor's Office*

Ms. Lance reported that plans are moving along for the celebration event. Tim Moore in the Mayor's office will be a liaison and work with John Seigenthaler. Three planning committees have been established- financial, events, and education. Speakers and presentations are falling into place and will be announced later. The kick-off event will be in June. A website will be set up for information, announcements, and events schedules.

#### CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL REPORT- *Jim Hoobler*

The Sesquicentennial Committee is meeting to plan the 2014 event, which will commemorate the Battle of Nashville. On April 3, Commissioner Hoobler was giving a presentation on Images of Occupied Nashville at the Metro Archives. MHC Staff member Tara Mielnik mentioned an event focusing on Women in the Civil War, to be led by Krista Carillo, March 20 at Fort Negley. The Civil War Bike/Greenway route has been finalized and sent to Metro Parks for approval.

#### HISTORIC MARKER APPROVAL- *Tara Mielnik*

Dr. Mielnik presented the text for Marker # 145, *Scarritt College for Christian Workers*. The Marker Committee recommended approval as written. Commission approved the marker with no objection.

#### FORT NASHBOROUGH DAY- *Tim Walker*

Another Fort Nashborough Day event has been scheduled for April 14 from 9-4. The DAR will again be co-sponsors, and the 2nd Company reenactors group will be on site portraying life at the fort. Several parking options were mentioned; including the Central Parking lot on Church Street, adjacent to the park; and all metered parking is free on Saturdays.

#### DIRECTOR'S REPORT- *Tim Walker*

Mr. Walker mentioned the Tennessee Preservation Trust Conference which is coming up in May. Commissioner Currey gave further details on the conference.

- Dates are May 31st – June 2nd
- A session on June 1st will focus on the zoning legislation under review by the state legislature and specifically how it could affect historic preservation.
- An Old House Fair will be held on June 2nd at Eastwood Christian Church, 1601 Eastland Avenue. This event is open to the general public for a \$10 admission fee.
- Registration is available online at <http://www.tennesseepreservationtrust.org/conference>

Mr. Walker talked about meetings that were held recently regarding a Native American burial ground that is located just inside the Forrest Hills city limits. It is a very important archaeological site, however, several developers have expressed interest in the property over the years. The location is under consideration for development of a city park, which would provide protection from future speculation.

Restoration work is still in progress at Two Rivers Mansion. Repairs on the 1802 house have been completed and stabilization and repair of the two-story porch side is almost finished. When restoration is complete the exterior of the house will be repainted in the original colors, which were revealed in a 1970's study. The home has not been painted in original colors in recent decades.

Mr. Walker will be attending a meeting at the Home Depot on Gallatin Road to discuss the Evergreen cabins, which were moved to a corner of the paved parking lot after demolition of the Evergreen home. They are in declining structural condition and a possible outcome is for the logs to be donated to another historic site in the county.

#### HISTORIC ZONING REPORT- *Robin Zeigler*

The Historic Zoning staff is continuing to meet with citizens in the Belmont-Hillsboro area on a possible expansion of the B-H Conservation Overlay district. Two meetings have been held regarding a possible Conservation Zoning district in Salemtown. Developers have also shown support of the possible new district to be established.

With the recent good weather, the MHZC staff has been very busy with permit applications.

#### STAFF REPORTS

Melissa Baldock is working on a brochure to have on hand for property owners in the event of another natural disaster such as a flood or tornado. It would outline the permit process and assistance that the MHZC staff can provide.

Sean Alexander is working with Metro Parks to categorize private cemeteries that are located within Metro Parks; specifically eight which are located in Percy Warner Park.

Tara Mielnik mentioned that the Historical Commission is on Facebook and asked all commissioners who have accounts to be friends of the MHC. A great deal of information is regularly posted on the page about local history and events. She attended the War of 1812 Symposium at the Downtown Public Library on March 17. Over 100 people attended the Bicentennial Anniversary event.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by

*Yvonne Ogren*

March 20, 2012