

METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION (MHC)
MINUTES

August 19, 2013

The Metropolitan Historical Commission held its regular meeting on August 19, 2013, in the conference room of the Historical Commission office at 3000 Granny White Pike, with Vice-Chair Jim Forkum presiding in Chair McKee's absence.

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

Guests Present: Diane Lance

Staff Members Present: Tim Walker, Tara Mielnik, Scarlett Miles, Yvonne Ogren, Robin Zeigler, Melissa Baldock, and Fred Zahn.

Vice-Chair Jim Forkum called the meeting to order after verifying that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes: *Commissioner George Cate moved to approve the minutes from the July meeting as amended. Commissioner Bob Allen seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.*

HISTORIC MARKERS- Tara Mielnik

Staff member Tara Mielnik presented a recommendation from the Marker Committee to approve text for *North Nashville High School*. [The commission voted unanimously for approval of the marker.](#)

Dr. Mielnik also requested that the Commission approve the purchase of a replacement for the existing damaged *Oglesby School* marker, at the request of Council member Parker Toler. [Commissioner Linda Wynn made a motion for approval;](#) it was seconded by Don Cusic and passed unanimously by the commission.

SESQUICENTENNIAL REPORT- Jim Hoobler

The Sesquicentennial Committee met recently at Fort Negley to discuss plans for the commemoration that will be held in December, 2014, for the Battle of Nashville. Several historic sites are planning programs for the event. More details will be provided as plans move forward.

During the war, a portrait was made of a member of the USCT, on the battlefield. It is owned by a local descendant who is considering either giving or loaning it to the TN State Museum.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT- Tim Walker

- Mr. Walker reported that the open HP1 position has been posted, and will remain open for applicants until August 30. As of August 15, the Personnel office had received over 70 applicants.

- A preliminary historic structure report on Fort Negley is due in the next few weeks from John Milner and Associates. The MHC Foundation is seeking an \$8000 grant for archaeological work to complete the report.
- The board of the MHC Foundation met recently to make plans for a fundraiser to benefit the Friends of Sevier Park will be meeting soon to discuss plans and possible fundraisers.
- Mr. Walker has been working with the Friends' group for Buchanan Log House (BLH) for the last year, and they are working on a plan to present to the Airport Authority, asking them to release 70 acres of unused land to the non-profit group and Metro Parks. 35 acres of land would allow for expanded programming at BLH, creating a true working farm. BLH has several log buildings currently in storage that could be rebuilt on the property. Metro Parks would acquire the other 35 acres of adjacent land to expand the Greenways program.
- Mr. Walker mentioned that four commissioners' terms were expiring (McKee, Allen, Bell, and Currey), and that all four would be reappointed.

Mr. Walker thanked Commissioner Cusic for writing an editorial which had recently been published in The Tennessean, on the proposed demolition of the Cordell Hull building,

HISTORIC ZONING REPORT- Robin Zeigler

- Ms. Zeigler reported that the office has been very busy with staff recommendations of late.
- The Hillsboro-West End neighborhood is very interested in expanding the boundaries of their overlay district to include as many as 500 more properties.

STAFF REPORTS

Tara Mielnik mentioned that the commissioners had all been given a bookmark promoting a Video Series entitled "Created Equal". Historical Commission Foundation, the Friends of Fort Negley, and MHC applied for and received a grant to present screenings of a series of documentary videos on the Civil Rights movement. The programs are likely to begin in early 2014.

Scarlett Miles mentioned that the Civil War lecture series would continue with Rob DeHart's discussion: "Surviving Behind the Lines: Civil War Medicine in Nashville" in the carriage house at Belle Meade Plantation the next day. This session would be video-taped by Metro Channel 3 and aired on that channel in the next few weeks.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

Respectfully submitted by

Yvonne Ogren

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