

METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION (MHC)  
MINUTES

April 16, 2012

The Metropolitan Historical Commission held its regular meeting on April 16, 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, Clay Bailey\*, Menié Bell, Lula Brooks, George Cate, Jr., David Currey, Don Cusic, Jim Forkum, Jim Hoobler, Lynn McDonald, Gerry Searcy, and Linda Wynn. Commissioners Mark Rogers and Holly Sharp not present.

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

**Guests Present:** Diane Lance from Mayor Dean's office, Andrew Ward

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.*

**FORT NASHBOROUGH DAY REPORT- Tim Walker**

Andrew Ward, a former Captain with the 2nd Company reenactors group, gave a report on the latest Fort Nashborough Day event which was held on April 14. Reenactors on-site demonstrated various aspects of frontier life, including surveying, harness-making, cooking, and spinning. The DAR and MHC were co-sponsors. Girls from Brownie Troup 111 were at the event most of the day and helped to hand out brochures. Several MHC commissioners attended the event, and all reported it was very well-attended and enjoyed by the public.

**MHC BUDGET HEARING REPORT**

Director Tim Walker reported on MHC's budget hearing on March 30 at 3:00 with Mayor Karl Dean. He thanked all commissioners who were able to attend. Commissioner Jim Forkum, a former Metro Council member, briefly explained the budget process and timeline. Historical Commission's hearing before the Metro Council is scheduled for June 13 at 4:15.

\*Indicates arrival of Commissioner Clay Bailey.

**NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION - Scarlett Miles**

A National Register nomination for RCA Studio B was prepared in 2011 by former MHC intern, Julie Rosen, and Dr. John Rumble with the Country Music Hall of Fame. This was presented to the commission for their approval *that the property meets the criteria for eligibility on the National Register.*

**Motion:** *Commissioner Don Cusic moved for approval. Commissioner Jim Hoobler seconded and the commission voted unanimously to approve the nomination*

## NASHVILLE 102- Scarlett Miles

Mrs. Miles reported on the Nashville 102 series, which will begin on April 3. Approximately 70 people registered for the series, with approximately 50 attending each of the first two weeks.

## PRESERVATION AWARDS- Scarlett Miles

Mrs. Miles reminded everyone of the schedule for the 2012 program and reported that judging day is scheduled on Tuesday, May 2. 48 nominations were submitted.

*Commissioner Bell mentioned that on March 20th, she attended the Brown Bag Luncheon lecture on Women in the Civil War, led by Krista Castillo at Fort Negley. It was well-attended and very informative.*

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

Ms. Lance reported that three committees have been created- financial, events, and education. Speakers and presentations are falling into place and will be announced later. The celebration will last nine months, starting with a kick-off event on June 28, the anniversary of the successful referendum, and continuing through April 1, 2013, the anniversary of the swearing in of the first Mayor, Vice-Mayor, and council of Metropolitan Davidson County. A website will be set up for information, announcements, and events schedules.

## CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL REPORT- Jim Hoobler

The Sesquicentennial Committee is meeting now to plan the 2014 event, which will commemorate the Battle of Nashville. A possible location is Holy Trinity Church, which was used as a hospital during the Civil War. The Occupied City Walking Tour is still being developed. Tim is working with Public Works to coordinate signage.

## PUBLICATION IDEAS

Chair McKee introduced the topic of an MHC-produced publication to record Davidson County's history. Commissioners were asked to consider what format the resource could take. Proposed ideas included an online Encyclopedia of Metro History or a periodical; and whether the publication might have a theme for each issue or cover a broader range of topics. Commissioner Hoobler suggested that the commissioners review the Tennessee State Museum's education website, TN4Me, as a possible template.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT- Tim Walker

- Mr. Walker reported that he has had several meetings related to the Evergreen log cabins at the Gallatin Road Home Depot site. Contractor Gary Grau has completed an assessment of the structures and considered their condition had deteriorated to the point that they were likely beyond repair.
- He has been working with volunteers at Buchanan Station Cemetery on Massman Drive to coordinate a cleanup of the site.
- The Civil War Bike/Greenway route has been finalized and sent to Metro Parks for approval.

He 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. The MHC Preservation Awards will be held during the opening session.
- \* 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>

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

The Historic Zoning staff continues to meet with citizens in the Belmont-Hillsboro area on the expansion of the B-H Conservation Overlay district.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Chair McKee asked any commissioners who were available on May 19 to attend a meeting regarding the Mill Creek Graveyard. The meeting will be held at First Baptist Church Downtown, from 10-11:00am. Dr. Andrew Wardin had attended a recent MHC meeting and given a report about the location.

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

Submitted by

*Yvonne Ogren*

April 17, 2012