



METROPOLITAN
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION (MHC)
MINUTES

January 23, 2017

The Metropolitan Historical Commission held its regular meeting on January 23, 2017, in the conference room of the Tennessee Historical Commission office at 2941 Lebanon Pike in Donelson, with Commission Chair Jim Forkum presiding.

Commissioners Present: Jim Forkum, Chair; Bob Allen, Menié Bell, Alex Buchanan, David Currey, Don Cusic, Barrett Hobbs, Jim Hoobler, Lynn Maddox, Mark Rogers, and Linda Wynn were present. Clay Bailey, Bill Hardin, Dr. Bill McKee and Gerry Searcy did not attend.

Guests Present: Patrick McIntyre, Claudette Stager, Peggy Nichol, Dan Brown, and Caroline Eller

Staff Members Present: Tim Walker, Sean Alexander, Melissa Baldock, Tara Mitchell Mielnik, Scarlett Miles, Yvonne Ogren, Jessica Reeves, Melissa Sajid, Fred Zahn and Robin Zeigler. Paul Hoffman did not attend.

Chair Jim Forkum called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m., after verifying that a quorum was present.

WELCOME AND THC REPORT - *Patrick McIntyre, Jr.*

Patrick McIntyre, executive director of the Tennessee Historical Commission, greeted the commission and thanked everyone for coming to the THC office. He gave a report on the work of the THC, including grants they have received, and others they have awarded. He also talked about the recent restoration of several original outbuildings on the Clover Bottom property, and showed slides of their condition before and after the restoration was completed. McIntyre also mentioned that a local property owner had recently found a cache of records and photos that had belonged to the Andrew Price family, and had donated them all to the Tennessee Historical Commission. The Prices were the last private owners of Clover Bottom. The THC has been carefully reviewing the financial records and photographs, and the information will be incorporated into the Clover Bottom histories.

Tim Walker introduced Barrett Hobbs, who is taking a position on the Historical Commission that was vacated by former commissioner Pat Cummins.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - *Jim Forkum*

Jim Forkum asked if there were any amendments or questions regarding the minutes from the November 2016 meeting. Having none, Bob Allen made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Linda Wynn seconded and the commission approved them unanimously.

CONFERENCE ON AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE - *Linda Wynn*

Linda reported that preparations for the AAHC Conference are going well and she anticipates it will be one the best conferences ever. The theme for 2017 is "Song and Story: Exploring Nashville's Past, Present, and Future." She encouraged all commissioners to attend the conference which is scheduled for February 10.

MHC OPEN HOUSE – Lynn Maddox

Lynn Maddox said she and Menie Bell are working together to make preparations for the MHC Open House, which will be held at Sunnyside on March 14, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Scarlett Miles will set up an Eventbrite page for RSVPs. The theme for the event will be "A Taste of 12South." Maddox plans to contact Cary/Geny's about flower arrangements. Menie has contacted restaurants in the 12South area, including Edley's, Sloco, Taqueria del Sol, Las Paletas, 5 Daughters Bakery, and Franklin Juice Co, and is asking for food donations. Jessica Reeves will contact Frothy Monkey 12 South for coffee for 100 people. Barrett Hobbs and Mark Rogers will donate beer and wine. Commissioners could help by making monetary donations to the MHC Foundation. Donations will be used to purchase any food or supplies not donated by area merchants. More information will be provided as the date draws closer.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Tim Walker

Tim Walker reported that the FY18 budget process has begun and that all Capital Improvement requests are due on February 3. In the past, both the MHC and Metro Parks have submitted identical requests for restoration funding for Sunnyside, Fort Nashborough, and Fort Negley; however, departments have been asked not to submit identical requests from more than one department. Walker plans to discuss this with Tim Netsch and they will decide if these requests will come from the Historical Commission, Metro Parks, or again from both.

Operating Budget Modifications are due on Feb. 10. With a few exceptions MHC will repeat requests that were submitted but not funded in FY17. He (Walker) and Yvonne Ogren attended a meeting on Dec. 19 with Tony Neumaiier, the new assistant director of Finance. At that meeting, Tim and Yvonne discussed the work of the department and Neumaiier suggested that the office should request two new positions instead of one, and that the volume of work the office does would likely justify that at least one would be funded. If the position is funded the new staff person would primarily work with the Historical Commission office staff.

The MHC Foundation held a meeting on January 12. The number of board members was increased from 7 to 15, and new officers were elected.

Tim and Fred Zahn attended the Nashville City Cemetery Association's annual retreat on January 14. Tim asked NCCA president Jim Hoobler to share information about recent developments. Hoobler related that descendants of Felix and Ann Grundy have petitioned the Chancery Court for their remains, plus the remains of his body servant and their youngest daughter Mrs. Felicia Grundy Porter, to be exhumed from Mt. Olivet Cemetery, and moved to City Cemetery. The court date will be January 25.

Former State Archaeologist Nick Fielder is investigating the exhumation and removal to City Cemetery, of Judge John Haywood. Judge Frank Clement, Jr., is looking into the Tennessee Supreme Court Historical Society covering those costs. Mrs. Fletch Coke is looking into possibly doing the interment near the State Geologist Gerard Troost.

Walker has been told the administration plans to approve the Preservation Grant Fund. This fund will provide \$500,000 per year to assist property owners with the expenses of restoring historic structures. 10% of the fund will go toward administrative projects, such as updates of design guidelines, or area surveys. At this time it is unclear if the fund will become part of MHC's annual operating budget, or if it will be held by the Office of Economic Development.

The Friends of Kellytown board met the previous week and the major topic of discussion was a proposal to change the name of the site to “Aaitafama”, which translates to “meeting place” in the Chickasaw-Muskogean language. They will take the name change proposal to the Parks Board for approval on Jan. 3, and would appreciate a letter of approval from the Historical Commission as *ex officio* board members. **MOTION:** Alex Buchanan made a motion to support the Friends of Kellytown’s proposal to change the name of Kellytown Archeological park to “Aaitafama,” and to send a letter to the Friends of Kellytown indicating MHC’s support. Lynn Maddox seconded the motion. After brief discussion, the commission approved the motion unanimously.

HISTORIC ZONING REPORT – Robin Zeigler

There has been a lot of interest in Landmarks and in Bed & Breakfast-Homestays and several applications may be submitted for approval in the next few months, including 2808 Belmont Blvd, Concord Baptist Church, and Granberry. The Belmont-Hillsboro NCZD will most likely be expanded to include parts of Gale Lane and Clayton Avenue.

Ms. Zeigler also mentioned that the Old House Fair is coming up on March 4, and that volunteers will be needed to set up and tear down tables and displays in the auditorium and also to man a table during the event. The Old House Fair will be held at the Sevier Park Community Center for the third year in a row.

STAFF REPORTS

Jessica Reeves reported that the markers approved by the commission in November have all been ordered and many have been installed. On February 25th there will be a dedication ceremony for the Surrender of Nashville: East Bank marker.

Tara Mielnik said that she will be working with teachers and students at McKissack Middle School in February and March, talking about locations important to Civil Rights in Nashville, and in March she will be presenting a paper on Tennessee Baptists in Congress at the annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Historical Society.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

Respectfully submitted Feb. 23, 2017.

Yvonne Ogren