



METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION (MHC)
MINUTES

June 18, 2018

The Metropolitan Historical Commission held its regular meeting on June 18, 2018, in the conference room of the Metro Historical Commission office at 3000 Granny White Pike, with Commission Chair Jim Forkum presiding.

Commissioners Present: Jim Forkum, Chair; Bob Allen, Menié Bell, Dr. Don Cusic, Jim Hoobler, Dr. Bill McKee, Gerry Searcy, E. Thomas Wood, Linda Wynn were present. Dr. Clay Bailey, Alex Buchanan, Dr. Bill Hardin, Lynne Holliday, Lynn Maddox, Mark Rogers did not attend. Also attending was Dr. Carole Bucy, Davidson County Historian.

Guests Present: Sarah Williams, Brianna Bartelt

Staff Members Present: Caroline Eller, Melissa Baldock, Scarlett Miles, Paula Person, Jessica Reeves, Melissa Sajid, Tim Walker, Fred Zahn and Robin Zeigler were present.

Chair Jim Forkum called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m. after verifying that a quorum was present. The new Commissioner E. Thomas Wood introduced himself to the group and received a warm welcome. Tim Walker introduced our two new summer interns, Sarah Williams and Brianna Bartelt and the ladies gave their background along with information on the projects they would be assisting with this summer. Menié Bell was acknowledged for her hard work and re-appointment with the Metro Historic Zoning Commission by Jim Forkum.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Jim Forkum

Jim Forkum verified that a quorum was present and asked for approval of the April minutes, the MHC did not meet in May. Don Cusic gave a motion to approve with Dr. Bill McKee providing a second, April minutes were unanimously approved.

HISTORIC MARKERS– Jessica Reeves & Caroline Eller

Jessica Reeves presented 6 markers with 3 being funded by the marker project and the other 3 being privately funded. We are on track and doing great, the contract has been approved by Metro and Sewah and the first set of markers should be coming in, within the next week or so. July 8th will be the first marker dedication for this project and it will be the GranDale marker. An email will be sent out with information on the dedication ceremony. Caroline Eller presented the following district markers: BelleAir for District 15 is being deferred because the owner wants to re-work the wording on it and it will be presented at the next meeting. The Joy Floral Company marker is being done for District 5, Council Member Scott Davis. Photos were shown of historic views from a 1914 article about the Joy greenhouses on Lischey Ave., which were expansive, covering ten acres of space. By that time, an additional ninety acres was used for gardening. In the early 1900s, the greenhouses and botanical gardens on Lischey were opened to the public for exhibitions of their stock of rare and exotic plants. The marker will be placed along the east side of Lischey Avenue near the driveway entrance for 1501 Lischey. The entrance leads to the current greenhouse operations on the historic Joy greenhouses land. Some of the historic greenhouses and buildings remain on this property, and two of the Joy homes are located on adjacent parcels to the north and south. Several neighborhood plats in this area, and the Tom Joy

School, are named for the family. TN Hospital for the Insane marker is being done for District 13, Council Member Holly Huezo. The hospital was located on the south side of Murfreesboro Pike, just north of Donelson Pike, on land where the Dell complex was built in the late 1990s. The Gothic-style building, with 24 octagonal towers, was modeled after Butler Asylum in Providence, RI and Maidstone Asylum in England. The marker will be placed on the south side of Murfreesboro Rd. near the entrance for 2 Dell Parkway, near the extant stone (Dorothea Dix) gatehouse. Jessica Reeves presented the final marker; The Ravenwood marker is being done for District 14, Council Member Kevin Rhoten. The marker will eventually be placed at the site of the former house, on a reconstructed terrace near the new greenway. Initially it will be placed on the current greenway near the original stone entrance to the property, after which it will be moved to the house and stay there permanently. Dr. Bill McKee questioned how many markers will each district receive under the marker project? Jessica's response was that with this project each district will receive only one. Jim Forkum gave a motion to approve the quarterly markers, Dr. Bill McKee gave a second and the quarterly markers were unanimously approved. The Old Woman's Home is being funded by the West End Home Foundation; this text was reviewed in 2014 and has since been revised and resubmitted. The text will be on one side with the etching of the house on the other side of the marker. It will be placed at the location on West End where the house once was located. Germantown Brewery District marker will have the text on one side and the map on the other side showing Germantown and the 4 breweries. There is space at the corner of 5th Ave N and Madison St.; this area receives the most foot traffic and the marker will go here unless Public Works thinks it will block the line of sight. The final privately funded marker is the Rev. William Gower / Centenary United Methodist Church. Fletch Coke has been working with the family descendants who have been instrumental in raising the money for this marker. Discussion was held regarding the family cemetery and the numbers of bodies found or speculated to be there. Dr. Bill McKee gave a motion to approve; Jim Forkum gave a second the remaining markers were unanimously approved.

[Preservation Awards – Scarlett Miles](#)

Scarlett Miles thanked the commissioners who gave presentations at the awards ceremony, the reception was held at the Noelle Hotel with a great crowd attending. While Jean Roseman had to leave we were glad she could be in attendance. Jim Forkum thanked Scarlett and her co-workers for all their hard work with the event. The Mayor's staff did a good job in keeping the date reserved for Mayor Briley. We have already received nominations for next year's Preservation Awards.

[DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Tim Walker](#)

Tim Walker recognized Scarlett Miles for the great job she did on the Preservation Awards, he also acknowledged Jessica Reeves and Caroline Eller on handling the markers. The Markers program has never been so busy in the history of the office; they are doing a great job by keeping everything on track. The Fort Negley Park Cultural Landscape Report kicked off last month, in the last few weeks the landscape architectural team has been on site, met with Parks staff and surveyed the site and they are working on their summary. Research is going on right now; reports should be completed by September with the archaeology completed in December. David Currey with Encore will come and complete a presentation within the next few months as things get wrapped up. Next month, DAAD Architecture will come and complete a 15- 20 minute presentation over the park, outbuildings and office renovations. Sean Alexander did a great job with the Memorial Day Dash, working with the Nashville City Cemetery Association. Sean Alexander has taken the reins and proven himself to be invaluable to the process; he is doing a fabulous job. We appreciate those who attended the Metro Historical Foundation's first fundraiser, Back to Cuba and it was a very successful event. The attendance was expected at 75- 100 and 130 people attended, and the event made in excess of \$8,000. We hope more commissioners will attend next year and thank you to staff that attended and helped out. Paul Hoffman is out of the office for a few weeks for the arrival of his son. Nashville Sites was officially kicked off in the last two weeks; Jessica is taking the lead role working with Dr. Pethel. We are adjusting flaws in the process and there is still discussion regarding what the software designers will be doing and how they will set up the site. Carole Bucy inquired into the Edmondson Garden project and where it stands. Per Tim, he will know more once the budget is approved. Councilmember Colby Sledge is asking that the property not be sold and has sent a letter to all councilmembers and talked to the administration. Mr. Sledge is asking for a public design process for Edmondson Garden and more than likely the property will not be sold. Dr. Bill McKee inquired about the details

of the reconstruction of Sunnyside and Tim Walker provided details of the plans, with work to begin next fall taking between 15 -18 months to complete.

[MHC 2018 - 19 Budget and Hearings - Tim Walker](#)

Tim Walker thanked the commission members that attended the budget meeting hearing. Council is in the process of working on what they will approve and the results should be available tomorrow night. We are not expecting any cuts and things should remain status quo for most departments. The marker money has forced council members to really engage with the department which should prove to be beneficial for the future. Scarlett explained her process to engage council members to participate with the Preservation Awards, due to Jim Forkum expressing concern that more council members should be present during the ceremony.

[HISTORIC ZONING REPORT - Robin Zeigler](#)

Two overlays are on the agenda for Wednesday, an expansion of the Eastwood District and there is no opposition to it. The other is brand new and it is for Edgehill, it includes Villa Place portions of Treemont, which will split the districts. We also have someone working with us by the name of Megan Cochran; she is not an intern but is volunteering with us while finishing her graduate degree. The Haynes neighborhood is interested in a possible overlay, they might go with a contextual overlay but they are interested in both. This neighborhood is a primarily African American neighborhood with ranch style homes (60's, 70's style) and large lots.

[STAFF REPORTS](#)

Caroline Eller reported that in late May she and Tim had a call with Crown Castle over the economic impact study; they will be signing the contract this month. We should have a planning meeting the first week of August; while they are here we will be conducting walk throughs of the local historic districts. Our staff will be providing input and guidance over the study. Also, we will be working to put together a focus group committee of several stakeholders that can be a part of the project planning. We are on track to have the study completed before the end of the calendar year. The consultants will give a final public presentation over their findings. We have submitted a National Register nomination for the Smith Carter House; it was sent in June to the SHPO and we are working on revisions and will send another draft by the end of this month. Caroline will then present to everyone once we have the final draft later this summer. Caroline gave a summary of what was entailed in the economic impact study which included: downtown revitalization, economic development and competitiveness, impacts of public investment, impact of district designations on property values, Smart Growth etc.

Scarlett Miles reported that you can watch the video and see the photos from the Preservations Awards on the website. Scarlett is working on getting a street name change for a portion of McGavock Pike that runs beside the former Central State Hospital, renaming the eastern section.

Robin Zeigler reported that the MHZC meeting will be held at Sonny West this month. The mailing for Edgewood and Eastwood states elsewhere, if anyone asks it is at Sonny West.

[OTHER BUSINESS](#)

Jim Hoobler reminded everyone that Sheri Weiner will be speaking tonight at the semiannual meeting of the Bellevue Harpeth Historic Association, 6:30 pm at the Bellevue Library. Her topic will be things happening in Bellevue currently and the future of the district should she become Vice Mayor. Brief discussion was held regarding Ray Stevens property which has been sold to developers. E. Thomas Wood informed the group that he and local historian David Ewing are looking to implement a name change for the street that serves as the postal address for Nashville International Airport, from Terminal Drive to Cornelia Fort Way. Carole Bucy spoke about the developments to come for Wharf Park. Old Hickory 100th Anniversary Celebration was attended by Jessica Reeves and Carole Bucy and Carole gave a lecture on Women in World War I and Old Hickory's part in that.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:00 pm.
Respectfully submitted July 10, 2018.

Paula R. Person