



METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION (MHC)
MINUTES

September 15, 2014

The Metropolitan Historical Commission held its regular meeting on September 15, 2014, in the conference room of the Historical Commission office at 3000 Granny White Pike, with Chair Bill McKee presiding.

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

Guests Present: Dr. Carole Bucy, Davidson County Historian

Staff Members Present: Tim Walker, Sean Alexander, Paul Hoffman, Tara Mielnik, Scarlett Miles, Yvonne Ogren, Robin Zeigler, and Fred Zahn.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Clay Bailey moved to approve the minutes from the June meeting as written. Holly Conner seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

A plaque was presented to former Vice-Mayor George Cate Jr, who is retiring from serving on this commission more than 16 years. Cate thanked the commission and spoke briefly about his years living and working in Nashville. He will be missed.

A new commissioner is scheduled to be approved at a council meeting this week and will be introduced at the MHC meeting in October.

HISTORIC MARKER:

Tara Mielnik presented the text for a historic marker for Centenary Methodist Institute, which will be placed on a site which is currently under development in Germantown. The text is recommended for approval from the Marker committee.

Motion: Don Cusic seconded the committee's recommendation to approve the Centenary Methodist Institute text as presented. Approved unanimously.

NASHVILLE ENCYCLOPEDIA – *Dr. Carole Bucy*

Dr. Bucy reported that the Encyclopedia project was moving along well. There are approximately 100 articles that have gone through the entire process of writing, editing and copy editing. Of the remaining 1800 identified topics, about 400 articles have been assigned and are in process with the authors or editors. Dr. Bucy expressed her appreciation of Houston Runion (Metro ITS) and Beth Odle (Public Library) for all their hard work on the project. Commissioners were encouraged to submit at least one article.

Tam Gordon is now the Mayor's liaison for the Encyclopedia.

SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE REPORT – *Tim Walker*

- Programming for the Sesquicentennial commemoration will be in full swing for the remainder of 2014, beginning with a series of special events sponsored by Lipscomb University, titled *Agents of Their Own Destiny: Race and Remembrance in a Civil War City*.
- As a featured event in the Lipscomb Sesquicentennial program, Commissioner David Currey will be leading a tour each Saturday in October. Reservations will be required and space is limited to about 25 persons per tour.
- Commissioner Bailey reported that there will be a synchronized tolling of church bells at locations from Nashville to Franklin on Tuesday, December 16th, from 4:30 to 4:34.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – *Tim Walker*

- Alex Buchanan has been appointed as a new MHC commissioner, taking the position left vacant by Commissioner George Cate, Jr. Buchanan is a local attorney in Nashville.
- Metro Audit department will begin the MHC/MHZC's workload audit the last week in September.
- Walker is hopeful that the developers on the 4th & 5th Avenue/Printers' Alley hotel projects will be sensitive to the historic character of the area, which is a National Historic Register district but not a designated local landmark.
- A demolition permit application has been submitted for the RCA Studio A building, which is National Register Eligible. MHC has the authority to delay this permit for 90 days and in that time will make every effort to prevent the demolition.

HISTORIC ZONING – *Robin Zeigler*

- The office has a new intern, Michelle Ness, from Nebraska. Michelle will occasionally fill in for Yvonne Ogren, and will be writing at least one article for the Encyclopedia.
- Planning has begun for the next Old House Fair, which will be held at the Sevier Park Community Center in March 2015. The office is seeking sponsors and hopes to attract contractors who specialize in the care and restoration of historic homes.

OTHER BUSINESS

Tim Walker mentioned that HNI will be releasing its 2014 Nashville Nine list of the most endangered historic properties in Davidson County. Among the properties listed is Sunnyside and its outbuildings in Sevier Park.

Scarlett Miles added that the Nashville Nine list announcement was to be made on September 23, at RCA Studio A, with Mike Wolfe as guest speaker.

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

Respectfully submitted by

Yvonne Ogren

October 17, 2014