



## METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION (MHC) MINUTES

May 15, 2017

The Metropolitan Historical Commission held its regular meeting on May 15, 2017, 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, Clay Bailey, Alex Buchanan, Bill Hardin, Jim Hoobler, Mark Rogers, and Linda Wynn were present. Menié Bell, David Currey, Don Cusic, Barrett Hobbs, Lynn Maddox, Dr. Bill McKee, and Gerry Searcy did not attend. Dr. Carole Bucy, county historian, also attended.

**Guests Present:** Kelsey Lamkin, MHC intern

**Staff Members Present:** Tim Walker, Melissa Baldock, Scarlett Miles, Yvonne Ogren, Jessica Reeves, Fred Zahn and Robin Zeigler.

Chair Jim Forkum called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES – *Jim Forkum*

Jim Forkum asked if there were any amendments or questions regarding the minutes from the April meeting. Alex Buchanan made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Bob Allen seconded and the commission approved them unanimously.

### NASHVILLE SITES PRESENTATION

*This item was deferred to the June commission meeting.*

### FY18 BUDGET – *Tim Walker*

Mr. Walker thanked all the commissioners who attended the Historical Commission's budget hearing at Metro Council. He said he is hopeful that the budget committee may find funding for another staff position for the office and asked commissioners to contact their district council member and tell them how important it is that MHC/MHZC gets approval and funds for an additional staff position. The mayor's budget includes \$25,000 for maintenance at the City Cemetery. That will be a recurring fund. In addition, the office received funding for a part-time administrative position. Yvonne Ogren is retiring on August 4 and the position and funds will allow her to work part-time until a replacement is found and can be trained in the workings of the office.

### PRESERVATION AWARDS RECAP – *Scarlett Miles*

Ms. Miles said that the program went very well and she thanked everyone who helped make it possible. She and Tim Walker expressed their appreciation to Commissioner Buchanan for making arrangements for the reception to be held at Waller Law office's reception room at Nashville City Center. Ms. Miles also mentioned that the program was recorded and can now be viewed online, on the Metro Nashville Network's YouTube channel.

#### DIRECTOR'S REPORT – *Tim Walker*

The naming ordinance (Bill 2017-687) proposed by Councilmember Jeremy Elrod is gaining momentum in the council. This legislation would require the Historical Commission to create a process to review and make recommendations to Metro Council on the naming of any Metro-owned structure, room, bridge, or campus. Mr. Walker said he and Jim Forkum would be meeting soon with the council member to discuss it. He and Scarlett met with attorney Mike Jameson and talked about it, and worked on a draft application form that would be submitted with each request. Walker went on to say he felt that if the bill were to be passed, that it should be with the condition that another staff person be funded to assist with the research that would be necessary.

*Chairman Forkum asked the commission to discuss the proposal and give their opinions.* Commissioners expressed concern about the staff time involved in researching each proposal and that public hearings could last a long time. Commissioners would have to commit more of their time for monthly meetings in the event that a controversial change was brought to a hearing.

The mayor's proposed FY18 Capital Spending Plan has just been released, and funds to begin restoration of Sunnyside and the surrounding buildings are included. Specific details were not given at this time, but Park's master plan for Sevier Park included restoration of the house and all the outbuildings.

#### HISTORIC ZONING REPORT – *Robin Zeigler*

Ms. Zeigler reported that the Eastdale Neighborhood Conservation Zoning District will be confirmed soon.

Hank Snow's house, Rainbow Ranch, will be added as a new historic landmark in the fall. *Tim Walker mentioned that Snow himself built the house, studio, and barn after the success of his hit song "I've Been Everywhere, Man," and hired a designer from Texas who designed all the furniture and fixtures in a Southwest motif for the home. Everything is original as it was when he lived there.*

The Gale Lane/Clayton Avenue expansion of Belmont-Hillsboro is moving forward. There is support for a small neighborhood conservation overlay in the Sylvan Park area.

Staff is working with the Historic Zoning Commission to develop some policy changes for review of new outbuildings, signage and other applications. These would not involve any changes to the Historic Zoning ordinance.

#### STAFF REPORTS

Sean Alexander reminded the commission that the Memorial Day Dash will be held on May 29. This is the 18th year that the 5K race has been held. The race will begin in front of the Adventure Science Center, with the course looping around Fort Negley and through the City Cemetery. Race day registration begins at 6 a.m. Volunteers are needed for early set-up and also for tear-down after the event.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

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

Respectfully submitted June 8, 2017.

*Yvonne Ogren*