



## METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION (MHC) MINUTES

October 16, 2017

The Metropolitan Historical Commission held its regular meeting on October 16, 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, Menié Bell, Alex Buchanan, Don Cusic, Lynne Holliday, Jim Hoobler, Lynn Maddox, Dr. Bill McKee, Gerry Searcy and Linda Wynn were present. Richard Courtney, Bill Hardin and Mark Rogers did not attend.

**Staff Members Present:** Tim Walker, Sean Alexander, Briana Davis, Caroline Eller, Scarlett Miles Melissa Sajid, Jessica Reeves, and Robin Zeigler.

Chair Jim Forkum called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. He mentioned that Clay Bailey had an excused absence for the meeting due to personal business matters.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES – *Jim Forkum*

Jim Forkum asked if there were any amendments or questions regarding the minutes from the September meeting. Bob Allen made a motion to approve the minutes. Linda Wynn seconded, and the minutes were approved.

### HISTORIC MARKERS – *Jessica Reeves*

Ms. Reeves talked about two upcoming marker dedication ceremonies. The first dedication for the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church marker is set for November 4, 2017 at 3 p.m. at the corner of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue S. and Demonbreun Street. Ms. Reeves stated that she would send an e-mail to everyone with more information regarding the marker dedications. The second dedication for the Penny Campbell marker is set for December 9, 2017 at 1 p.m. at 1615 McEwen Street. Ms. Reeves stated that there will be a party after that dedication and invited all to attend.

Ms. Reeves spoke about the GrandDale marker and noted that the text should be finished before the end of the year. She stated that Caroline Eller will be helping with the council district markers, and they will start the Marker Project with districts 1-4. Ms. Reeves noted that she, Tim Walker, and Ms. Eller would be sending out correspondence with potential marker topics in the four districts that were discussed.

Mr. Walker introduced new staff member Caroline Eller, who shared her background with the commissioners. Ms. Reeves mentioned that there will be some changes made to the marker guidelines and stated that she would be sending out correspondence on the new process. Ms. Reeves also mentioned that the marker committee met the week prior, and their recommendation to the Historical Commission was to leave the guidelines as they are currently written. Dr. McKee asked if Ms. Reeves could share the recommendations with the commissioners, and Ms. Reeves agreed to share them by e-mail.

There was a general discussion among commissioners on how MHC's marker guidelines compared to THC's and to those of other states and cities. At the conclusion of the discussion, Dr. McKee asked Chair Forkum if he could make a suggestion to have Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Hoobler work together on the marker guidelines and bring back a proposal for the next meeting. Dr. McKee made the motion which was seconded and approved unanimously.

Bob Allen mentioned a list of potential historic resources in Bellevue that Scarlett Miles and Tara Mielnik had created, and asked if the list could be made available again. Ms. Reeves explained that every quarter we will look at markers for different districts, but clarified that we are not accepting applications outside of districts 1-4 at this time. Mr. Forkum asked if there were any other questions on what's to be expected at the next meeting, and no questions were asked. Ms. Reeves gave a brief summary on a podcast called "The Road to Nashville" with Bob Crocker and Ben Sawyer, and stated that she would forward access information to the commissioners.

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT – *Tim Walker***

Mr. Walker reported that he recently met with Tim Netsch of Metro Parks and Nick Dryden of DA/AD Architects. Mr. Walker mentioned that DA/AD Architects and Collier Engineering have been hired by Metro Parks to rehab the back portion of Sunnyside. Mr. Walker gave details about his recent meeting with them and conveyed that the companies were excited about the opportunity to renovate. Mr. Forkum asked when the plans would be available for commissioners to review and if the rehab cost would be included in the Capital Spending Plan. Mr. Walker stated that there is a chance that the cost would be included in the Capital Spending Plan in December, because it is already in the Capital Improvement Budget. Mr. Walker also stated that the construction documents would be completed in approximately 8 months for MHC to review.

Ms. Bell asked about maintenance costs for Sunnyside, and Mr. Walker explained that money in the Metro Parks capital budget is available for deferred maintenance costs. Mr. Walker explained that he could make a request for annual maintenance funds in the upcoming budget meeting. Mr. Walker mentioned that he and several staff toured Sullivan Tower with the new owners and members of HNI. Mr. Walker mentioned that the owners have plans to retain the Frost building, but they want to tear down the National Register-eligible Sullivan Tower. He is working with Historic Nashville and the council member to mitigate the demolition.

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

Mr. Walker gave the update for MHZC on behalf of Robin Zeigler. He stated that the commissioners and staff attended the TPT Conference last month. He stated that Marathon Village and the Kenner Manor and Edgehill neighborhoods are still moving forward as potential new overlay districts. Mr. Walker also mentioned that MHZC is revising the design guidelines for all three downtown districts, Broadway, Second Avenue, and Downtown.

#### **STAFF REPORTS**

Mr. Forkum asked the staff if anyone had any business that needed to be shared. Ms. Reeves provided some facts about the dates on Sullivan Tower and noted that the Marker Committee would meet before November. Ms. Eller stated that she would send information to the commissioners about transcendent importance if anyone desired clarification on the applicability of the terminology. Scarlett Miles mentioned that Sean Alexander participated in the City Cemetery tour as Rev. William Humes. Mr. Walker added that MHC would meet the Monday before Thanksgiving and asked if it would be an issue. Ms. Searcy spoke briefly about her upcoming Thanksgiving Dinner scheduled for Thanksgiving morning at Assumption Catholic Church, 1227 7<sup>th</sup> Ave N. Lynn Holiday mentioned that over 500 people come out to the Living History Tour and that Mayor Bill Purcell and Mayor Barry attended. Bob Allen mentioned that on October 27, Dr. Carole Bucy would be speaking

to the Bellevue History & Genealogy Group about the Equal Rights Amendment. Mr. Allen also mentioned that Dr. McKee would be speaking to his group on November 17.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

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

Respectfully submitted November 2017.

*Briana Davis*