



METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION (MHC)
MINUTES

December 15, 2014

The Metropolitan Historical Commission held its regular meeting on November 17, 2014, in the conference room of the Historical Commission office at 3000 Granny White Pike, with Commission Chair Bill McKee presiding.

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

Guests Present: Dr. Carole Bucy

Staff Members Present: Tim Walker, Sean Alexander, Tara Mielnik, Scarlett Miles, and Yvonne Ogren.

Dr. McKee called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm, after verifying that a quorum was present.

WORKLOAD AUDIT REPORT – Tim Walker

Mr. Walker received the first draft of the workload audit to review and make comments. *To summarize*, the audit indicated that an additional staff person would be needed if any additional overlays or expansions were designated. Walker felt that the report did not fully reflect the scope of work that the staff does on a regular basis, and requested a conference call with the team to voice his concerns. He has also sent a list of comments to the audit team for updates. The team has promised a second draft within the next week.

Dr. McKee added that he was waiting for the final audit before scheduling a meeting with the HR representatives to discuss salaries.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Menié Bell made a motion to approve the minutes from the November meeting as written. Jim Forkum seconded the motion and the minutes were approved as written.

SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE REPORT – Jim Hoobler

Jim Hoobler reported that the Sesquicentennial commemoration events on December 13 were well-attended. Fort Negley and Belle Meade reported over 400 visitors at each site, and over 150 people visited Shy's Hill. Visitors to Belmont Mansion were treated to an elaborate portrayal of the mansion's occupation by the Federal troops. The synchronized tolling of church bells was scheduled for that evening. The Battle of Nashville cyclorama exhibit will be on view at the Tennessee State Museum until June.

CONFERENCE on AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE – Linda Wynn

Ms. Wynn mentioned that the 2015 conference is scheduled for February 13. This year's program will focus on some of the unsung personalities of African Americans in Tennessee and their contributions to the state's history. Three additional profiles will be added to the ongoing series. The \$20 fee includes all lunch and all conference materials. Registration will begin in January.

ENCYCLOPEDIA UPDATE - Dr. Carole Bucy

Dr. Bucy reported that little progress has been made on the project since November. The commissioners who had agreed to write articles were urged to complete and submit them soon.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Tim Walker

- Funds have been approved for Metro to assist the Friends of Kellytown for purchase the Kellytown archeological site, which will be converted to a Metro park. Mr. Walker planned to attend an event at the Forest Hills site that afternoon for the formal announcement.
- MHC has received a CLG grant for National Register nominations in the Inglewood neighborhood in East Nashville and the Bluefields neighborhood in Donelson. The grant will be used to hire a consulting firm to assist in preparing the nominations.
- The MHC Foundation has been a good resource as a pass-through agency for several grants. There are funds in their account for a book on the history of Warner Parks and also for the MHC book, Nashville Architecture: A Guide to the City, a collaborative project with Dr. Carroll Van West and the Middle Tennessee Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.
- The office will be applying soon to the SHPO for several CLG Grants. One is for the staff to attend the 2016 NAPC Conference. Applications may also be submitted to pay for developing Master Interpretive Plan for Kellytown, or for Two Rivers Mansion.
- Walker has been working with Council Lady Erica Gilmore on landmarking the Ben West Library. The mayor's administration is in favor of the designation, so he is hopeful that it will happen soon.

HISTORIC ZONING – Robin Zeigler

Ms. Zeigler mentioned the possible additions to the Broadway overlay and the potential Ben West Library landmark.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Jim Forkum has written a poem to commemorate the Battle of Nashville.

The Battle of Nashville Remembered

*One hundred fifty years ago
A decisive battle fought that day
Nashville was in a Civil War
One wore blue and one wore gray.*

*Hood was the General of the Gray
and Thomas for the Blue
The South was badly outnumbered
The strength was five to two.*

*Men were valiant on both sides
and fought with all their skills
Until the North broke through the lines
and the South scattered to yon hills.*

*A long four years of fighting
was coming to an end
Muskets and cannon laid to rest
with foe and with friend.*

*So when I visit this hallowed ground
Where men fought for me and you
I think that I should shed a tear
For the Gray and for the Blue.*

Jim Forkum

12-15-14

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

Respectfully submitted January 21, 2015

Yvonne Ogren

