



## METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION (MHC) MINUTES

December 18, 2017

The Metropolitan Historical Commission held its regular meeting on December 18, 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, Richard Courtney, Don Cusic, Bill Hardin, Jim Hoobler, Lynn Maddox, and Linda Wynn were present. Alex Buchanan, Lynne Holliday, Dr. Bill McKee, Mark Rogers, Gerry Searcy did not attend. Dr. Carole Bucy, Davidson County Historian, also attended.

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

Chairman Jim Forkum called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. Chairman Forkum asked new commissioner Richard Courtney if he would provide a brief introduction about his background.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES – *Jim Forkum*

Chairman Forkum stated that the November minutes would be approved at the following meeting. Commissioner Allen made the motion to accept the October 2017 minutes. Commissioner Hardin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### DISCUSSION OF HOLIDAY PARTY

Events and Special Projects co-chairs Lynn Maddox and Menié Bell stated that this year's open house will once again be held in the spring, since the holiday season is so busy and the previous spring event was so well attended. In keeping with the recent tradition of rotating the site between the MHC office one year and a new venue the next, Executive Director Walker offered two options for a location: Fort Negley and Two Rivers Mansion. Commissioners Maddox and Bell said they would work with Mr. Walker and others to secure the location, and would have more details at the next meeting.

### HISTORIC MARKERS – *Jessica Reeves and Caroline Eller*

Ms. Reeves provided an overview of the historic markers to be voted on as part of the Council District marker expansion program including Paradise Ridge (district 1), Riverside Sanitarium and Hospital/Dr. Dorothy Brown (district 2), and May-Granbery House and Alford Cemetery (district 4). Commissioner Maddox made the motion to approve the new markers. Commissioner Wynn seconded and the markers were approved with one minor revision.

Ms. Reeves also noted that the Penny Campbell marker event was extremely well attended by community members as well as local political leaders, including Mayor Barry, who thanked the Historical Commission for approving the marker in her remarks at the ceremony. Ms. Zeigler said that news of the marker was picked up by the AP.

#### [NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS– \*Caroline Eller\*](#)

Ms. Eller gave a brief summary of the proposed revision to the Travellers Rest National Register Nomination, which will be presented to the State Review Board on January 10<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Eller asked for the Commission's approval of the updated nomination. Mr. Cusic made the motion to approve. Mr. Hardin seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

#### [DIRECTOR'S REPORT – \*Tim Walker\*](#)

Commissioners were reminded of the Nashville Conference on African-American History and Culture to be held on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Registration is available on the website and a mailing is planned for this week. Mr. Walker also reminded the Commissioners of the deadline for the grant program for historic commercial properties in Tier 1 census tracts. To date, there have been no proposals. Ms. Eller spoke about her involvement in the project and her ideas for contacting potential businesses. Commissioner Allen suggested 8407 Old Harding Rd. as a potential location, and Mr. Walker asked all other Commissioners to send any ideas to him or Ms. Eller. Mr. Walker concluded his report with favorable news about the Nashville Sites digital history project. He and Dr. Mary Ellen Pethel have secured \$50,000 in grant funding, with additional meetings for more funding planned for the coming months.

#### [HISTORIC ZONING REPORT – \*Robin Zeigler\*](#)

Ms. Zeigler let commissioners know that a heavy and controversial agenda was expected for the next MHZC meeting. She also shared that the Old House Fair would henceforth be a biennial event, with the next one scheduled for March 2019.

#### [STAFF REPORTS](#)

Chairman Forkum asked the staff if anyone had any business to share. Ms. Miles shared the progress on the countywide survey and updated the Commissioners on some potential street name changes. Ms. Eller reported that she had attended a meeting for the Mayor's Resilient Nashville initiative, and she encouraged the Commissioners to complete an email survey about the project. Ms. Reeves updated the Commissioners on the progress of the new federal courthouse project in the Section 106 review. No other staff members had reports.

#### [OTHER BUSINESS](#)

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

Respectfully submitted January 2018.

*Jessica Reeves*