

METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION (MHC)
MINUTES

[September 16, 2013](#)

The Metropolitan Historical Commission held its regular meeting on September 16, 2013, 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; Bob Allen, Clay Bailey, Menié Bell, Lula Brooks, George Cate, Jr., Holly Conner, David Currey, Don Cusic, Jim Hoobler, Lynn McDonald*, Gerry Searcy and Linda Wynn. Commissioner Jim Forkum was not present.

Guests Present: Chajuan Fitzgerald, Pamela Foster

Staff Members Present: Tim Walker, Melissa Baldock, Tara Mielnik, Scarlett Miles, Yvonne Ogren, and Robin Zeigler

Chair Bill McKee called the meeting to order after verifying that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner George Cate moved to approve the minutes from the August meeting as written. Commissioner Bob Allen seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

HISTORIC MARKERS- [Tara Mielnik](#)

Staff member Tara Mielnik presented a recommendation from the Marker Committee to approve text for *Woman Suffrage Rallies*. [The commissioners voted unanimously for approval of the marker.](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. McKee talked about items of importance that will be on the agenda for the October 21 meeting.

- Commissioner David Currey will be giving a presentation on the completed interpretive plan for Fort Nashborough.
- Forest Hills Mayor Bill Coke and attorney Matt Foster will give a presentation of the master plan proposal designed for the Kellytown settlement archaeological site.

**Commissioner Lynn McDonald joined the meeting.*

Guest speakers Chajuan Fitzgerald and Pamela Foster distributed flyers and invited commissioners to attend the **34th Annual Conference of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society**, which was to be held in Nashville, October 10-13. Sessions would be focusing on resources, research, and historical events to help attendees discover their family's history. Prior to the conference, several tours of historical sites will be given. A Free to Read Book fair will be included as part of the conference.

SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE- [Nothing new to report](#)

Dr. McKee talked about the Nashville City Cemetery Living History Tour. On **Saturday, Sept 21**, actors and period music will recreate some of Nashville's most interesting historical figures. The focus of this year's tour will be on some of Nashville's most interesting and historic leaders. The tours will commence at 2 p. m. Each tour lasts approximately one hour. A new tour will start every 15 minutes; with the last tour beginning at 6 p. m. Proceeds will benefit the Nashville City Cemetery Association for the continued restoration and documentation of the cemetery.

For the first time at this year's event, vending trucks will be on site for attendees to purchase food, beverages, and desserts.

Dr. McKee mentioned that four commissioners (McKee, Allen, Bell, and Currey) had been reappointed for 4-year terms.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT- *Tim Walker*

- Mr. Walker reported that 139 applications were submitted for the open HP1 position. He and Ms. Zeigler have narrowed the list of qualified applicants down to nine hopefuls. They will begin making calls for telephone interviews in the next week.
- Another tour of the Cordell Hull Building has been scheduled. Interest in saving the structure is growing.
- Intern Denise Gallagher has just completed an extensive inventory and cataloguing of the office library.

HISTORIC ZONING REPORT- *Robin Zeigler*

- The Hillsboro-West End neighborhood is very interested in expanding the boundaries of their overlay district to include as many as 500 more properties.

STAFF REPORTS

Tara Mielnik mentioned that she, Scarlett Miles, and Claudette Stager (THC) would be presenting next week at the annual conference of SESA - Southeast Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians, in Charlotte, NC. The topic of their panel discussion is "*Un-appreciating the Modern in Nashville, Tennessee: Estes Kefauver, Cordell Hull, and Ben West*".

Scarlett Miles mentioned that the 5th session in the Civil War lecture series would take place the next day at Fort Negley, with Dr. Steve Hoskins presenting "Singing the Songs of Zion: The Civil War's Impact on Music". This was originally scheduled to take place at Holy Trinity Church, but had to be relocated due to parking considerations.

Scarlett also called attention to the HABS Report, *Music Industry-Related Sites in Nashville, Tennessee*, which the office recently received from the Department of the Interior. The report focuses on nine specific locations in the city and includes some excellent digital images of the locations. Former MHC intern Rachel Hopkin worked with the National Park Service on this project during the time she was with the department.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioners Gerry Searcy and Menié Bell commented on Oktoberfest, coming up October 11-12. This is Nashville's 34th annual German festival, and will take place in Historic Germantown, on 7th Avenue N and Monroe Street.

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

Respectfully submitted by

Yvonne Ogren

October 17, 2013