



METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION (MHC)  
MINUTES

August 28, 2017

The Metropolitan Historical Commission held its regular meeting on August 28, 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, Alex Buchanan, Jim Hoobler, Lynn Maddox, Dr. Bill McKee, Mark Rogers, and Gerry Searcy were present. Clay Bailey, Menié Bell, David Currey, Don Cusic, and Linda Wynn were excused.

**Guests Present:** Dr. Carole Bucy, Patrick Christie-Mizell, Dr. Mary Ellen Pethel, Dr. Pippa Holloway, and Abby Rubenfeld

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

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 July meeting. Alex Buchanan made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction of a minor clerical error. Lynn Maddox seconded and the minutes were approved as corrected.

**Nashville Sites Presentation – Dr. Mary Ellen Pethel**

Tim introduced Dr. Mary Ellen Pethel to the board members and staff. Dr. Pethel is a member of the Metro Historical Commission Foundation, and has been working on a project called Nashville Sites that was funded by the MHC Foundation.

Dr. Pethel presented Nashville Sites, a mobile-friendly website, to the board members and staff and talked about what inspired this project. She talked about Phase I, which included hiring of Fog Haus to assist with the writing of computer code. Dr. Pethel went on to talk about Phase II of the project, which is estimated from \$75,000 to \$125,000 for costs. She discussed some walking tour themes that they were working on and that they have narrowed it down to four tours- Music, Art & Architecture, Civil Rights, and Music in Music City. She gave a PowerPoint presentation, showing sample web pages from the Music Tour. She mentioned the possibility of applying for grants to allay the costs. Tim Walker said he was able to speak with the CEO of Grayline tours and that they would be interested in helping out with the tours. He said he wanted tour to be offered to the public free of charge, and without advertising, and user friendly. Bob Allen asked Dr. Pethel if there would be a sponsor page and she said it has been discussed, but a decision is not made at this time. Dr. Pethel was also asked about the internet platform (Omeka) and how it worked. She said the domain is being hosted by Reclaim hosting and that they specialize in working with educational projects and institutions. Mr. Christie-Mizell asked if there would be any markers for sites (structures, for example) that don't exist anymore.

Dr. Pethel said that they were working to incorporate visuals that don't exist on the tour for the tourist to see what was once at that location. Jessica Reeves commented that they are performing a lot of data research and finding pictures for the markers/sites that don't exist anymore.

#### [National Register Nomination – Scarlett Miles](#)

Ms. Miles presented the National Register nomination for the Tennessee War Memorial Building. Ms. Miles gave a slide show of photographs of the building. The nomination was written by Claudette Stager from the Tennessee Historical Commission and is scheduled for the state review board meeting on September 13, 2017. The Tennessee War Memorial is eligible for listing for its statewide significance under criteria A and C in the areas of social history, architecture, and art. Jim Hoobler made the motion for approval and the Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the Tennessee War Memorial Building nomination.

#### [Historic Markers – Jessica Reeves](#)

Ms. Reeves presented the Penny Campbell Marker and introduced Dr. Pippa Holloway and Abby Rubenfeld, who were present to answer any questions that the commission may have regarding Penny Campbell. The proposed marker is to be located at 1615 McEwen Avenue. This site was Ms. Campbell's last residence, and the owners have given permission for the marker to be placed on the property. Ms. Reeves provided research of merits and significance of Ms. Campbell contributions to Nashville history and provided them to the commission members and staff. Jim Forkum asked if there were any further comments, and Alex Buchanan questioned whether Penny Campbell was a participant at Gay Pride Week. Ms. Rubenfeld was able to speak to his concerns and cleared the question. ***Jim Hoobler made a motion to approve the marker. Lynn Maddox seconded and the Penny Campbell marker was approved.***

Ms. Reeves talked about two additional markers that are on the Commission's priority list:

The Ryman Auditorium marker was ordered in 1969 but never installed and is now missing. Since it is being re-ordered, Ms. Reeves felt that it was appropriate to make some updates to reflect changes that have occurred since 1969. ***Jim Hoobler made a motion to approve the changes to the marker. Alex Buchanan seconded and the Ryman Auditorium marker changes were approved.***

The second marker from the priority list is for Antioch Pike. Ms. Reeves presented information on the history of the Antioch Pike, including when it was incorporated and when the name was changed. ***Jim Hoobler made a motion to approve the text for the marker as presented. Lynn Maddox seconded and the Antioch Pike marker was approved.***

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

Mr. Walker introduced MHC's newest staff member, Briana Davis, who has taken Yvonne Ogren's place as Administrative Assistant. Ms. Davis spoke briefly of her past employment with Metro Government and with the State of Tennessee.

Mr. Walker mentioned that Dr. Bob McKee, Bob Allen, and Menié Bell have all been re-appointed to new terms on the Commission. David Currey was not re-appointed and will be replaced by Richard Courtney. Barrett Hobbs, who resigned from the commission, has been replaced by Ms. Lynne Holliday. The first MHC meeting for Commissioners Courtney and Holliday will be in September.

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

Ms. Zeigler reported that she is working on revising the design guidelines for Broadway, Second Avenue Downtown, and the Germantown Historic Preservation Districts, and they should be coming before the MHZC this month. Additionally, she noted that she is meeting with the Edgehill and Marathon Village neighborhoods, as they are considering local designation.

#### STAFF REPORTS

Fred Zahn reported that vandalism occurred at the City Cemetery and eighteen tombstones were damaged. He also mentioned the NCCA's Living History Tour, coming up on October 14<sup>th</sup>, from 3:00 to 5:30 p.m.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

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

Respectfully submitted September 18, 2017