



METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION (MHC)  
MINUTES

September 17, 2018

The Metropolitan Historical Commission held its regular meeting on September 17, 2018, 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, Dr. Clay Bailey, Menié Bell, Christopher Cotton, Dr. Don Cusic, Michelle Hall Jim Hoobler, Lynn Maddox, Dr. Bill McKee, Mark Rogers, Gerry Searcy, E. Thomas Wood, Linda Wynn **were present**. Lynne Holliday **did not attend**. Dr. Carole Bucy, county historian, also attended.

**Guests Present:** NA

**Staff Members Present:** Tim Walker, Sean Alexander, Caroline Eller, Melissa Baldock, Scarlett Miles, Paula Person, Jessica Reeves, Melissa Sajid, and Robin Zeigler were present.

Chair Jim Forkum called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. after verifying that a quorum was present.

Tim Walker introduced newly appointed board members, Michelle Hall and Chris Cotton. Each introduced themselves along with providing insight into their background and received a welcome from the group.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Jim Forkum**

Jim Forkum verified that a quorum was present and asked for approval of the August minutes. Don Cusic made a motion to approve, Bob Allen provided a second, and the August minutes were unanimously approved.

**HISTORIC MARKERS– Jessica Reeves & Caroline Eller**

No new markers were presented this month. Jessica Reeves provided a handout on upcoming marker dedication ceremonies and noted that there will be a marker dedication on Friday at 9:30 am for the Odom's Tennessee Pride Marker on Neely's Bend Road and a marker dedication for the Cora Howe/Eastland Marker on Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm. Chair Forkum spoke briefly about the history of Tennessee Pride and the community's support. He also complimented Jessica and Caroline on their work with the marker program.

**Fort Negley Park Campaign – Tom Wood**

Fundraising for Phase II archaeology for Fort Negley Park began Thursday, and 18 donors have made contributions through the Crowdrise campaign, including the Battle of Nashville Preservation Society and the Foundation of Ruth Ann Leach. The goal is to raise \$50,000. Mr. Walker thanked Commissioner Wood for passionately spearheading this campaign and his dedication in raising funds thus far.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT & MHC 2018-19 Budget–Tim Walker**

Tim Walker informed the group that he, Commissioner Wynn, and Dr. Bucy attended a meeting with Metro Parks staff to assist them in naming and development of a proposed pocket park on Jefferson Street. Ms. Wynn noted that the discussion focused on parking and preserving the Jefferson Street history. Dr. Bucy added

that the meeting was engaging and productive. The park will be located at 1606 Jefferson Street, and a second meeting will be held to elaborate further on the outcomes.

We have been working with the Convention & Visitor's Corporation to develop the logo for the Nashville Sites project. They are a major sponsor of the project and will also be helping with publicity of the site once it launches. Michael Janas, a faculty member of Belmont University's music department, has offered to assist with the audio development of the tours.

The Cultural Landscape Report final draft for Fort Negley Park is on track to be completed in October, with the Phase II archaeology to begin once Greer Stadium has been demolished. The annual Nashville City Cemetery Living History Tour will be held on October 27<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 pm–7:00 pm with parking for the event at the Adventure Science Center. Tour information will be on the Commission's website as well as in the newsletter. The proposed Monroe Harding Specific Plan was disapproved by the Metro Planning Commission at its last meeting. The plan does not protect the historic buildings on the campus and only allows for residential uses. Commissioner Brian Tibbs led the charge to disapprove the plan.

The Mayor will propose a Capital Spending Plan in the next few weeks. Please contact your council person and inform them of the importance of the Sunnyside improvements. We are on track with our budget and spending at this time. Last week the Civil Service Commission approved my request to increase Paula Person's paygrade by two steps. Jim Forkum expressed concern about having the budget to retain and hire personnel and inquired about the most pressing needs. Mr. Walker explained that monies were needed to update and print brochures, but noted the department not been given funding to renew our annual software licenses.

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

The Edgehill Neighborhood Conservation Overlay District was approved by Metro Council. Kenner Manor, which includes Crescent, Clearview and portions of Woodmont Circle, and should go to the MHZC for review in November. The Old House Fair will be held Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at Sevier Park Community Center and we are in the process of signing on sponsors and exhibitors.

#### [STAFF REPORTS](#)

Jessica Reeves noted the Odom's marker dedication which will be held at 1145 Neely's Bend Road. Metro Arts is hosting a reception for their 40 for 40 event at 4:00 pm next Monday at the courthouse. Caroline Eller gave an update on the Economic Impact Study. PlaceEconomics, the consultant, was here in late August and met with staff and District 19 Councilman Freddy O'Connell. They toured our downtown and East Nashville districts and plan to visit all national register and local historic overlay properties. Village Real Estate and others have donated money to help cover the cost of expanding the project's scope. In addition, we are applying for a grant to the National Trust to assist with this cost. Smith-Carter House and Rainbow Ranch nominations will be voted on this Wednesday at the National Register State Review Board meeting in Memphis.

#### [OTHER BUSINESS](#)

HNI nominations for the 2018 Nashville Nine are still open. John Allyn is speaking tomorrow at 12:00 pm at the Fort Negley Center on Civil War Naval History. Bob Allen thanked Don Cusic for the music in the play he produced about Minnie Pearl.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted Sept 13, 2018.

*Paula R. Person*