

## METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION (MHC)

### MINUTES

December 14, 2020

The Metropolitan Historical Commission held an electronic meeting on December 14, 2020 with Commission Chair Clay Bailey presiding.

**Commissioners Present:** Dr. Clay Bailey, Chair; Davis Acker, Dr. Jhennifer Amundson, Menié Bell, Pamela Bobo, John Bridges, Christopher Cotton, Dr. Don Cusic, Lynn Maddox, Gerry Searcy, and Linda Wynn, **were present.**

**Staff Members Present:** Tim Walker, Jessica Reeves, Susie Pallas, and Scarlett Miles were present.

**Guests Present:** Metro Attorney Alex Dickerson, ITS Charda Johnson

Chair Dr. Clay Bailey called the meeting to order at approximately 12:08 p.m. after verifying that a quorum was present.

Alex Dickerson informed the Commission about changes made to Executive Order No. 16, which went into effect on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The meeting must be livestreamed, a recording must be made available to the public and anyone observing the meeting must be able to tell who is speaking. This can be achieved by the commissioners using video, announcing themselves as they begin speaking or by being recognized by Chair Bailey by name before they speak.

Commissioner Cusic made a motion that the proposed agenda constitutes essential business and that meeting electronically is necessary to maintain the health, safety and well-being of citizens due to the pandemic. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Bridges. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Dr. Clay Bailey**

Chair Bailey presented the October minutes for approval. Commissioner Searcy made a motion to approve the minutes, Commissioner Wynn provided a second, and the October minutes were approved by roll call vote,

#### **HISTORICAL MARKERS – Jessica Reeves**

Jessica had three Historical Markers to present to the Commission. The first marker for review is the East Nashville Fire marker. It was originally approved in 1968 and because of damage in the tornado, we are using 4% money to replace it with updated text and relocate it to the NE corner of S. 7<sup>th</sup> St. and Fatherland St. We worked with the Edgefield Neighborhood Association and they have approved the text that has also been approved by

the marker committee. In the updated text, we tried to include more information about how many buildings and blocks were impacted by the fire and notable sites that were affected. Commissioner Bridges made a motion to approve the marker and Commissioner Wynn provided a second. Commissioner Acker asked about reasons for moving the marker and Jessica explained the desire to make it more visible and accessible. A roll call vote was taken, and the marker was approved. Next, Jessica presented the Tennessee/Spring Water Brewery marker which has been donated by the Scott Mertie family. This is the fifth brewery marker which has been presented to the Commission for approval. This marker location has not been set, but it will be on Vultee Blvd. near Air Freight Blvd. It will have text on one side and a metal photograph on the other. Commissioner Bridges moved to approve the marker and Commissioner Cusic seconded it. The marker was approved by roll call vote. Next, Jessica presented the Jesse S. DeMoss marker. We will be working with the family to locate the marker near the entrance to the family cemetery on River Road Pike. Commissioner Bridges made a motion to approve the marker and Commissioner Cusic provided the second. Commissioner Bell remembered Bob Allen at this time for the Bellevue connection. A roll call vote was taken and the marker was approved as presented.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Bailey thanked Director Walker and staff for all of their hard work this year which was made more difficult by the tornado and the Covid-19 quarantine. He also remembered the losses of Dr. Reavis Mitchell and Commissioner Allen. Chair Bailey reported that *Nashville Retrospect* will be ceasing print publication and we will be working with CM Pulley to initiate a resolution which would recognize Allen Forkum for his work as editor of the *Nashville Retrospect*. Chair Bailey also reminded the commissioners to contact him if they have any items that they would like to put on the agenda. Commissioner Bell stated that MHZC is working hard on the homes damaged in the tornado and she is happy to report that no lives were lost and many homes are being rebuilt. Commissioner Cusic requested an update on the Samuel Smith marker. Chair Bailey stated that there will be additional public meetings and engagement before the marker comes back to the Commission.

With no further business to discuss, Commissioner Cusic moved to adjourn, and Commissioner Bridges seconded. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, January 19, 2021.

*Susie Pallas*