

Metropolitan Historical Commission Metropolitan Historic Zoning Commission Sunnyside in Sevier Park 3000 Granny White Pike Nashville, Tennessee 37204 Telephone: (615) 862-7970

MHC Marker Committee Meeting Agenda

Monday, May 2, 2022 5:30 p.m. Sunnyside in Sevier Park 3000 Granny White Pike, Nashville, TN 37204 (MASKS RECOMMENDED)

- I. New Business
 - a. Dudley Field (privately funded)
 - b. Rip Patton (Metro funded)
- II. Adjourn

As a notice to the public, the purpose of the Marker Committee meeting is to select language for the proposed marker. Accordingly, there will be no public comment or participation at this committee meeting. The full Metro Historical Commission will meet on May 16, 2022, to determine whether to adopt the proposed marker. Options for public comment will be made available at the May 16 meeting.

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Dudley Field

Location: In front of Vanderbilt Stadium (Jess Neeley Dr. and Natchez Trace)

Funding: Vanderbilt University

Dudley Field opened on Oct. 14, 1922. Named for Dr. William Dudley, it was the first stadium in the South built for football. The first night game took place on Sept. 25, 1954, after lights were installed for the Billy Graham Crusade. After a major renovation, the venue re-opened as Vanderbilt Stadium on Sept. 12, 1981. Hosted here were the first NFL game played in the South (a 1944 exhibition), remarks by President John F. Kennedy (1963), and the NFL's Tennessee Oilers (1998).

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Ernest "Rip" Patton 1940-2021

Location: Gordon Memorial United Methodist Church (2334 Herman St.)

Funding: Metro 4% (priority list)

Ernest "Rip" Patton was born in Nashville in 1940 and graduated from Pearl High School in 1958. While at Tennessee Agricultural & Industrial State College (now Tenn. State University), he participated in the sit-ins movement at Nashville lunch counters, and was one of 14 students expelled from the school after being arrested in Jackson, Miss. in 1961 as part of the Freedom Rides. Patton spoke across the country about his activism, often singing as well. He died on Aug. 24, 2021.

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