

**City of Franklin Battlefield Preservation Commission**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Thursday, July 10, 2014—7:30 AM**  
**Eastern Flank Event Facility at Eastern Flank Battlefield Park**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Ernie Bacon, Dianne Christian, David Eagan, Thomas Flagel, Sam Gant, Sam Huffman, Eric Jacobson, Pam Lewis, Mary Pearce (arrived 7:46), Jim Roberts, Mike Skinner (arrived 7:46), JT Thompson, Sam Whitson

**Absent:** Robert Huff, Mike Grainger, Jay Sheridan, Deborah Warnick

**Staff Present:** Amanda Hall, Susan Coleman, Deanna Scheffel

Vice-Chair Whitson called the meeting to order at 7:40 a.m.

**Minutes: June 12, 2014 Meeting**

Mr. Roberts moved to approve June meeting minutes. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously (11-0).

**Discussion of Carter Hill Battlefield Park Master Plan Proposal**

Mr. Bacon requested Vice-Chair Whitson give a brief background on this subject.

Vice-Chair Whitson stated the City, Franklin's Charge, State of Tennessee, Heritage Foundation and Save the Franklin Battlefield all own different properties associated with this plan and the plan is to one day make these properties into a park with purchasing any additional properties needed. Vice-Chair Whitson stated the key component needed to be done this year is to get the old gym torn down.

Mr. Jacobson stated Kiser & Vogrin is creating a master plan that includes building a new visitors center for the Carter House, and the first phase of the plan is demolition of the gymnasium.

Mr. Bacon suggested some kind of terminology be created for the land, like Carter Grove.

Mr. Jacobson stated it is really called Carter Garden, and discussion ensued on naming.

Ms. Lewis requested to know the cost.

Mr. Jacobson stated the cost is \$2.8 million and at least \$1 million will need to be raised.

Ms. Christian requested to know if there was vision to go further south in the future.

Mr. Jacobson stated it has been mentioned to go all the way to Granbury St. by buying up houses.

Ms. Pearce stated the challenge comes from a real estate point of view.

### **Hiram Masonic Lodge Presentation**

Vice-Chair Whitson stated Art DeVooght recently contacted him concerning the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary activities and requested to come speak about what the lodge would like to offer.

Mr. DeVooght stated the building was constructed between 1823 and 1826. Mr. DeVooght stated it is a three-story building with the first floor being the community floor and that the building was an outpost during the Civil War for Fort Granger. Mr. DeVooght stated the lodge wants to get back with the community and is offering the first floor free of charge for the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration. Mr. DeVooght introduced Mr. Craig Fellner, who is president and Worshipful Master of the Lodge.

Mr. Fellner stated in years past, the lodge got away from the community. Mr. Fellner stated the lodge wants to get back to old roots and is reaching out to include community again. Mr. Fellner stated the community room space could house about 50 people and stated a tour of the whole building is available to all groups would like to take one.

Mr. Roberts requested to know who the contact would be.

Mr. Thompson requested to know if the commission could do the tour.

Ms. Pearce suggested we have a meeting there.

Mr. Bacon suggested contacts be left with Ms. Hall.

### **Discussion of Civil War Sign Audit**

Ms. Hall stated there is potential to conduct a sign audit of Civil War signage in Franklin. Ms. Hall stated there are numerous signs that might not be needed any more. Ms. Hall stated we need to know what purpose the existing signs have before any new signage is added.

Discussion ensued on locations of signage.

Mr. Bacon stated a sign audit is the place to start.

Mr. Flagel questioned what would be the fastest way to get done.

Ms. Hall stated a small subcommittee could be formed to identify the existing signage.

Ms. Scheffel suggested taking pictures of the signage.

Ms. Pearce moved to form a subcommittee consisting of Mr. Bacon, Mr. Skinner, Mr. Jacobson, Mr. Flagel, Mr. Huffman, Mr. Gant, and Mr. Whitson to conduct a sign audit working with Ms. Hall. Mr. Jacobson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously (13-0).

### **Announcements & Other Business**

- **Parks Update**

Ms. Scheffel stated the fence line has been finished, the kitchen has been done, the kiosk is being in finished, and they have to mark where the signage goes at the shelter. Ms. Scheffel stated they were forming the parking lot at Fort Granger and are getting ready to create the footpath to overlay.

- **Individual Commissioner Announcements**

Mr. Bacon requested an update on the gun carriages.

Vice-Chair Whitson stated BOMA approved \$31,000.

Mr. Thompson requested to know when the carriages would be ordered.

Vice-Chair Whitson stated TDEC money must be approved first by the State and then they can be ordered and placed by October/November.

Mr. Jacobson stated he would like to get the City to close Columbia Pike from 12 pm to 6 pm for the November 30<sup>th</sup> celebration.

Ms. Pearce stated the place to start with that request would be Monique McCullough.

Ms. Hall stated she would be happy to help with that and TDOT would need to be contacted as well.

Mr. Gant requested to know an update on the Federal Line Markers.

Ms. Hall stated she was waiting on TDOT for approval of such a signage type.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

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Acting Secretary