

City of Franklin Battlefield Preservation Commission
Regular Meeting
Thursday, February 12, 2015—7:30 AM
City Training Room
Meeting Minutes

Present: Ernie Bacon, Dianne Christian, David Eagan, Sam Gant, Sam Huffman, Mike Grainger, Pam Lewis (arrived 8:09), Mary Pearce, Jim Roberts, Mike Skinner, Jay Sheridan, Deborah Warnick (arrived 8:07), Sam Whitson, JT Thompson, Alma McLemore, Robert Huff

Staff Present: Amanda Hall, Susan Coleman, Deanna Scheffel, Brian Walker, Lisa Clayton

Chair Whitson called the meeting to order at 7:38 a.m.

Minutes: December 11, 2014 Meetings

Mr. Bacon moved to approve the December meeting minutes. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously (14-0).

Minutes: January 8, 2015 Meetings

Ms. Pearce moved to approve the January meeting minutes. Mr. Huffman seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously (14-0).

Discussion of Event Lighting at Eastern Flank Battlefield Park Event Facility

Ms. Clayton stated the reason they wished to speak today was to discuss this facility and utilizing it. Ms. Clayton stated there are three groups who currently utilize this facility—Civil War interests, neighbors who use the park, and renters. Ms. Clayton stated they would talk about some things today asking for direction.

Mr. Walker requested the commission to look at the stone wall and stage area outside that the Parks Dept. recently built with manmade stone and explained the space. Mr. Walker stated they planted 150 trees to represent the "Grove" and that there are planting beds as well.

Everyone commented that it looks really good.

Mr. Walker stated they would like to add landscape lighting and 6 lamp posts that would each be 10-feet tall.

Ms. Clayton explained the Fleming Center design includes lighting at some point in the parking area and that this lighting would be the same.

Mr. Walker stated the lamps would be 10-feet tall with an ornate pole, LED lighting, and a dome with a shield that focus' light inward as well as outward.

Ms. Clayton stated these lights would not be on all the time, but at events, etc. Ms. Clayton stated they do not want it to become an eyesore and not fit in.

Mr. Bacon stated he felt it was well thought-out.

Ms. Pearce stated when she hears "decorative," that scares her, and she would like to see the lighting proposal.

Ms. Hall stated she would email the specifications to everyone.

Ms. Pearce suggested taking a look at other battlefield parks to see what they have done.

Ms. Clayton stated she has heard concerns about removing the concrete paths that are in the Park. Ms. Clayton explained that removing the concrete is in the master plan and then replace with more natural stone material. Ms. Clayton stated she would like feedback from this commission on whether to remove the concrete or not.

Mr. Walker stated they have removed about a mile of concrete already, but it was only dead end paths used as turnarounds for golf carts.

Ms. Clayton requested the commission think about it and give her feedback.

Discussion of Carter Hill Battlefield Park Master Plan Proposal

Chair Whitson stated he had no update at this time and asked Mr. Bacon if he did.

Mr. Bacon stated the city has brought in loads of top soil and Domino's will be a month to six weeks out from relocating.

Ms. Pearce suggested something special be done when it is time to demolish the building and requested everyone to send any ideas they have to her.

Mr. Grainger stated he wished to speak on the Lovell Property and stated the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) grant should be approved sometime this month. Mr. Grainger stated there has been a change with how grants are reviewed. Mr. Grainger stated there will be delays in grants until a process is put in place for the Section 106 Reviews.

Chair Whitson requested to know if the Lovell Property grant had been grandfathered in.

Mr. Grainger stated yes.

Discussion ensued on the affordable senior housing and the need to have a conversation on the paint color of the new construction to provide a better backdrop to the Carter House property.

Chair Whitson suggested Ms. Pearce write a letter and bring to the next meeting for a vote.

Discussion of Franklin Sign Survey

Chair Whitson stated there will be a subcommittee meeting after this meeting.

Consideration of 2014 Accomplishments List & 2015 Commission Goals

Ms. Hall stated she sent out a list in email and has passed out a paper copy today for everyone to look at and give feedback on anything that needs to be added.

Chair Whitson stated the 10th of March will be when an update is given to BOMA.

Ms. Hall reiterated that everyone needs to read and send her any additional information that needs to be added.

Ms. Pearce stated she would like to add the prospect of adding an overlay on Columbia Avenue Corridor.

Ms. Warnick stated the role this commission played with the Sesquicentennial should be added.

Mr. Sheridan stated the award the Civil War Trust presented this commission might be something to add.

Organizational Announcements

- **5-minute spotlight : STFB**

Mr. Huffman projected photographs on the history of the Save the Franklin Battlefield's start. Mr. Huffman stated it started about 15 years ago.

- **Brief update from all members**

Mr. Bacon stated Franklin's Charge is continuing to work on the property at the corner of Cleburne St. and Columbia Ave. and anticipated Domino's moving to its new location within the month.

Ms. Lewis stated that the Tennessee Preservation Trust (TPT) is planning their conference in Chattanooga on April 28th through May 2nd and is in the process of adding new members.

Ms. McLemore stated they just had their annual black tie event with a record turnout and the next event will be the third Saturday in June. Ms. McLemore stated that she will be sending out information.

Ms. Warnick stated two weeks ago, there were 210 motor coaches that came and toured Franklin. Ms. Warnick stated the Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) hit 48,000 followers on Facebook yesterday.

Ms. Pearce stated they are working with some other like-minded groups in town to try and make this be the year to push the river walk. Ms. Pearce stated they are working with Channel 2 to get a piece on African-American History that will be happening today. Ms. Pearce stated the Heritage Foundation is still working on the Old, Old Jail.

Announcements & Other Business:

- **Parks Update**

Ms. Scheffel stated she had nothing to add, as everything was mentioned earlier.

- **Commission Contact Information Update**

Ms. Hall stated she passed out a document with the current contact information she had and requested all commissioners send her any information that needed to be updated.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Acting Secretary