

City of Franklin Battlefield Preservation Commission
Regular Meeting
Thursday, August 13, 2015—7:30 AM
City Training Room
Meeting Minutes

Present: David Eagan, Sam Gant, Sam Huffman, Mary Pearce (arrived at 8:10 a.m.), Mike Skinner (arrived at 8:10 a.m.), Ernie Bacon, Thomas Cartwright (arrived at 7:45 a.m.), Thomas Flagel (left at 8:05 am), Alma McLemore, Eric Jacobson, Pam Lewis

Staff Present: Brian Walker, Susan Coleman, Amanda Hall

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

Minutes: July 9, 2015 Meetings

Mr. Gant moved to approve the July meeting minutes. Mr. Jacobson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Discussion of Carter Hill Battlefield Park Master Plan Proposal

Vice-Chair Bacon requested to know if Mr. Jacobson had an update.

Mr. Jacobson stated the documents for the funding have been signed and the actual money should funnel through in October. Mr. Jacobson stated the master plan for the Carter House historic site is complete and should be released to the public soon.

Discussion ensued concerning the homes on the property.

Update on Cemetery Projects

Ms. Hall stated the field work has been completed and documents should be available next month.

Mr. Walker explained the group is now taking all the data they collected and putting it into maps. Mr. Walker stated once all the unmarked graves have been marked by the Parks department with metal discs so as to be able to locate the approx. 1500 unmarked graves.

Ms. Lewis thanked the Parks Department for their great work.

Mr. Walker stated Mr. Dan Allen, through the Daughters of American Revolution, is restoring a few of the box tombs and obelisks.

Vice-Chair Bacon requested to know if it was possible to solicit funds from other organizations to do more restoration of the boxes, monuments, etc.

Mr. Walker stated yes, by working through Friends of Franklin Parks.

Mr. Gant stated the Daughters of American Revolution were restoring the gates as well.

Ms. Lewis suggested maybe creating an "Adopt a Plot" program.

Discussion ensued on the location of the old church at City Cemetery.

Organizational Announcements

Ms. McLemore stated that the McLemore House will start being open on Saturdays from 9 am to 3 pm until November.

Ms. Hall stated she received an email concerning the Atlanta Campaign tour.

Mr. Cartwright stated it will be a great tour.

Mr. Jacobson stated there will be new tours at Carnton being held Tuesday through Saturdays between 11 am and 2 pm. Mr. Jacobson stated there will be an event at Carnton a week from today featuring himself and Mr. Greg Wade called "Evolution of America."

Ms. Lewis stated Governor Haslam has stated he would like to cut the ribbon on the new State Museum before he leaves office. Ms. Lewis stated this has put the project on a fast track. Ms. Lewis stated she has been working on a Christmas tour with JT and Susan. Ms. Lewis stated it would be called "Homes for the Holidays."

Mr. Huffman stated you can now drive to Loring's Advance now via Meadowlawn.

Announcements & Other Business

Mr. Gant requested to know if there is any status on the trench line markers.

Ms. Hall stated no.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Hall stated she passed out a copy of term dates for everyone to review and asked that the commissioners let her know of any changes with email, etc. that needed to be done.

Ms. Pearce stated an opportunity that would be good to take advantage of would be to get a scouting badge for the Battle of Franklin and offer an opportunity for scouts to obtain that badge.

Mr. Skinner stated there were a couple of things coming up at BOMA, and one is looking at routes for a river walk and perhaps including a sidewalk that would go from the historic homes on Columbia down Cleburne, Stewart and Lewisburg to link with the river walk.

Ms. Pearce requested to know if a letter of support from this commission would help.

Mr. Skinner stated yes.

Mr. Skinner stated that the City is about to choose the design firm for widening Columbia Avenue and requested any ideas.

Ms. Pearce stated she was upset about the enhancements that have been pulled off the Columbia Avenue plan.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Pearce stated Ms. Hall should be involved the Columbia Avenue widening talks.

Ms. Pearce stated there will be a dry stone workshop coming up in November.

Vice-Chair Bacon requested to know if a recommendation should be made.

Ms. Hall stated she suggests someone work up some verbiage and put this on next month's agenda.

Ms. Pearce, Ms. Lewis and Mr. Skinner will work with Ms. Hall on this issue.

Discussion ensued on about working on the traffic plan for Downs Boulevard.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

Acting Secretary