

City of Franklin Battlefield Preservation Commission
Regular Meeting
Thursday, October 13, 2016—7:30 AM
Training Conference Room
Meeting Minutes

Present: Sam Gant, Sam Huffman, Alma McLemore, Mike Skinner, Sam Whitson, Pam Lewis, Jim Roberts, David Eagan, Eric Jacobson, Mike Grainger, Clay Perry arrived at 7:50, Thomas Cartwright arrived at 7:45

Staff Present: Amanda Rose, Joey Bryan, Brian Walker, Susan Coleman

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

Minutes: August 11, 2016 Meeting

Ms. Lewis moved to approve the August 11, 2016, meeting minutes as submitted. Mr. Huffman seconded the motion and the motion passed 10-0.

Presentation on Cannon & Monuments at Carter’s Hill Battlefield Park

Mr. Cullen Smith provided the commission with a brief history about himself and then presented a slide show on the placement of six cannons that were used in the Battle of Franklin. Mr. Smith stated all six cannons would be placed at the exact spot of where they were in the battle. Mr. Smith stated each cannon and carriages will cost \$20,000 each. Mr. Smith stated they wanted to place the first cannon in the Spring of 2017 and then buy one cannon a year. Mr. Smith stated they welcome and hope for financial support from the City, but realize this will be primarily be a privately funded project. Mr. Smith stated they would like support from this commission and a recommendation of approval to the Parks Department and BOMA. Mr. Smith stated the only financial commitment they ask from the City now is that the City would be responsible for installing and providing the base for the carriages.

Mr. Walker stated the Parks Department would need an understanding of the maintenance and what are some of the long-term costs associated with these cannons would be.

Mr. Skinner moved to adopt the recommendation from the Cannons on the Battlefield Committee to fund raise six cannons one per year to be placed in the original locations of the cannons from the battle and have the City do the construction of the base for the carriages.

Mr. Whitson and Mr. Jacobson added other comments to the motion.

Mr. Jacobson moved for a resolution of support for the Cannons on the Battlefield Committee to fundraise for six cannons to be placed on the Carter’s Hill Battlefield Park, one per year, with City support. Mr. Huffman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Presentation on African-American Civil War Soldiers from Williamson County

Ms. Tina Jones was present to do a presentation on “From Slaves to Soldiers”. Ms. Jones passed around a version of her research of the African American men with connections to Franklin who served in the Civil War. Ms. Jones stated from her research she found out that there were 12,000 slaves in Williamson County

at the time of the war. Ms. Jones stated starting out with her research it was shown there were only 30 African American Confederate soldiers and 8 African American Union soldiers Ms. Jones stated her list now consists of 38 African American Confederate soldiers and 284 African American Union soldiers. Ms. Jones showed slides of her research. Ms. Jones stated she found better records of the Union soldiers than the Confederate soldiers. Ms. Jones stated she has found histories of some of the units and named them. Ms. Jones stated she has found research on Daniel McLemore of the McLemore House history. Ms. Jones passed around a book containing artwork of African American soldiers. Ms. Jones stated by the end of the war there were 20,000 African American soldiers from Tennessee who served in the Union's armed services. Ms. Jones stated she is writing a blog to try and tell some of the stories of these men. Ms. Jones told some of the stories. Ms. Jones stated her dream is to get a paver of all the men on her list about 300 men and place them at the Veteran Park by the Archives. Ms. Jones stated to do this, she must fundraise for \$18,000.

Update on Federal Line Markers Proposal

Ms. Rose stated she and Mr. Bryan are working with the Engineering Director on the approval documents for the State Right-of-Way markers. Ms. Rose stated she would seek help from the commission to contact homeowners about the markers.

Parks Update:

Mr. Walker stated at Carter's Hill Park they have the base layer of the trail put down and by the first or second week of November this project should be completed. Mr. Worker showed photos of work they are doing.

Organization Announcements:

Ms. Lewis stated on October 26th at 6 pm at the Masonic Lodge Hall, Tennessee Preservation Trust is doing a reception to list the ten most endangered sites in Tennessee. Ms. Lewis stated on October 29th is the Grave Matters tour.

Other Business:

Ms. Rose stated Tuesday night BOMA approved the grant contract to fund sixty percent of the restoration of about 14 markers at the City Cemetery.

Ms. Rose stated she would be looking at term limits and let everyone know further information about those. Ms. Rose stated Ms. Christian would be rolling off.

Mr. Viktor Hunt was present and stated he wanted to donate a cannon to the City in honor of his deceased son. Mr. Hunt stated he would just want a plaque in honor of his son. Mr. Hunt passed out some business cards.

Adjournment

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

Acting Secretary