

City of Franklin Battlefield Preservation Commission
Regular Meeting
Thursday, November 13, 2014—7:30 AM
City Training Room
Meeting Minutes

Present: Ernie Bacon, Dianne Christian, David Eagan, Thomas Flagel (left 8:00), Sam Gant, Mike Grainger, Pam Lewis, Mary Pearce (arrived 7:40), Jim Roberts, Mike Skinner, Jay Sheridan, Deborah Warnick (arrived 7:55), Sam Whitson

Present: Robert Huff, Sam Huffman, Eric Jacobson

Staff Present: Amanda Hall, Deanna Scheffel, Lisa Clayton

Chair Sheridan called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

Approval of 2015 Meeting Dates.

Ms. Lewis moved to approve the 2015 Meeting Date schedule. Mr. Bacon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Carter Hill Battlefield Park Master Plan Proposal

Chair Sheridan stated he did not have an update.

Mr. Grainger stated he met with Mr. Stuckey about the park plan and how they could collectively go about it with Mr. Stuckey providing some guidance on how to present to the item at the BOMA work session. Mr. Grainger stated the plans are a work in process.

Discussion of Franklin 150th Events

Chair Sheridan stated the re-enactment is sold out and Sunday has sold well.

Ms. Pearce stated the theatre events for tomorrow and tonight will be great. Ms. Pearce stated they were late on promotion due to not receiving twelve days before event. Ms. Pearce stated CBS Morning show will be recording both nights.

Chair Sheridan stated he feels this 150th effort has been successful with engaging the community.

Ms. Hall requested Mr. Whitson give an update on the cannons.

Mr. Whitson stated he did get the \$20,000 grant from the state and the next two gun carriages should arrive on November 20th.

Discussion of Public & Right-of-Way Signage Recommendation and Approval Process.

Ms. Hall stated staff still has something to work out on this and would like to discuss this early next year.

Consideration of Recommendation on Historic Cemeteries Assessment/Preservation Plan

Ms. Hall stated as everyone knows the city commissioned a report from Chicora Foundation to address the two historic cemeteries and that the report was emailed to everyone and put on the FTP site as well. Ms. Hall stated the first couple pages go over the more pressing priorities and that the report overall is hopeful and that the consultants seemed really impressed with city staff's desire to improve the state of repairs. Ms. Hall stated there are a number of issues at the cemeteries and this report can help us move forward with correcting them.

Ms. Clayton stated the resources will be there. Ms. Clayton stated if recommendations come through this commission and then have the recommendation made prior to budget talks will help with organization.

Ms. Lewis suggested if there was a way to raise money for the cemeteries.

Ms. Pearce stated she was thinking the same thing.

Ms. Clayton stated we would be all in and that budget talks start in February.

Mr. Flagel questioned if there was any recommendation that could be made now.

Ms. Clayton stated the recommendation would be to accept the report.

Chair Sheridan stated his thought is that the priorities list is great and there could be things done without a lot of cost.

Ms. Hall stated the report mentions several things that can be done by volunteers to be supervised by trained staff to get started. Ms. Hall stated they have funding for GPR work from the state and will hopefully get that contracted soon.

Mr. Grainger stated this was a very detailed report and this seems beyond our scope here and asked to understand what the City is asking for as a recommendation.

Ms. Clayton stated the commission would be voting on the concept of the plan.

Mr. Bacon moved that the commission commends the Parks Department for obtaining this study and that the commission endorses this study in concept and leaves to the department and their best judgment as to which items to implement at what time. Mr. Gant seconded the motion.

Ms. Lewis moved to amend the motion to include this commission is open to opportunities to help fund the efforts. Mr. Gant seconded the amendment, and it passed (12-0).

With the motion having been made and amended, it passed unanimously (12-0).

Ms. Pearce made a motion to have a letter sent to the Mayor with such content showing in the minutes. Mr. Whitson seconded the motion, and the motion passed (12-0).

Announcements & Other Business:

- **Parks Update**

Ms. Scheffel stated there is whole new entry and ramp and the City is very proud of that. Ms. Scheffel stated other pathways will be created later on.

Mr. Bacon requested to know the status of the additional signage of interpretation.

Ms. Scheffel stated Dr. West had committed \$30,000 towards the interpretation and that we must do a grant to get matching funds. Ms. Scheffel stated that we are in the process of completing that grant and that we need three letters of support.

Mr. Skinner moved to endorse application for grant. Mr. Whitson seconded the motion, and the motion passed (12-0).

- **Individual Commissioner Announcements**

Ms. Warnick gave an update on registration of events. Ms. Warnick commented that the lights around the posts with the banners is very distracting but need to be unplugged for the 150th.

Ms. Lewis stated there is an event on the 24th at the Franklin Theater that is free and that there is an event on the 20th at Otey Hall.

Mr. Gant stated it is \$25 that includes a meal and that people must RSVP.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 a.m.

Acting Secretary