

City of Franklin Battlefield Preservation Commission
Regular Meeting
Thursday, May 14, 2015—7:30 AM
City Training Room
Meeting Minutes

Present: Dianne Christian, David Eagan, Sam Gant, Sam Huffman, Mary Pearce (arrived at 7:40), Mike Skinner, Sam Whitson, Alma McLemore, Eric Jacobson, Ernie Bacon, Mike Grainger, J.T. Thompson, Pam Lewis, Jay Sheridan, Thomas Flagel

Staff Present: Brian Walker, Susan Coleman, Amanda Hall

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

Minutes: April 9, 2014 Meetings

Mr. Skinner moved to approve the April meeting minutes. Ms. Lewis seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously (14-0).

Discussion of Carter Hill Battlefield Park Master Plan Proposal

Chair Whitson questioned if there was an update on the funding.

Mr. Grainger stated he and others met with the city to discuss where they are on the Battlefield Park. Mr. Grainger stated this was a great meeting and coming out of that meeting was visualizing how to transfer the property over to the city. Mr. Grainger stated the city will put in their budget \$1.5 million over seven years. Mr. Grainger stated the quirk is the closing of the Lovell property, as it cannot close for a few months so the city sees the park as being on both sides of the road so the Domino's property will be transferred first and months later the flower shop property will be transferred to the city. Mr. Grainger explained the grant process and stated the memo has been signed and the grant approved. Mr. Grainger stated they do not know when the money will come in for the Lovell property, but is hoping by August.

Mr. Flagel stated the Cotton Gin dig is going very well.

Mr. Jacobson stated the foundation of the Carter Cotton Gin has been located as well as several sections of the main Federal Line defense. Mr. Jacobson stated several artifacts have been found as well. Mr. Jacobson stated there would be a public open house next Wednesday, between 10 am and 11 am.

Mr. Huffman stated on the released budget he did not see the Lovell Property in the budget.

Ms. Hall and Mr. Skinner stated it was in there.

Mr. Jacobson stated the funding for the gym demolition has been approved for \$500,000 and should be available July 1 and demo should start in fall.

Ms. Hall stated she wanted to thank Mr. Eagan and Mr. Gant for their work with the ground penetrating survey and a RFP has been issued for that work.

Mr. Walker stated on June 15 the work should get started.

Organizational Announcements

- **5-minute spotlight : African American Heritage Society**

Ms. McLemore stated she is the current President of the AAHS. Ms. McLemore stated that the organization was formed in 1992 by four African-American ladies and two Caucasian people. Ms. McLemore stated one success of the organization is the McLemore House Museum, which is shown by appointment only and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Ms. McLemore discussed associations with the Natchez Historic District, the Hard Bargain Association and noted the cell phone tours that include the McLemore House and the Green House. Ms. McLemore stated there is a membership drive going on currently. Ms. McLemore stated they would like to get more of the community involved.

Announcements & Other Business

Chair Whitson stated the Franklin Charge board meeting is tomorrow at 4pm at Stites and Harbison law office.

Ms. Hall stated Mr. Brian Walker will be filling for Ms. Scheffel while she is on leave.

Mr. Walker stated the ground penetrating should start June 15 and ends August 31. Mr. Walker stated he noticed last week at the Eat the Streets event that a lot of people were going through the cemeteries.

Mr. Eagan stated on May 24 at 2pm there will be a grave marking ceremony for two American Revolutionary War soldiers.

Ms. Lewis stated there was recently a Tennessee Preservation Trust Conference in Chattanooga and that the TN State Museum has gotten a grant from the Governor to allow the museum to display more of its collection.

Mr. Jacobson stated on June 18 there will be an event to raise money for the McGavock Cemetery. Mr. Jacobson stated tickets are \$75.

Ms. Pearce stated the preservation awards will be held on May 19 at the Franklin Theater.

Adjournment

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

Acting Secretary