

City of Franklin Battlefield Preservation Commission
Regular Meeting
Thursday, April 12, 2018—8:00 AM
Meeting Minutes

Present: Sam Gant, Sam Huffman, Pam Lewis, Rich Buckner, Thomas Cartwright, Alma McLemore, Alderman Scott Speedy, Megan Weisinger, Annabeth Hayes, Steve Bacon, Rachael Finch, Ernie Bacon, David Eagan

Staff Present: Amanda Rose, Joey Bryan, James Svoboda, Brian Walker

Call to Order:

Chairwoman Lewis called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

Minutes: March 8, 2018

Mr. Huffman moved to approve the March 8, 2018 meeting minutes. Mr. Buckner seconded the motion, and the motion passed 13-0.

Continuation of Discussion of Commission Visioning Plan

Ms. Rose stated there needs to be some discussion on the name of the commission, purpose of this commission and membership structure. Ms. Rose stated goals cannot be set until the commission agrees on its purpose. Ms. Rose presented a PowerPoint of various past accomplishments of this commission. Ms. Rose explained there is an ordinance in the Municipal Code that may need to be updated to reflect any proposed changes. Ms. Rose read the current purpose of the commission from the ordinance.

Chairwoman Lewis stated she suggested adding “every aspect of Civil War cultural heritage” to the purpose statement.

Ms. Rose requested input from the members.

Ms. McLemore stated she feels this commission is so much more than the war.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Rose explained that a name should be clear, consistent, and not subject to confusion with other commission names.

Mr. Bacon and Mr. Huffman stated the new Mission Statement is good in the by-laws.

Mr. Svoboda stated the by-law statement needs to be updated in the ordinance.

Discussion ensued. It was suggested to strike the phrases “every aspect of” and “city limits of.” It was suggested to add the word “heritage.” Further discussion ensued on the naming.

Chairwoman Lewis read the proposed revision to the purpose statement, and everyone felt good about the verbiage.

Ms. Rose suggested “Franklin Civil War Commission” as a name and stated she would love to hear everyone’s suggestions.

Discussion ensued on suggestions for different names for the commission. It was decided “Franklin Civil War Historical Commission” would be considered as the name and that Ms. Rose would update the ordinance and bring to next month’s meeting to review.

Ms. Rose stated we should move on to the next item of membership. Ms. Rose projected on the screen the recommendation from the consultant on membership reorganization. Ms. Rose stated the consultant-suggested voting members are all in black text, the consultant-suggested advisory committee members are in red text, and the suggested new organizations are in blue text. Ms. Rose stated that the consultant recommendation would cut out an education liaison and three at-large members.

Discussion ensued on reducing the membership and keep meetings monthly, reducing membership slightly, and reducing the frequency of meetings.

Mr. Svoboda stated there are several options open to us.

Ms. Rose requested to know if having a quarterly meeting structure would encourage increased commissioner attendance.

Chairwoman Lewis stated she would hate to see anyone removed from this commission, that she would be open to quarterly meetings, and that she likes the idea of working subcommittees.

Discussion ensued on the quorum topic.

Ms. Rose stated there are two vacant positions currently and that those two positions could be cut to assist with quorum issues.

Mr. Svoboda stated they could come back at next month’s meeting with a revised draft of the by-laws and municipal code portion.

Ms. Rose stated she would contact everyone individually to seek ideas.

Mr. Gant gave a report on the Sons for Union Veterans.

Ms. Rose stated the new Cannons on the Square sign is installed on the north quadrant of the square.

Parks Department Update

Mr. Walker stated that the Parks Department just planted over 500 seedlings at Eastern Flank. Mr. Walker stated at the Federal Line connection will be made this spring at Carter Hill and that he will work on the Federal Line at the Carter House at the same time.

Mr. Walker stated that staff is working with the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and Mr. Rick Warwick, as they have requested to place some granite markers to be flush with the ground at certain burial markers in order to help transcribe illegible names and dates.

Organization Announcements

Chairwoman Lewis stated the State Museum is on time and under budget. Chairwoman Lewis stated an event will be done in Franklin to raise money for pavers.

Ms. McLemore stated on April 17th at 7 pm Columbia State will be hosting a rendition of unchained memories and readings.

Ms. McPeak of the Battle of Franklin Trust stated there will be an event on April 19th at 6 pm called “The Struggle for First Class Citizenship” and stated seats must be reserved.

Ms. Hayes stated The Heritage Foundation would be hosting a preservation symposium on June 2nd.

Mr. Bryan stated the Nashville Steam Preservation Society is continuing to raise money to relocate and restore the steam engine.

Ms. McLemore stated they were able to give out seven \$1,000 Tom Murdick Scholarships this year.

Ms. Finch stated there will be Masonic Hall tours offered during the Main Street Festival.

Ms. Weisinger stated the Convention and Visitors Bureau started the “Visit Franklin Ambassador Program” last year and that they just had their first class for this year. Ms. Weisinger stated you can sign up on their website.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

Acting Secretary