



City of Franklin

109 3rd Ave S
Franklin, TN 37064
(615) 791-3217

Meeting Minutes Civil War Historical Commission

Thursday, September 14,
2023

8:00 AM

Training Room

CITIZEN COMMENTS (Open for citizens to be heard on any issue or concern, including those related to items on the agenda. Please submit a Speaker Card at the beginning of the meeting if you would like to address the Commission. If you would like to speak on an agenda item, the Chair will hold your comment until the public comment period associated with the item. As provided by law, the Commission shall make no decisions or consideration of action of citizen comments for items not on the agenda, except to refer the matter to the Planning Director/Staff for administrative consideration, or to a schedule the matter for consideration at a later date. Those addressing the Commission are requested to identify themselves by name and address for the official record. The Chair may restrict the period for public comment, including the length of the public comment period, the number of individuals who can speak and the length of time each individual may speak. When time allows, the standard individual public comment time is two minutes.)

Comments on agenda items may be made in person at city hall or by emailing planningintake@franklinton.gov by noon on the day prior to the meeting. Emailed comments will be provided to the Commission and included in the minutes, but not read aloud in their entirety during the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Simms called the meeting to order at 8:06 AM.

Board Members Present: Steve Bacon, Patrick Baggett, Heather Doleshel, Marlene Holmes, Kelly Kautzman, Pam Lewis, Tony Morreale, Sam Huffman, Rachael Finch, Alma McLemore, Alan Simms, Clay Perry, Colbi Layne Hogan

Board Members Absent: Rich Buckner, Mary Pearce, Eric Jacobson

Staff Present: Kelly Dannenfelser, Emily Huffer, Brian Walker

ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Announcements.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Consideration Of Approval Of Minutes

Sponsors:

Commissioner Perry moved to approve the July 13, 2023, meeting minutes. Commissioner Huffman seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously 8-0.

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business.

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

2. Parks Audio Tour Project

Sponsors:

Commissioner Hogan stated they had plans to meet in August and go over some of the drafts for the new audio tour, but they had to push back due to the folks who were writing the drafts having unexpected issues come up. Commissioner Hogan stated they were going to try and do the drafts at the November meeting. Commissioner Hogan stated they were still looking for folks to edit current text. Commissioner Hogan stated they would love some volunteers.

3. U.S. Line Markers Project

Sponsors:

Commissioner Huffman stated they have gone and looked at them and they look great. Commissioner Huffman stated most of the remaining markers should be installed this year. Commissioner Huffman stated they have done some planning for a November 10th event for dedication of the markers. Commissioner Huffman stated Save the Franklin Battlefield did volunteer to say a few words about the project. Commissioner Huffman stated he and Commissioner Pearce would be writing the wording for the plaque.

Ms. Huffer stated to add on to what Commissioner Huffman stated she has a bronze plaque to be installed on the side of one of the markers to be a memorial to Dr. Sam Gant. Ms. Huffer stated the event would be after the Veteran's Day event at 1 p.m. Ms. Huffer stated the event would be on the east side of Carter Hill Park. Ms. Huffer stated the Parks Department has offered up tents for us along with a podium, tablecloths, etc. Ms. Huffer stated they would be sending out letters to property owners and there would be some hand invites from Commissioner Finch and Commissioner Morreale. Ms. Huffer stated there would be a program and involve a photo of Dr. Sam Gant along with a photo of the proposed line markers. Ms. Huffer stated they thought about doing a QR code on the brochures so people can scan it and go to the websites.

Commissioner Perry asked if they had settled on any speakers.

Ms. Huffer stated there would potentially be a bagpiper, the Mayor, the Chair, Save the Franklin Battlefield and Mr. Ernie Bacon. Ms. Huffer stated there will be a press release and the Communications Department will be there to video it.

Commissioner Huffman requested to know if Ms. Huffer would be coordinating it.

Ms. Huffer stated yes and explained staff would be drafting the letter to go out to property owners and bring to the commission for review as well as the program as well in case it needs to be tweaked.

Commissioner Baggett stated he sent the photos to the American Battlefield Trust to get some ideas. American Battlefield Trust liked what we had and may share it with others.

Vice-Chair Simms stated Ms. Huffer sent out in an email with a letter from the Williamson Remembers team because they were due here today to speak.

Ms. Huffer stated Mr. Gerth sent it out and the team wanted this commission to review it for feedback at the November meeting.

Commissioner Baggett requested to know if these were still the proposed locations.

Ms. Huffer stated yes.

Commissioner Baggett stated that is what we are considering the locations. Commissioner Baggett stated we are supposed to give BOMA more detailed feedback.

Ms. Huffer stated yes feedback on the marker locations and the text.

Commissioner Baggett stated last time there was a little bit of hesitancy to give feedback but they want feedback.

Vice-Chair Simms requested to know if there were any justifications for the locations because he didn't see them in the letter.

Ms. Huffer stated the reason they chose those locations is so they can be seen by the public. Ms. Huffer stated due to where some the events happened would be on private property or they wouldn't be highly accessible.

Commissioner Baggett stated he would like to make sure this commission gives some probing feedback.

Ms. Huffer stated some kind of structured document can be created and sent out in a couple of weeks.

COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Kautzman stated they were working hard on tours and check back on the website for specialty tours.

Commissioner Doleshel stated they were getting ready for Pilgrimage.

Commissioner Huffman stated Save the Franklin Battlefield is going to do their annual dinner and meeting on November 9th. Commissioner Huffman stated it would be at St. Paul's and this would be the last time having it there.

Commissioner McLemore stated there will be an event next month and an organization is doing a concert with the Staples Singers. Commissioner McLemore stated the concert would be November the 12th at The Factory. Commissioner McLemore stated the cancer walk will be this coming Saturday. Commissioner McLemore stated they are working at Natchez and have found artifacts.

Mr. Walker stated he had two new things to talk about and stated they have broken ground on two new parks. Mr. Walker stated one is in Thompson Alley across from Collins Farm and the other is the Bicentennial Park. Mr. Walker stated on October 17th at 11 a.m. at Collins Farm there will be a ribbon cutting by the ladies of DAR on the work they have done with the raised gardens and a pavilion they constructed.

Commissioner Perry stated Franklin's Charge has an exciting acquisition underway and under contract for the William's property. Commissioner Perry stated the latest under contract is the building in between that and the Carter House next to Strahl Street.

Discussion ensued on various locations of the City.

Commissioner Finch stated Pumpkinfest is coming up the end of October and then for the Heritage Foundation the opening of the History and Cultural Center in the Old, Old, Old Jail. Commissioner Finch stated October 7th is the Heritage Ball.

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 a.m.


Acting Secretary

