

Montevallo Historic Preservation Commission
Minutes
Tuesday, August 1, 2023
6:00 p.m.
Parnell Memorial Library

Members Present:

Veronica Bailey, Tara Brantley, Bill Glosson, Susan Godwin, Melinda Nix, James Salter, Janice Seaman and Sherry Vallides

Council Representative: Reverend Kenneth Dukes

Guests: Mayor Rusty Nix, Steve Gilbert and Councilwoman Martha Ann Eisenberg

Call to Order:

A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by B. Glosson to approve the minutes with a correction; motion seconded by T. Brantley; motion passed.

Old Business:

S. Vallides reported that she made contact with Cheryl Patton regarding an update on the GPR study for the Shoal Creek Baptist Church site at Shoal Creek Park. C. Patton was out of town and didn't have information with her at that time. S. Vallides will give an update at our September meeting.

J. Seaman stated that Rob Walker is coming to town on August 10th and will meet with Steve Gilbert regarding drawings that are necessary for moving forward on the Mahler House.

J. Salter gave information received from Lee Ann Trupp at the Alabama Historic Commission regarding the application for the plaque at Ward Chapel. Ms. Trupp stated that the information submitted for the plaque was correct and that nothing else needed to be added. J. Salter stated that he did add the founding date to the wording. J. Salter stated that the information was ready to be handed off to the AHC. The next steps will be for the commission to approve the plaque wording before sending to City Council for their approval. J. Salter gave J. Seaman a copy of the application for review.

Commission members discussed the placement of a marker/plaque at Epsibeth Missionary Baptist Church.

S. Godwin reported that she and T. Brantley are still in the process of a bylaw review.

V. Bailey reported that she has not started a historic structure review in Aldrich. She is still in need of maps. S. Godwin stated that she brought the maps with her for review. T. Brantley volunteered to assist V. Bailey with the survey process.

The Commission discussed the possibility of a marker at the convict cemetery in Aldrich. A determination as to whether the cemetery is in the city limits must be obtained before moving forward.

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M. Nix reported that she has spoken with David Calhoun at Shelby County Board of Education regarding a historic marker at Montevallo Middle School. D. Calhoun stated that the Helena Historic Commission is in the process of placing a marker at Helena High school and that he thinks that SCBOE would be very open to the placement of a marker, not a plaque, at MMS. Mr. Calhoun also stated that the marker would need to be at the entrance to the school building. D. Calhoun will set up a meeting with M. Nix and the principal, Dr. Jenise Hampton, sometime in mid to late September for discussions about the placement of a marker and the information that should be included.

J. Salter and J. Seaman discussed the progress on the historic plaque at Shiloh Baptist Church.

New Business

S. Vallides reported that she has been working on historic plaques for businesses in the downtown historic district. Most of the research has already been prepared. She would like to schedule meetings with the business owners to discuss the possibility of placing plaques on the buildings.

R. Nix stated that he will place Councilman K. Dukes on the next City Council Agenda to be a voting member of the MHPC.

S. Godwin stated that the MHPC needs to develop preferred qualifications for new members so the commission is prepared should we lose a commission member. It was suggested that the commission utilize the CLG handbook as a guide.

J. Seaman asked S. Gilbert if the city still had ARPA monies available for the commission to apply for to assist owners with downtown restoration. S. Gilbert stated that there are still ARPA funds available and that request should be made through his office. R. Nix reminded everyone that the city is holding money from those funds for the next stage of repairs at the Mahler House.

The next MHPC meeting will be on Tuesday, September 5th at 6:00 p.m. in the Parnell Room at Parnell Memorial Library.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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