



City of Spring Hill, Tennessee
Historic Commission Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2022

Call to Order 6:02 PM by Bill Benedict

Committee Attendance: Bill Benedict, Alicia Fitts, Alderman Will Pomeroy, Dana Juriew

Also in attendance: Tom Powers

Item #1 - Minutes Approval and Member Updates

Will mentioned the USCT soldier marker at the Spring Hill Cemetery, also the cemetery clean-up this coming Saturday.

Jack Masters' books contain land grants and indexes with genealogies in supporting documentation. Alicia is looking to secure a copy of the set for the library.

Driving Tour sign that was at the former Masonic Lodge was pulled out and tossed aside. It was in the state's right-of-way and may be property of the state. It is currently being stored on Alicia Fitts' property.

Chris Adams, minister of the First Presbyterian Church of Spring Hill (built 1908), would like to work with Historic Preservationist Sarah Elizabeth Hickman McLeod to get it put on the National Historic Register. It has already been designated as Historically Significant by the City. Church records are currently preserved in a display case. Mr. Adams would like to turn the front lawn into a gathering place.

Mt. Hope's request to the City to be listed as Historically Significant still needs additional documentation and photos. The congregation is over 100 years old, but the building is not. The building has undergone too many changes to get on the National Historic Register.

New Hope Church of Christ was leveled by the 1963 tornado. Could we add a Historically Significant marker to the site?

Other potential candidates: Building at 5326 Main Street was built in the 1920s. Home on Beechcroft built in 1892.

Next steps: Current marker is too small for putting on a post; it's better for putting on the side of a building; look into a larger option.

Item #2 – Project Review and Update(s)

Bill: As agreed upon, closing up statement of work on the Driving Tour Sign project with Michael Beard.

Next steps: The Commission will pay for final expenses from his last trip, totaling \$338.02.

Jonathan spoke with Eric Jacobson. Looking at Civil War Trust for all signs. Eric will do groundwork and legwork, funded by Franklin Battlefield Trust. Along with American Battlefield Trust, they can support 6 or 7 signs, at Rippavilla, the Battlefield, Harvey Park.

Ten additional signs? Remaining sites to consider: Caldwell Cemetery; Old Settlers' Road (Mitchum Road) Oaklawn; Ferguson Hall; Kissing House and Spring Hill Cemetery; Move signs at Jimmy's Cleaners to Depot Street?; [Not at Whitehall because Duplex Road is too busy, but put Whitehall on a map of another sign, adding distances for walkers]; Relocate the two (3) signs at Jerry Erwin Park (one is Ewell Farm).

Next steps:

- Check out the White Star proposal on the city website.
- First Presbyterian as possible location?
- Talk with Town Center Redevelopment Committee for their input.
- Work session on signage (need good city maps)

Will – Ordinance update: Small changes in wording.

Cemetery Tour covered Oden Family Cemetery. Is funding available to help preserve the cemetery?

JoAnn McClellan shared with Alicia that the Maury County cemetery book does not have African-American cemeteries listed. If we get the GPS coordinates of them, Graham Perry at the State will add to the master plan of cemeteries.

Visited Commonwealth at Port Royal cemetery; another off of Ray Williams Drive; and another off of Jim Warren Road. Goal to continue marking all cemeteries.

Next steps: Locate new subdivision cemeteries, using map of current development

Speaker Series: JoAnn McClellan's talk was postponed to April 26th due to weather. Phil Bennet will discuss the lumberjacks and lumber industry in Spring Hill on March 22nd at 6:00 at the library. Mike Hoover of the Spring Hill Cemetery and Graham Perry are invited for May. Planning a walking tour in June.

Founders' Day is May 7th from 3:00-9:00 at Rippavilla, focusing on agriculture. Library plans to host Gwynne Evans' personal Spring Hill artifacts some time that morning or earlier in the week.

At some point, tour old town historical churches, starting at library.

Next steps: Historic Commission booth at Founders' Day?

Certified Local Government requires a BOMA Resolution to proceed. Focus on steps 1-3 on "Creating a Historic Zoning District in the State of Tennessee" document provided by Sarah Elizabeth Hickman McLeod:

1. Survey historic resources to guide decisions about what should be protected.
2. Pass an ordinance to create a Historic Zoning Commission.
3. Pass an ordinance to give local government the authority to create historic districts or zones.

Note: District can be expanded or another district can be added. Columbia has several historic districts.

Item #3 - New Business

Funding needs - joint marker for African-Americans buried in Spring Hill Cemetery; repairs to meet ADA requirements; fencing; and benches honoring those buried there such as Helen Dark, Irene Cheairs, R.B. Toone, etc.

Item #6 – Round Table / Public Comments

Cemetery Tour on Founders' Day; Spring Hill Cemetery cleanup Saturday morning at 9:00AM

Adjourned at 7:42 PM (Bill's motion, seconded by Alicia)