

# Spring Hill Historic Commission

11JUL2024 / 1800 / TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM

## Attendees

MEMBERS: Alicia Fitts, Tom Powers, Will Pomeroy, Jack Elder, Bill Ballard, Jim Hellier (Economic Engagement Mgr), Dana Juriew (Staff Liaison)

THOSE HAVING BUSINESS: Benny Jett, Eric Pogue

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mac Crawford

## Agenda

### 1. ADMINISTRATION

- **The meeting was called to order by Chair Alicia Fitts at 6:00 PM**
- **Approval of Agenda :**
  - On motion by Tom Powers, the agenda was amended by unanimous consent to move “Member Updates” to Old Business so that those having business with the Commission might make their presentations immediately.
  - The amended agenda was approved by unanimous consent
- **The minutes of the June 13 meeting were approved as amended, on motion of Jack Elder with second by Powers**

### 2. GUEST PRESENTATIONS

- Eric Pogue, owner of the Hardin House at 5302 Main Street, a designated Historically Significant Site, reported on plans to renovate the site.
  - The major improvement will be to replace the roof. The present roof has been in place for 80-90 years. The new roof will be visually consistent with what is presently there: gray-colored tin
  - Subsequent plans are to paint the house. Original colors will be used.
  - Shutters on the front of the house will be re-created in the original style
  - The small building on the property, originally used as a doctor's office, will be renovated and repainted.
  - A fence like one originally there will be added to the side of the property. Hydrangeas will be planted along it, as they were then.

- A small structure on the property, originally a log cabin, will be preserved, though in its later configuration. No attempt will be made to restore it to that of a log cabin.
- The garage on the property was no part of the original structure. Other than replacing its roof, plans for its future remain unsettled.
- Fitts will draft a letter to the Planning Commission expressing the Historic Commission's support for Mr. Pogue's plans.
- Benny Jett
  - Presented a report on location and condition of six cemeteries
  - Asked if the Commission wanted to continue receiving printed reports or if reports should be placed only on Sharepoint. The Commission asked to continue receiving printed reports
  - Asked for any information anyone could provide for his Veterans book project. He wants to include any veteran who ever lived in or owned property in or had other attachment to Spring Hill, including those who have only recently relocated here.
- Mac Crawford
  - Identified himself as an amateur historian and genealogist, member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and Tennessee State Commander of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States
  - Expressed interest in the care of cemeteries, particularly in the issue of who pays for or is otherwise responsible for basic care of them. He was informed about the complications of cemetery law and ownership.

### 3. NEW BUSINESS

- DISCUSSION: Cemeteries and Historically significant property designations
  - Fitts asked if the Commission needed a definite policy on designation of cemeteries as sites of historical significance. After some discussion, the issue was passed by to be considered in the future.
  - Fitts asked if it would be better to submit reports and recommendations for designation of sites of historical significance monthly or in bulk less frequently.. Pomeroy suggested the latter, but Fitts observed that, especially as Jett was submitting reports on five cemeteries every month. No action was taken on this matter at this time.

### 4. OLD BUSINESS

- Project Review and Updates
  - Speaker Series: Fitts reported that

- Williamson County Historian Rick Warwick had been scheduled to speak in July, but that the library's use as an early voting facility created a conflict that was unable to be resolved. Instead, Mr. Warwick's presentation has been rescheduled for September
  - The speaker in August will be Candace Candito, formerly executive director at the Polk House and now at the Tennessee State Museum. She will be speaking about the furniture used in earlier times, and how it tells a story about people and how they lived.
- Experience SpringHill. Powers referred to his previously-distributed report. The Commission took no action on the report. Powers also presented draft texts of letters of appreciation to city employees Lucas Wright and Maddie Ross, who had been particularly helpful with the exhibit. The Commission approved the texts.
- Signage. Pomeroy reported that he and Powers would go over the wording for the sign for the Spring Hill Cemetery, and upon agreeing on it, would forward it to Eric Jacobson for further action. He added that four new markers had been added to the Spring Hill Cemetery.
- SH Book update. Juriew reported that the project was getting close to the editing and fact-checking phases. The library now has three books in progress: Jett's book on veterans of Spring Hill, a pictorial history of Spring Hill, and the new edition of *Everybody Has a Story*. Fitts added that next year will be the library's 50th anniversary.
- Member Updates:
  - Pomeroy reported that negotiations continue on Ferguson Hall
  - Fitts reported that new signs were up at Rippa Villa

## 5. ROUND TABLE

- Fitts reported that efforts were under way to formalize the process flow for design reviews
- Juriew reported that a new state program, offering job experience to young people, was funding an intern for the library, and that Benny Jett had been appointed to the position.

## Summary of Actions Taken

- The Commission approved Eric Pogue's plans for renovation of the Hardin House
- The Commission approved the texts of two letters of appreciation

## Action Items

- Fitts will draft a letter to the Planning Commission expressing the Historic Commission's support for Eric Pogue's plans.
- Jett will continue providing printed copies of his cemetery reports.
- All will think about the need for a definite need for a policy on designation of cemeteries and sites of historical significance, so that the issue may be further discussed at a future meeting.
- Juriew will print the letters of appreciation in proper form on proper paper for the signatures of Fitts and Powers, and see that they are delivered as indicated.
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## Next Meeting Agenda

- August 8, 2024
- New presentation of site plan for development near White Hall
- The new city planner will be present

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 PM