

## Montevallo Historic Preservation Commission

### Agenda

Special called meeting, Sept 6, 2022

6:00 pm

City of Montevallo Council Chambers

#### Members Present:

Bill Glosson

Janice Seaman

Susan Godwin

Anitka Stewart Sims

Valerie Johnson

Sherry Valides

Kathy King

Melinda Nix

**Council Representative:** Kenny Dukes

#### Call to Order: 6:00 pm

- Establish quorum, 6:00 pm
- Discussion of procedure and role of HPC communication outside of public meetings. Presentation by King of reasons for offering consideration of email discussion prior to or in place of meeting. Clarification by Glosson that email voting is forbidden by state code (see Appendix for full statement). Discussion by members regarding perceptions of role of meetings, digital communications, etc. Consensus reached on above items.

#### Special Business:

- Immediate priorities for African American Heritage Trail (AAHT)
  - Prentice marker, markers noting sites connected to J. Prentice and family
- Budget recommendations for AAHT 2022-23
  - Discussion and explanation of proposed expenses:
    - AHC Marker (QR-encoded), placement in Dailey Park: one side JS Prentice, one side George Dailey. Recognition of Selma Road Black Entertainment and Business District
    - Wall plaque for Montevallo Middle School, honouring JS Prentice
    - Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey of Shoal Creek Baptist Church graveyard
    - HPC contribution to the Cunningham Memorial Bench
    - Graphic design costs for AAHT materials
- Process for implementing council resolution of 8.22.2022 to create and install markers, plaques and associated items on the AAHT
- Motion to begin the process to request 10K AAHT budget:
  - Motion: Vallides
  - Second: Godwin
  - Motion passes: unanimous

#### Other Business:

- Notes for inclusion in 9.13.2022 agenda
  - Section 106 properties, potential budget proposals
  - Updates on Powell Graveyard and Mahler House
  - Discussion of including Epsibeth Church in the AAHT, in 2023-24 AAHT budgeting
- Annual report deadline reminders: training etc.

- Save the date: Oct. 11, 2022 visit from Paige Thomas, Certified Local Government Coordinator · Alabama Historical Commission (beginning at 5:30)

Adjournment: 7:07 pm

Next meeting: Sept 13, 2022, 6:00 pm

Appendix:

These remarks were prepared and read by Bill Glosson, and included in an appendix at his request.

Please excuse me as I read this prepared document. I am afraid if I go off the cuff, I might omit something.

It is not my intention to offend or attack anyone with these remarks however I am a strong advocate of following the law and the legal process. It is our duty and responsibility as a Commission to be sure we operate within the guidelines of the state code and the city that has appointed us to do its work.

First, state code as well as our local ordinance expressly states that we operate collectively as a Commission. As individual members we have no authority. Our authority is collectively as a Commission and not as individual members.

Second, serial meetings and e-mail voting are expressly forbidden in the Alabama Open Meetings Law. We cannot and must not vote by e-mail. Our city ordinance and state code both state that we are to meet in public and vote in public.

Third, regarding the African American Heritage Trail. We were charged by the mayor with what he would like to see accomplished. We should follow his requests. Mayor Nix's first charge was for a marker for Prentice High School and the Prentice family. This should be the commission's first priority.

As a Commission we must form a budget as charged in the city's resolution that established the African American Heritage Trail. This resolution expressly says in section 2 that "total funding shall be based upon recommendations prepared by the Historic Preservation Commission and submitted for annual department budget approval". I understand this to mean that we are to prepare this budget recommendation collectively as a Commission and submit it to the city clerk for inclusion in the annual city budget.

Thank you for your patience and for allowing me to read these remarks.

Bill Glosson