

PASCAGOULA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
P. O. Drawer 908
Pascagoula MS 39568-0908

Date: Wednesday 26 January 2022

Location: Community Development Conference Room

Commission members present: Michele Gautier Lee, Tommy Wixon, Chris Wiggins, Richard Lucas, Barry McIlwain, Michele Coats, and Liz Ford

Commission members excused Kevin Hall, Martin Hegwood

Other: Dan Lee

Commission Chairwoman, Liz Ford, called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM. A quorum was determined and everyone was welcomed to the meeting.

Richard Lucas, seconded by Michele Lee, moved the 01 December 2021 minutes be approved as presented; motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

- Status of Buena Vista Historical District – Liz
 - Using the 1971 City Directory, Liz is listing every house by address and owner (at that time) and determine the present status of each
- Status of Baptiste Tombs in Greenwood Cemetery – Tommy Wixon
 - The KC's have agreed to fund the Baptiste memorial entirely
 - It will be situated between Eugenie Krebs Baptiste, and Baptiste graves
- Madame Pontabla & Gaston Pontabla's forthcoming exhibit – Tommy Wixon
 - Scheduled to have the presentation at the March 23rd meeting of the Historical and Genealogy Society at the Library
 - Permission has been requested to use three pictures Pontabla made in a future issue of the Journal
- Downtown Housing – Michele Coats
 - Chris Chaney is working with Patrick Buchanan on the Brown-Buchanan Building on Canty Street
 - Monica's has been gutted and framing has started

- All apartments at Oddfellows have been rented, and the retail space renovations are underway
- City Centre renovations are going well
- Waiting on Bob Barker's structure study for the parking garage
- The Depot project is waiting on GCRF funding – should know something by March
- VT Halter Marine has rented space in the Plaza Building and will be moving 60 people downtown
- LaPointe-Krebs House/LP-K Foundation – Liz Ford
 - All but two of the interpretive panel are in place
 - The visitor numbers are increasing each month – the 'snowbirds' are visiting
 - Home school students will commence field trips in January
- WWII Heritage City – Martin Hegwood
 - Still waiting on the National Park Service
- Status of Navy House Historical Marker - Chris Wiggins
 - The Navy House historical marker is still at the Beach Park pier
- Pascagoula Depot
 - Pascagoula is in the running for GCRF funds to restore the depot
- Jackson County Historical & Genealogical Society
 - Meetings on the 4th Tuesday of the month have resumed at the Library
 - The monthly programs will follow the decades 1870-1930, focusing on ship Captains in each time period
 - Dick Dixon has posted a great Cemetery Tour video on You Tube

New Business

- Gabriel Cemetery
 - Anne McMillon is so well organized with the material about Gabriel Cemetery
 - She has done everything by the book and the nomination should be ready for submission very soon
- Possible nominations for National Registry
 - Michele suggested the Anola Club be considered
 - Liz suggested each member take a windshield tour of the community and determine if other building/homes/structures should be considered

Other Business/Announcements

- Tommy Wixon said the 2020 Journal is now available to all paid JCH&G Society members
 - It was delayed due to Joanne Anderson's passing away
 - The 2021 Journal should be out in June, and the 2022 by the end of the year

- Suggestions made for future articles include baseball teams from the 1900-1921 era
 - There is a lot of information in the files at the Library
 - Richard said there was a good article, with pictures, on Sam Leslie
- A house on the corner of McKinley and Roosevelt, which is listed as contributing in the Shipyard Historic District, is having what appears to be a porch being added in front of the existing porch. Neither Michele Lee or Barry McIlwain can determine if there is a building permit sign posted
 - Concern is this might become a duplex in a single family neighborhood
 - Discussion at length followed with no resolve being met
- Singing River Little Theater – Chris & Richard
 - Rehearsal underway for the first production BLYTHE SPIRIT on March 19 & 20.
- Chris Wiggins asked for suggestions for themes for the trolley tours -

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM. The next meeting will be 23 February 2022.

Notes by Liz Ford

Work Plans for 2021/22:

- Concentrate on assisting the Committee with obtaining WW2 Heritage City status.
- Continue pursuing National Register Historical District for South Buena Vista.
- Assist Main Street Pascagoula wherever possible
 - Conduct Historical Tours on Beach Blvd during Fourth of July Fireworks and more extended tours during Cruisin’.
 - Pursue Historical Markers for cemeteries.
 - Pursue signage for the Historical Districts.
 - Continued support for Cemetery Tour & the LPK
 - Seek other community outreach possibilities.
 - Explore possibility of small amount of funding in City budget for reimbursable travel expenses and/or matching funds for possible CLG grants