

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

Date: Wednesday 22 September 2021

Location: Community Development Conference Room

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

Commission members excused: Kevin Hall, Martin Hegwood

Ex Officio: Katarina Scott, Rebecca Davis and Patrick Collins

Other: Dan Lee

Commission Chairwoman, Liz Ford, called the meeting to order at 12:00 Noon. A quorum was determined and everyone was welcomed to the meeting. The two new members Chris Wiggins and Richard Lucas were recognized.

Patrick Collins, the new City Planner spoke a few words after being introduced.

Michele Lee, seconded by Richard Lucas, moved the 25 August minutes be approved as presented; motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

- Status of Buena Vista Historical District – Michele Coats
 - Three houses already listed, eight proposed; Jeff suggested going further north.
 - Liz will try to check houses up to Parsley at least to see if any might be eligible for consideration.
- Landmark Status for Carver High School – Liz Ford
 - Richard Lucas volunteered to contact Kelly Sessoms to find out status of application being presented to the School Board.
- Status of Baptiste Tombs in Greenwood Cemetery – Tommy Wixon
 - Still waiting on Mr. Phillips regarding the memorial marker
 - A big cedar tree has split at the Canty-Gautier lot and needs to be removed
 - Someone has tried to push over the Alfred Krebs tombstone and it is broken into two large pieces
 - There are a lot of broken trees in cemetery as well as a lot of leaves on the ground

- Dan Lee mentioned the National Guard unit is looking at community support projects
- Katarina volunteered to have the US Coast Guard to get in touch with Tommy; they are also looking for community support projects
- Madame Pontabla & Gaston Pontabla's forthcoming exhibit – Tommy Wixon
 - The JCH&G Society would like to sponsor a reception for the new Directors, and this would be a good time to have the Pontabla exhibit.
- Downtown Housing – Michele Coats
 - Everything is moving at a rapid pace
- LaPointe-Krebs House/LP-K Foundation – Liz Ford
 - New updated rack cards were distributed
 - Visitors have increased over previous years
 - LP-K T-shirts have been ordered for sale in the gift shop
- WWII Heritage City – Martin Hegwood
 - Katarina submitted the application last month and confirms it has been received
 - Chris Wiggins is picking up the historical marker this afternoon
 - Will work with Patrick Collins regarding placement on Ingalls Avenue
 - The data base is huge and will make an interesting Journal
- Pascagoula Depot – Kevin Hall
 - The City has turned the Depot over to the PRA, who is working with a Developer
- 15th Annual Krebs Cemetery Tour – Dan Lee
 - Plans are moving right along for the 28 October event
 - USO Tent
 - The Army Band is unable to participate, however, thanks to Main Street the Coast Big Band has been contracted to play
 - The tent will be marked with USO banners obtained from Gulfport
 - All of the characters have basic scripts
 - Costumes are relatively simple – each character will have a WW2 Victory Medal.
 - Almost completed with the press release
 - Will need four or five guides

New Business

- Trolley Tour during Cruisin' – Chris Wiggins
 - Katarina has arranged for the hospital van to be used instead of the city trolley
 - Tour will take place on Friday the 8th of October from 12:30 to 4:30
 - Chris is arranging for assistance
- Status of Scranton Historic District – Michele Coats
 - Should have final approval by the NPS before the end of the month
 - Cassandra Dillion Building (old Central Drugstore) is being cleaned out
 - Will have 5 units plus coffee shop etc
 - Kitchen Sisters will be in the commercial space in the Oddfellows Building
 - Jason Poole will have a ladies boutique in addition to the Italian Bistro in his building

- The purchasers are still working on plans for the ice house

Other Business/Announcements/Discussions

- Dan Lee announced the September meeting of the Historical Society would be on the 28th at Maritime Museum.
 - The program will be the 20th Anniversary of 911 and the War on Terrorism.
- Mississippi Heritage Trust – Dan Lee
 - MHT has now been certified to do consulting work for National Register nominations
 - MHT is working with MSU to establish a trade school dealing with historic preservation issues
 - The 10 Most Endangered Historical Places/Sites in Mississippi will be announced on 14 October in Jackson at a ticketed event.
 - Ads are being solicited for the spring edition of Elevation
- Aesthetic Issues – Michele Lee
 - Some clean up issues are needed on Pascagoula Street

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm, on a motion by Tommy Wixon, seconded by Michele Lee

Notes by Liz Ford

Work Plans for 2020/21:

- Concentrate on assisting the Committee with obtaining WW2 Heritage City status.
- Continue pursuing National Register Historical District for South Buena Vista.
- Continue pursuing Mississippi Landmark Status for Carver High School.
- Assist Main Street, wherever, whenever possible, in obtaining NR statues for Downtown, or for individual building in the Downtown District.
- Community Engagement
 - Conduct Historical Tours on Beach Blvd during 4th of July Fireworks, and explore possibility of more extended tour 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.
 - Post photographs of Beach Blvd houses destroyed by Katrina on web site and other social media outlets. – Accomplished – Thanks Katarina and Barry
 - Explore possibility of small amount of funding in City budget for reimbursable travel expenses and/or matching funds for possible CLG grants