

Historic Sites Committee

April 22, 2024

Meeting Minutes

The Historic Sites Committee of the Tennessee Historical Commission met on Monday April 22, 10:30 am. Committee members in attendance at the meeting were Susan Williams, Beth Campbell, Reggie Miudd, Dan Pomeroy, Doris McMillan and Dr. William Kennedy.

Other board members in attendance included Derita Williams, Board Chair. Several Historical Committee staff members in attendance included Dan Brown, Bob Cooley, Caty Dirksen, Miranda Christy and Patrick McIntyre, Executive Director.

This meeting was called for the specific purpose of advancing and discussing requests to provide funding to complete the renovation of the Carter House and Visitor Center. This was the first meeting of the Historic Sites Committee since committee mtgs were changed to open meetings. The first order of business involved the committee's vote on the Determination of Necessity which was facilitated by Attorney Miranda Christy. There was a motion and second to adopt the determination of necessity. A roll call vote was taken and the Historic Sites Committee adopted the resolution ensuring the Committee's compliance with Tennessee Code Annotated, section 8-44-108.

The next item on the agenda was designated for public comment. Four letters in support of funding to complete the Carter House and Visitor Center were received by Julian Bibb of First Bank, Laura Holder, Secretary, Battle of Franklin Trust, Rick Warwick and Eric Jacobson, CEO, Battle of the Franklin Trust. Eric completed the necessary information to enable him to speak at the meeting which he did with great passion. A discussion ensued by the Committee about the possibility of contributing \$ 2.0M from the Historic Property Land Acquisition Fund which was generated through the real estate transfer taxes. Dan Brown made the committee aware that unused funds are being targeted by the state for alternative uses. He shared the history, the need and rationale for supporting the renovation underway at the Carter House and Visitor Center and the tremendous need for the renovation based on growth in tourism for 5,000 to 200,000, inadequate interpretation spaces, as well as staff workspaces. This site attracts the largest attendance numbers in the State of Tennessee.

So after much discussion, a motion was put on the floor to endorse the \$2.0M request to support the Carter House and Visitor Center. There was a unanimous vote of the Historic Sites Committee and this recommendation by the Historic Sites Committee will be advanced to the full Board for consideration and vote.

After this business was done, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Beverly Robertson, Chair
Historic Sites Committee