

**STATE REVIEW BOARD
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
JANUARY 27, 2021**

The State Review Board for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 met at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 27, 2021, online via WebEx Video Teleconference. The meeting was held virtually pursuant to Governor Lee's Executive Orders 16, 34, 51, 60, 65, and 71 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the need for social distancing. All votes were taken by roll call and unless otherwise noted in the minutes, decisions were unanimous.

Members attending were Michael Birdwell, Chair; Lee Ingram; Tara Mitchell Mielnik; Margot Payne; Jefferson Rogers; Amanda Rose; Jim Thompson; and Lerotha Williams. Bennett Graham, Juan Self, Kevin Smith, and Beverly Robertson were unable to attend.

Also present were Tennessee Historical Commission (THC) staff members Claudette Stager, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer; Holly Barnett; Rebecca Schmitt; Casey Lee; Kerri Ross; and Jane-Coleman Cottone.

Numerous owners of nominated properties and consultants attended the meeting.

The first order of business was to approve the agenda. Mr. Thompson moved; Ms. Payne seconded, that the agenda be approved. Voted and approved.

The next order of business was to approve the Minutes of the September 2020 meeting. Ms. Rose moved; Mr. Thompson seconded, that the minutes of the meeting be approved. Voted and approved.

The next meeting of the State Review Board will be held on May 19, 2021. It will be in Nashville or online via WebEx, depending on developments with COVID-19. Other meeting dates: September 29, 2021.

Ms. Stager then spoke about the Progress Report and pointed out what the staff has accomplished while working remote.

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS

Dr. Birdwell called on Ms. Schmitt to lead the discussion on the nominations. She showed a PowerPoint and presented information on the properties being reviewed.

Lonesome, Dickson County

The property was nominated under criterion C for its local significance in architecture. Philip Thomason of Thomason and Associates and William Austin, one of the owners, prepared the nomination and attended the meeting in support of the nomination. Mr. Austin, other family members, and a representative the

town of Burns spoke about the property. Mr. Thompson recused himself from voting due to his work on the building.

The Austin Family donated part of the property to the town of Burns and helped form the Friends of Lonesome association. There was a discussion about a discrepancy in dates related to the Battle of New Orleans, slaves on the property, and reliance on non-primary resources. The nomination will be revised before it is sent to the National Register office.

Ms. Payne moved; Dr. Rogers seconded that the nomination be approved. Voted and approved.

Twinton Fire Lookout Tower, Overton County

The property was nominated under criteria A and C for its local significance in conservation and architecture. The nomination was prepared by Tennessee Valley Archaeology Research in 2014 and updated by THC staff. This was part of a multiple property submission "Tennessee Division of Forest Fire Lookout Towers, 1933-ca. 1975."

There was a discussion about a lack of local context, including Miles Horton and the Highlander school, and the labor strikes that occurred in the 1930s in the area. Comments were made about lack of information on the three CCC camps active in the region and which camp worked at Twinton.

Dr. Rogers moved; Mr. Thompson seconded, that the nomination be deferred. Voted and approved to defer.

Missouri Portland Cement Terminal, Shelby County

The property was nominated under criteria A and C for its local significance in industry and engineering. The nomination was prepared by Judith Johnson and Margot Payne of J. Johnson and Associates. Ms. Johnson attended the meeting in support of the nomination; Ms. Payne recused herself from voting.

There was a discussion about needing more context about the cement industry, clarifying the uniqueness of the resource, floor plans, and various terms used for the machinery used in the process. The nomination will be revised before it is sent to the National Register office.

Ms. Rose moved; Dr. Mielnik seconded, that the nomination be approved. Voted and approved.

Memphis Overland Company, Shelby County

The property was nominated under criterion A for its local significance in commerce. The nomination was prepared by Ms. Johnson and she attended the meeting in support of the nomination.

There was a discussion about what model Overland cars were sold here and comments that it was an interesting and well-balanced nomination. Ms. Payne recused herself from voting because of her association with J. Johnson and Associates.

Dr. Rogers moved; Dr. Williams seconded, that the nomination be approved. Voted and approved.

Laurel Springs Primitive Baptist Church, Cocke County

The property was nominated under criterion A for its local significance in architecture. Johnathan Moseley, preservation planner for the East Tennessee Development District, and Ms. Schmitt prepared the nomination. Matthew Shane McGaha, property owner, attended the meeting in support of the nomination.

There was a discussion about clarifying the different entrances and where the amen corner was. The nomination will be revised before it is sent to the National Register office.

Ms. Payne moved; Mr. Ingram seconded, that the nomination be approved. Voted and approved.

Christ Episcopal Church, Hamilton County

The property was nominated under criterion C for its local significance in architecture. Melissa Mortimer, former preservation planner for the Southeast Tennessee Development District, prepared the nomination and attended the meeting in support of it.

There was a discussion about adding information on the church's organ. Information on the organ will be added to the nomination before it is sent to the National Register office.

Ms. Rose moved; Mr. Thompson seconded, that the nomination be approved. Voted and approved.

Chuck Swan Fire Lookout Tower, Union County

The property was nominated under criteria A and C for its local significance in conservation and architecture. The nomination was prepared by Tennessee Valley Archaeology Research in 2014 and updated by THC staff. This was part of

a multiple property submission "Tennessee Division of Forest Fire Lookout Towers, 1933-ca. 1975."

Like the Twinton tower, there was a discussion about the description and lack of context.

Ms. Rose moved; Mr. Thompson seconded, to defer the nomination. Voted and approved to defer.

OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, Dr. Mielnik moved; Dr. Williams seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 10:17 a.m. No vote was taken, participants just disconnected.

Approved,

Michael Birdwell, Chair