

**STATE REVIEW BOARD  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
May 11, 2022**

The State Review Board for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 met at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, at the Tennessee Historical Commission's offices at Clover Bottom Mansion, 2941 Lebanon Pike, Nashville, and online via WebEx video conference. The meeting was held in a hybrid format. All votes were taken by roll call and unless otherwise noted in the minutes, decisions were unanimous.

Members present were Kevin Smith, Vice Chair; Tom Maher; Margot Payne; Amanda Rose; Juan Self; James Thompson; and Learotha Williams.

Members unable to attend were Lee Ingram; Tara Mitchell Mielnik; Beverly Robertson; and Jefferson Rogers.

THC staff members attending the meeting were Rebecca Schmitt, J. Ethan Holden, Casey Lee, Justin Heskew, Kelley Reid, Ellen Dement Hurd, and Graham Perry. E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr., Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer, and Holly Barnett, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, also attended the meeting.

Numerous owners of nominated properties also attended the meeting.

The first order of business was to approve the agenda. Mr. Thompson moved, Dr. Williams seconded, to approve the agenda. Voted and approved.

The second order of business was to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2022, meeting. Mr. Thompson moved, Dr. Williams seconded, to approve the minutes. Voted and approved.

The next meeting of the State Review Board will be held on September 14, 2022, in Nashville, in person and by WebEx. The board determined that the January 2022 meeting will be held on January 25, 2022.

The next order of business was the recognition of Dr. Michael Birdwell's life and his many contributions to the field and State Review Board by Mr. McIntyre. Dr. Birdwell was a noted historian with numerous publications about Tennessee history, particularly the Upper Cumberland Region. He was instrumental in the preservation of the Alvin C. York Institute and other historic properties in the state. Dr. Birdwell served as Chair of the State Review Board for many years until he passed away in March 2022.

The next order of business was the election of a new Chair to serve the remainder of Dr. Birdwell's term. Mr. Self moved that Kevin Smith be elected Chair. Mr. Maher seconded the nomination. Voted and approved.

Following the election of Chair, the next order of business was the election of a new Vice Chair. Dr. Smith nominated Juan Self for Vice Chair. Mr. Thompson seconded the nomination. Voted and approved.

The next order of business was to introduce new staff members. Mr. McIntyre introduced new staff member Laura Ragan as the new Fiscal Officer and Grants Administrator. McIntyre then introduced Justin Heskew, who returned to the Tennessee Historical Commission as a Historic Preservation Supervisor and administrator of the Federal Historic Tax Credits program.

Mr. McIntyre presented the "Progress Report on the National Historic Preservation Act (PL 89-665) Activities". The report is a summary of the federal staff activities since the last meeting.

### **National Register Nominations**

Dr. Smith then called on Ms. Schmitt and Dr. Holden to lead the discussion on the nominations. They showed a PowerPoint and presented information on the properties being reviewed.

#### **Auburntown High School Gym, Cannon County**

The property was nominated under Criterion A for local significance in Recreation and Culture. Savannah Grandey Knies and Dr. Carroll Van West of the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation prepared the nomination. Three members of the Auburntown Community attended the meeting and spoke in support of the nomination.

Mr. Thompson asked the community members who attended what kind of classes were taught in the Manual Arts Building, to which they replied woodshop was taught in the building. Mr. Thompson asked the National Register staff to include that information in the nomination. Mr. Self asked the community members if the roof was constructed of wood or steel trusses, to which they replied that the trusses were wooden. Mr. Self asked the National Register staff to include that information in the nomination. Dr. Holden agreed to revise the nomination to include Mr. Thompson and Mr. Self's requests.

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

#### **Montgomery Bell CCC Camp SP-5/NP-15, Dickson County**

The property was nominated under Criterion A and Criterion D for local significance in Historic Non-Aboriginal Archeology, Black Ethnic Heritage, and Politics/Government. Daniel Brock of the Tennessee Division of Archeology prepared the nomination.

Dr. Smith expressed his happiness to see an archeology nomination, noting that this one was well deserved. Mr. Self also expressed appreciation for the nomination and its focus on African American history.

Mr. Self moved, Dr. Williams seconded, that the nomination be approved. Voted and approved.

### **Highlander Folk School Library, Grundy County**

The property was nominated under Criterion A and Criterion B at the national level of significance. The property was nominated under Criterion A for its significance in Social History: Civil Rights, Labor History, and Women' History, and Black Ethnic History. The property was nominated under Criterion B for its association with Myles Horton. Philip Thomason, J. Ethan Holden, Jenny Andrews, Nicole Katzarkov, Kelsey Lamkin, and Maxwell Farley prepared the nomination.

Mr. Thomason spoke virtually about the nomination and the property's history, noting that any questions about the restoration should be addressed to David Curry, who was also present virtually. Ash-Lee Woodard Henderson and Reverend Allyn Maxfred spoke virtually on behalf of the Highlander Research and Education Center. Ms. Henderson and Rev. Maxfred spoke in support of recognizing the history and significance of Highlander, as well as the repatriation of the Highland Folk School Library to the Highlander Research and Education Center. They expressed concerns about the use of the Highlander Folk School name in the nomination and other possible implications of the listing.

Mr. Thompson moved, Dr. Williams seconded, that the nomination be approved. Voted and approved.

### **Ridgedale Lodge, Hamilton County**

The property was nominated under Criterion A for its local significance in Social History and Criterion C for its local significance in architecture. Melissa Mortimer of Revive Preservation and Planning LLC prepared the nomination.

Mr. Thompson moved, Dr. Williams seconded, that the nomination be approved. Voted and approved.

### **Greer-Gill Farm, Lincoln County**

The property was nominated under Criterion A for its local significance in Agriculture and Criterion C for its local significance in architecture under the Historic Family Farms of Middle Tennessee Multiple Property Submission. Sarah Elizabeth McLeod of the SouthCentral Tennessee Development District prepared the nomination. Ms. McLeod

and two of the three owners attended the meeting. Alan Gill, one of the property owners, spoke in support of the nomination.

Mr. Thompson moved, Dr. Williams seconded, that the nomination be approved. Voted and approved.

### **Central Gardens Historic District (Additional Documentation and Boundary Increase), Shelby County**

This is an updated and expanded nomination for the Central Gardens Historic District, originally listed in 1982. The Central Gardens Historic District was originally nominated under Criterion A, B, and C. The Additional Documentation and Boundary Increase removed Criterion B and Social History as an area of significance and provided additional information to substantiate Criterion A: Community Planning and Development, and Criterion C: Architecture. Margot Payne prepared the nomination. Ms. Payne was present at the meeting to answer questions about the nomination and recused herself from voting on the nomination's approval.

Dr. Williams moved, Mr. Thompson seconded, that the nomination be approved. Voted and approved.

### **Ernest C. Withers House, Shelby County**

The property was nominated under Criterion B for its national significance in Black Ethnic History, Communications, Social History: Civil Rights, and its association with Ernest C. Withers. Kelsey Lamkin of the Memphis Area Association of Governments prepared the nomination. Ms. Lamkin was present virtually for the meeting. Multiple members of Ernest C. Withers's family and friends were present during the meeting and spoke in support of the nomination.

Dr. Williams expressed his support for the nomination and emphasized the importance of Withers' life.

Mr. Self moved, Dr. Maher seconded, that the nomination be approved. Voted and approved.

### **Parkview Hotel Apartment, Shelby County**

The property was nominated under Criterion A for its local significance in Community Planning & Development and under Criterion C for its local significance in Architecture. It was nominated using the Residential Resources of Memphis Multiple Property Submission. Judith Johnson of J. Johnson & Associates prepared the nomination.

Dr. Williams moved, Mr. Self seconded, that the nomination be approved. Voted and approved.

### **Removals and Reassessments**

Seven National Register-listed properties had been demolished and the board reviewed these nominations for removing them from the National Register. Ms. Schmitt noted that the board chose to consider the removals all at once the last meeting. Mr. Self moved, Dr. Williams seconded, that the removals be considered at once. Voted and approved.

The properties reviewed were:

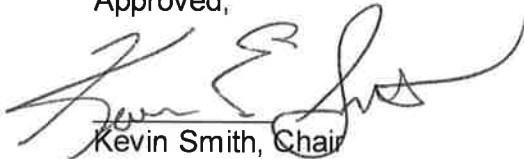
John Rushing Farm – Benton County  
Hillsman House – Carroll County  
Peter Paul Shule Barn – Dickson County  
Derryberry House – Maury County  
LeMoyne Gardens Public Housing Project – Shelby County  
Liberty Hill School – Williamson County  
Joseph Scales House – Williamson County

Mr. Thompson moved, Dr. Williams seconded, that the removals be approved. Voted and approved.

### **Other Business**

There being no further business, Dr. Smith moved, Mr. Self seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

Approved,



Kevin Smith, Chair