

**STATE REVIEW BOARD
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2023**

The State Review Board for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 met at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 25, 2023, at the Tennessee Historical Commission's (THC) offices at Clover Bottom Mansion, 2941 Lebanon Pike, Nashville, and online via WebEx video conference. All votes were taken by roll call and unless otherwise noted in the minutes, decisions were unanimous.

Members present were Kevin Smith, Chair; Juan Self, Vice Chair; Lee Ingram; Tom Maher; Tara Mitchell Mielnik; Margot Payne; Jefferson Rogers; Amanda Rose; Claudette Stager; James Thompson; and Learotha Williams.

Members unable to attend were Beverly Robertson.

THC staff members attending the meeting were Rebecca Schmitt, J. Ethan Holden, Casey Lee, Justin Heskew, Kelley Reid, Dan Brown, and Caty Dirksen. 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 and members of the public 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 September 14, 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 May 17, 2023, in Nashville, in person and by WebEx. The board determined that the September 2023 meeting will be held on September 20, 2023.

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. Mr. McIntyre also introduced Claudette Stager as the newest member of the State Review Board. Ms. Stager worked for the Tennessee Historical Commission for thirty-seven years, the last ten of which she served as the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer.

National Register Nominations

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

Exit/In, Davidson County

The property was nominated under Criterion A for local significance in Performing Arts and Entertainment/Recreation. The property met Criterion Consideration G: Exceptional Significance. Dr. Carroll Van West, Savannah Grandey Knies, and Jennifer Ruch prepared the nomination. Dr. West and Ms. Knies attended the meeting in support of the property.

Dr. West spoke of the property's importance to Nashville's music scene. Kerstin Hjelm, a representative of Exit/In's new owners, expressed her support for the nomination and thanked the State Review Board for considering Exit/In for the National Register. Ms. Stager noted that she had driven past Exit/In following the January 2023 vandalism and that there were no integrity issues visible on the exterior. Ms. Rose and Dr. Mielnik spoke in support of the nomination. Mr. Self expressed support for the nomination, and suggested adding a paragraph on African American artists and their history/impact on Exit/In. Dr. West said that future drafts would incorporate this information. Finally, Mr. McIntyre also spoke in support of the nomination.

Dr. Mielnik moved, Dr. Williams seconded, that the nomination be approved with revisions. Voted and approved.

Maury High School (Dandridge Historic District Additional Documentation), Jefferson County

This is an updated and expanded nomination for the Dandridge Historic District, originally listed on January 22, 1973. The nomination established that the Maury County High School was individually significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture at the local level of significance within the Dandridge Historic District. The nomination was prepared by Rebecca Schmitt.

Ms. Rose thanked Ms. Schmitt for her work on the nomination.

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

EI1 Persons Lynching Site, Shelby County

The property was nominated under Criterion A for its national significance in Ethnic Heritage: Black and Social History: Civil Rights. Dr. Margaret Vandiver, Dr. Timothy Huebner, and Kelsey Lamkin prepared the nomination. Ms. Lamkin attended virtually in support of the nomination.

Kelsey Lamkin spoke in support of the nomination and offered to answer any questions that the State Review Board had. Ms. Stager suggested that state and local significance be marked in addition to national significance, and that the boundary justifications needed

to be stronger before submittal to the National Park Service. Dr. Williams expressed his support for the nomination and asked if there was already a marker in place, was the site accessible, and what the plans were for the site. Ms. Lamkin responded that the city planned to construct a greenway that will connect with the site, and there were two markers already present commemorating the event. Dr. Williams thanked Ms. Lamkin for her work. Mr. Self also stated his appreciation for her hard work. Ms. Lamkin thanked them and said she would work on the boundaries with National Register staff.

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

Griggs Business and Practical Arts College, Shelby County

The property was nominated under Criterion A for its local significance in Ethnic Heritage: Black and Education. The nomination was prepared by property owner Stephanie Wade with assistance from J. Ethan Holden. Ms. Wade and Edward Henley III attended the meeting in support of the nomination.

Mr. Self recused himself from voting on the nomination. Ms. Wade spoke in favor of the property and thanked the State Review Board for considering Griggs Business and Practical Arts College for inclusion in the National Register. Mr. Henley also spoke in support of the nomination and spoke about the restoration process. Mr. Thompson noted that VCT flooring material was incorrectly identified as asphalt tile. Dr. Holden said that this would be fixed before submittal. Dr. Williams stated that the Period of Significance didn't match up in the nomination, which Dr. Holden also said he would fix. Dr. Williams commended Ms. Wade and Mr. Henley for their work. Ms. Payne said that she was thrilled about the nomination as well.

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

Martin Downtown Commercial Historic District, Weakley County

The historic district was nominated under Criterion A for its local significance in Commerce. The nomination was prepared by Melinda Winchester. Ms. Winchester attended the meeting virtually in support of the nomination.

Ms. Winchester spoke in support of the nomination and emphasized the importance historic preservation guidelines implemented in the 1980s had on the district's survival. Dr. Rogers asked why the mill on the northern boundary was not included, to which Ms. Winchester replied that it was not included because it would have made the district discontinuous. Dr. Rogers also noted that the first Walmart was not where the nomination said it was, that the first one was actually located on North Lindell Street. He also noted that Union Planters was one of the owners of the bank and questioned why there was no mention of University of Tennessee – Martin in the nomination. Ms. Winchester noted that

she would look into Dr. Rogers's suggestions and add some UT-Martin context. Dr. Rogers finally noted that the historic zoning commission had been working to preserve downtown since the 1990s, and that the nomination should include that information in addition to including information on the activities of the Martin Economic Development Corporation. Ms. Stager seconded Dr. Rogers comments and advised that the nomination make clear what was accomplished during the revitalization period and when that happened, as changes to the district (such as the slip covers) may have reached historic age. Ms. Winchester agreed to work with National Register staff to address all suggestions and comments.

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

Lewisburg Avenue Historic District (Additional Documentation, Boundary Increase, & Boundary Decrease), Williamson County

This is an updated and expanded nomination for the Lewisburg Avenue Historic District, originally listed on April 13, 1988. The nomination updated the original nomination to show that the district is locally significant for Criterion C in Architecture from ca. 1840-1960. The nomination also adjusted the boundaries to better reflect extant and contributing resources in the district. The nomination was prepared by Jaime L. Destefano who attended the meeting in support of the nomination.

Ms. Rose recused herself from voting on the nomination. Ms. Destefano spoke in support of the nomination and emphasized that her focus had been on expanding and improving the district's original architectural descriptions for planning purposes. Dr. Rogers noted that this was a good thing and asked National Register staff if there were efforts underway to go through old nominations and update them. Ms. Rose agreed with Dr. Rogers that the older nominations needed updating, and that the city of Franklin tried to update as many as possible for planning purposes. Ms. Schmitt noted that the THC encouraged communities to apply for grants to update their nominations and encouraged individuals to help with updating nominations. Dr. Rogers noted that the quality of nominations prepared and presented by National Register staff were improving every year.

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

Other Business

Dr. Williams encouraged all in attendance to participate in the forty-second annual Nashville Conference on African American History and Culture on February 10, 2023.

Dr. Mielnik informed everyone that Dr. Martia Esther Hammack would give the inaugural Cynthia Van Buren Lecture at Cumberland University's Alumni Hall on February 6, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

There being no further business, Mr. Thompson moved, Mr. Ingram seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:58 a.m.

Approved,

Kevin Smith, Chair