

Monuments and Marker Committee Meeting

June 4, 2024

Minutes

Meeting opened at 3:15 pm Central Time.

Members present: Sam Elliott, Jeremy Harrell, Dan Pomeroy, and Ray Smith

Members not present: Pastor Keith Norman

Commission members present: Derita Williams

Commission Staff present: Miranda Christy,

Public guests present: Janie Clark, Gabi Lichenstein, Betty Johnson, Sharon Todd, Mike Hamilton, Sandra Carlton, Rosie Biggs, Ashley Clark, and Teddy Minton

The Determination of Necessity was read and voted to be necessary.

The minutes from the last meeting were approved by roll call vote.

The 13 marker texts submitted were reviewed and revised as determined to be needed.

Of the 13 submitted, 11 were accepted with modifications and two were deferred,

The marker texts being deferred are Russell Leeroy Pickett and First Settlers in Middle Tennessee. Both deferred for historical accuracy details. Sam Elliott has primary details on the Pickett one and Ray Smith has them on the First Settlers (the location of Spencer's murder is in question. Crab Orchard is the more accurately recognized location where the mountain is named for him as is a large rock behind which the Indians hid to ambush Spencer as he travelled the Walton Road.)

Sam Elliott made the motion to "approve the marker versions that we accepted during our discussion and to defer the two not approved." Dan Pomeroy seconded the motion. The motion was passed by a roll call vote. So, 11 of the 13 markers were approved and the two deferred marker requests were referred to staff for further research and resolution of the obvious differences in historical facts.

It is worthy of note that public input was most beneficial to this review and because of substantial contributions by guests to the meeting the marker text being considered resulted in a more appealing and more precise description of the intended historical facts.

Submitted by:

Ray Smith, Chair of the Monuments and Markers Committee