

**PASCAGOULA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**  
**P. O. Drawer 908**  
**Pascagoula MS 39568-0908**

Date: Wednesday 27 January 2021

Location: City Council Chambers

Commission members present: Michele Gautier Lee, Tommy Wixon, Barry McIlwain, and Liz Ford

Commission members excused Walter Mansfield, Kevin Hall, Michele Coats, Martin Hegwood, and Marcia Baumhauer

Ex Officio: Katarina Luketich

Others: Dan Lee, Richard Lucas

Commission Chairwoman, Liz Ford, called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM. A quorum was determined, and everyone was welcomed to the meeting.

Tommy Wixon, seconded by Michele Lee, approved the minutes from the 01 December meeting on a motion unanimously passed.

**Old Business**

- Status of Buena Vista Historical District
  - Michel Coats plans to re-involve Jeff in project
- Landmark Status for Carver High School
  - No information to date from the School System
- Status of Baptiste Tombs in Greenwood Cemetery – Tommy Wixon
  - Meeting with Mr. Phillips tomorrow.
  - Finishing the work on the last of the three tombstones, which is Eugenie Krebs Baptiste.
    - Her tombstone has sunk, and will be raised.
  - The memorial stone needs to be chosen and the appropriate wording decided on.
- Madame Pontabla & Gaston Pontabla's forthcoming exhibit – Tommy Wixon
  - Everything is ready except the Library. As soon as the Library reopens to the public, the exhibit will be held.
- Downtown Housing – Michele Coats
  - All of the projects are going well
    - Hancock has been permitted for 28 apartments.

- The Oddfellows Building work is underway which will result in four upper story apartments and one downstairs in the rear. The southwest corner will be retail space, and OFF THE HOOK will remain where it is.
  - Several of the downtown buildings are in the process of being purchased.
- Main Street has signed the contract with the Gulf Coast National Heritage Area, and Jeff Rosenberg is writing the nomination for the Downtown Historical District.

### **New Business**

- LaPointe Krebs House/LPK Foundation
  - Expect completion of the restoration in the late spring.
  - Please go by and see the work going on.
- WW2 Heritage City – Liz Ford for Martin Hegwood
  - Information is being gathered regarding the housing, the impact the shipyard had on women employees, etc.
  - Chris Wiggins is working with MDAH to have a historical marker placed to acknowledge the Navy Housing.
    - The Historical Society has agreed to pay for the marker.
    - Chris & Liz have met with the City regarding the location of the marker.
- Beach Blvd Photographs – Barry
  - Barry is giving the photographs to Katarina who will post them on the Commission's web site.
- 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Krebs Cemetery Tour – Dan Lee
  - Plans are to recognize three centuries of activity in the area – 100 years ago, two hundred years ago and three hundred years ago.

### **Other Business/Announcements/Discussions**

- Work Plans for 2020/2021 were approved on a motion by Michele Lee seconded by Tommy Wixon with the following exceptions::
  - Add explore possibility of adding more extended tours during Cruisin' in addition to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.
  - Eliminate discussion of Navy Housing Local Historical District due to the constraints involved and concentrate on assisting the committee with obtaining WW2 Heritage City status.
- Gabriel Cemetery is requesting assistance with National Register status.
  - There is a moment underway to document all historical black cemeteries in the US.
- Oldfield has been purchased by the Mississippi Heritage Trust.
- WAMA is working with the PGSD on a two-semester program.
  - The 1st semester will consist of ideas using elements of STEM, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester will be to construct three large statues, which will be placed in the downtown area.

Commented [LF1]:

- The Historical Society programs for the year will follow the guidelines in the packet of requirements to be recognized as a WW2 Heritage City.
- The next meeting will be on Wednesday 24 March

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm.

Notes by Liz Ford

**Work Plans for 2020:**

- Concentrate on assisting the Committee with obtaining WW2 Heritage City status.
- Continue pursuing National Register Historical District for South Buena Vista.
- Continue pursuing Mississippi Landmark Status for Carver High School.
- Assist Main Street, wherever, whenever possible, in obtaining NR statues for Downtown, or for individual building in the Downtown District.
- Community Engagement
  - Conduct Historical Tours on Beach Blvd during 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks, and explore possibility of more extended tour during Cruisin'.
  - Pursue Historical Markers for cemeteries.
  - Pursue signage for the Historical Districts.
  - Continued support for Cemetery Tour & the LPK
  - Seek other community outreach possibilities.
  - Post photographs of Beach Blvd houses destroyed by Katrina on web site and other social media outlets.