

Pascagoula Historic Preservation Commission  
P. O. Drawer 908  
Pascagoula MS 39568-0908

Minutes 28 April 2021  
Community Development Conference Room

Chairwomen Liz Ford called the regular monthly meeting of the Pascagoula Historic Preservation Commission to order at 12:05 PM.

Members Attending Barry McIlwain, Michele Gautier Lee, Tommy Wixon, Michele Coats, Martin Hegwood, Liz Ford  
Excused Members: Marcia Baumhauer, Walter Mansfield  
Others Present: Dan Lee, Chris Wiggins, Richard Lucas

March minutes were not available and will be approved at the May meeting instead.

Report of CLG Zoom Training Sessions

- "Responding to Disaster" – Michele Lee
  - o The session covered what to do before, during and after a disaster
    - Document the paper work before the storm.
    - Locate records in MDAH database
- "Protecting Post World War II Neighborhoods" – Liz Ford
  - o Report attached

Old Business:

- Buena Vista Historic District Status – Michele Coats
  - o Met with Jeff Rosenberg who suggested we make it a larger district and go further north.
- Carver High School Landmark Status – no report
- Baptiste Tombs – Greenwood Cemetery – Tommy Wixon reporting:
  - o The Historical Society has decided to use donations from the annual cemetery tour to restore the historical tombs and/or repair same
  - o Resurrection High School students will clean Greenwood Cemetery on an annual basis as part of their service hours.
- Madame Pontabla & Gaston Pontabla's Exhibit – Tommy Wixon reporting
  - o Still waiting on the Library
- Downtown Historic District – Downtown Housing – Michele Coats reporting
  - o The Downtown Historic District nomination has been submitted to MDAH and is under review
    - Recommended going further down Canty Street
    - Will be approved at the July meeting
  - o Downtown Activities:
    - City Centre has started demolition
    - Brumfield's lot is under consideration by a developer for a small hotel
    - MS Power building will have one or two offices downstairs and two apartment units upstairs
    - Coast Clothing has been sold to Jessica Taylor who will use it as her Dental Office
    - Pins and Needles is hosting the art installation project
    - Lounge Lizard is a venue space downstairs and an apartment upstairs

- Cassandra Dillions building is being purchased by Delo's Coffee which will be a coffee and pastry shop downstairs and apartments upstairs
- The old Fred's building will have three separate retail spaces in front and two apartments in the rear
- Plaza West will be office space
- Sunshine Bail Bonds sits in the middle of the property owned by the parent company of the Mobile paper who are not interested in selling at this time.
- Ramsay Taylor is purchasing Monica's Building and expects to have retail in the rear.
- The Chamber, PRA and Main Street met with a developer regarding the purchase of the Depot.
  - He is also interested in the Ice House for a Micro-Brewery
- A grant from Mississippi Power is covering the Orion Planning & Design team to create a streetscape and assist with eight buildings, all under contract.
  - The final report is due in July
- LaPointe-Krebs House/LPK Foundation- Liz Ford reporting
  - Plans are being finalized for the rededication and Hugo's 307<sup>th</sup> birthday
    - The French Consular General has accepted the invitation to attend the rededication
    - The mini cemetery tours at 2:30m 3:00 and 3:30 will explain some of the relationships between the early families
      - Richard Lucas will portray Simon de la Pointe
    - Chief Hyler Krebs will portray Hugo and his family will be wandering the grounds in costume
  - A lime burn will take place at the Point at 4 PM on Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> of May
- World War II Heritage City – Martin Hegwood reporting
  - Deadline for submission for the nomination is 31 August
    - Waiting on NPS to give outline
  - Still need a central depository for all of the information coming in
  - Need to nail down commitments from the State Congressional Delegation
  - Balance to do is documenting the facts and the events
- Beach Blvd Photos – Barry McIlwain reporting:
  - The photos are posted on the City's web site as well as face book page
- Pascagoula Depot – Kevin Hall – Michele Coats reporting:
  - See above under Downtown

#### New Business

- Nomination for MS Heritage Trust Board – Liz Ford reporting
  - Dan Lee is submitting his resume for consideration
- Nominations for 10 Most Endangered
  - Liz said the nomination is not due until August and she has asked if the prospective buyer would be interested in our nominating the building.
    - No reply yet

#### Other Business/Announcements/Discussions

- CLG Virtual Training –May 11 and May 25
  - Michele Lee will observe the May 11 sessions, and Liz will observe May 25 sessions, and report at the May meeting.
  - Anyone else is more than welcome to also participate – just need to know ahead of time in order to sign in

- Dan Lee reported the Gulf Coast Heritage & Cultural Exposition will be held on Friday & Saturday of this week (April 30 and May 01) at the Biloxi Visitors Center
  - o The LP-K will have a table, manned by Jim & Donna Underwood.
  - o The annual Lighthouse Festival will run concurrently on Saturday.
- Chris Wiggins reported the historical marker for the Navy Houses has been approved by MDAH and has been ordered.
  - o It should be here mid-summer to be properly placed.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM. The next meeting will be May 26, 2021.

WORK PLANS FOR 2020- 2021:

- Continue pursuing National Register Historical District status for south Buena Vista
- Continue pursuing Mississippi Landmark Status for Carver High School
- Assist Main Street, wherever possible, in obtaining National Register Status for Downtown, or for individual buildings in the downtown district.
- Work with the Committee to establish Pascagoula as a World War II Heritage City
- Community Engagement:
  - o Conduct Historical Tours on Beach Blvd during 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks and explore possibility of more extended tours during Cruisin'
  - o Pursue Historical Markers for Cemeteries
  - o Pursue signage for Historical Districts
  - o Seek other community outreach possibilities
  - o Post photographs of Beach Blvd houses destroyed by Katrina on web site and other social media outlets. – Accomplished!!!!