



## Town of Collierville

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A regular meeting of the Collierville Heritage Commission was held July 14, 2021 at 3:00pm at the Morton Museum of Collierville History, located at 196 N. Main Street, Collierville, Tennessee.

The following members of the Heritage Commission were present: Betty Edmunds, Taylor Stamps, Charles Hall, Skeeter Rutledge, Ginny Nanney, Jennifer Cordell, John Moore, and Elizabeth Kilmurray. Absent were Mary Alice Brock and Alderman Billy Patton.

Staff members present were Museum Director Lydia Warren and Collections and Special Projects Coordinator Maureen Smith.

Mrs. Betty Edmunds called the meeting to order.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM January 8, 2020 and October 14, 2020**

Mrs. Edmunds stated that the January 8<sup>th</sup> minutes may already have been approved but were not signed at the time of the October meeting.

Mrs. Edmunds asked if there were any corrections or additions needed to either the January 8, 2020 or October 14, 2020 meeting minutes.

Mrs. Edmunds called for approval of the Heritage Commission meeting minutes.

Mr. Rutledge made motion to approve both Heritage Commission meeting minutes. Mr. Hall seconded. All were in favor, none were opposed. Motion was approved.

### **MUSEUM DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Warren stated that the Museum was currently holding its Summer Workshop series for children and adults every Tuesday and Wednesday for the month of July. Workshops included painting, dance, and printmaking.

Ms. Warren stated that Katie Bailey, the Museum's Visitor Services Coordinator had left the Museum's employ and the Town would soon be hiring for that position.

Ms. Warren stated that the Museum won several awards at the Tennessee Association of Museums conference in March 2021. The Museum won awards for its social media campaigns and a children's activity booklet. Ms. Warren won an award for emerging museum professionals. Volunteer Susan Sullivan, who recorded virtual story times for the Museum, also won an award.

Ms. Warren stated that the Museum currently had two college-aged volunteers for the summer. The volunteers conducted separate research projects and generated social media and blog content.

### ***Upcoming Events***

Ms. Warren stated that Train Heritage Day was coming up on August 7, 2021. The Museum had already started to promote the event. The Collierville Depot would have model trains; the Town Square would feature live music; and the Museum would have goody bags, train-related crafts, free MemPops popsicles, model trains, and the debut of the Museum's new temporary exhibit, *When We Rode Mike: The Somerville Accommodation Train, 1914-1920*.

Ms. Warren stated that the Museum would be returning to in-person story time every Friday. The Museum had held virtual story times, recorded by volunteer Susan Sullivan, for much of the prior year.

Ms. Warren stated that the Museum intends to offer a summer internship in 2022 in partnership with the Friends of the Morton Museum.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mrs. Edmunds ask if there was any unfinished business for the Commission to discuss. There was no unfinished business to discuss.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Potential Items for Accession**

Ms. Smith presented documents pertaining to the Collierville Optimist Club's Annual Classic Walking Horse Show (circa 1970s and 1980s) donated by Mrs. Peggy Turnipseed. Mrs. Edmunds and Mr. Stamps mentioned there was another horse show in Collierville aside from the Walking Horse Classic. Mrs. Edmunds stated that there were and are many equestrians in Collierville. Ms. Smith stated that equestrian history may be a potential topic for a future exhibit. Mrs. Edmunds further stated that there had been horse races in Collierville as well during her grandmother's lifetime. One of the well-known racehorses involved was a horse named Dan Patch. Mr. Stamps stated W.W. Hutton trained horses. Mr. Hall stated he displays Hutton's pigskin gaiters in his store, Hewlett & Dunn Boots & Jeans Co., located at 111 N. Center St., Collierville, Tennessee.

Ms. Smith presented several books pertaining to Frisco history and a manual for a telegraph experiment donated by Mr. Mike Ellicott. The two Frisco books were given to Mr. Ellicott by the Railroad Historical Museum in Springfield, Missouri.

Ms. Smith presented a 1950s Girl Scout Handbook and three Girl Scout badges donated by Mrs. Rosemary Hart.

Ms. Smith further presented a postcard of the Sunset Motel (circa 1960) donated by Mrs. Erin Daniels.

Mrs. Edmunds asked if the Commission had any questions or comments regarding the proposed acquisitions. With no questions or comments presented, Mrs. Edmunds asked if there was a motion to accept all the donations into the collection.

Mrs. Cordell made a motion to accept all donations. Mr. Rutledge seconded. All were in favor, none were opposed. Motion was approved.

Mrs. Edmunds asked if anyone had any pictures of the barn at the old Schilling Farm. Mr. Hall stated that his mother may have pictures. Mrs. Edmunds stated that the barn was an equestrian center of sorts as carriage events were held at Schilling Farms. Mr. Hall stated it was a brick barn. Mrs. Edmunds added that the barn was torn down.

Ms. Smith presented Deeds of Gift which had not yet been signed by the Commission Chairman. Mrs. Edmunds stated she did not remember signing any Deeds prior to this meeting.

### **Changing Commission Meeting Time**

Mrs. Edmunds stated there has been some discussion about changing the Commission meeting time to accommodate members' schedules. Mr. Hall stated that 5:00pm would be better for his work schedule. Mrs. Edmunds asked if there was a motion to change the meeting time from 3:00pm to 5:00pm.

Mr. Hall made a motion to change the meeting time. Mrs. Nanney seconded. All were in favor, none were opposed. Motion was approved.

Mrs. Edmunds stated that the October meeting would be held at 5:00pm. Mrs. Edmunds also asked Museum staff to please email a copy of the previous meeting's minutes to the Commission prior to their meetings. Ms. Warren confirmed that the Museum would do so.

### **Adding New Commission Members**

Mrs. Edmunds stated that Mrs. Nancy Bassett has moved to Eufaula, Alabama and will no longer be a member of the Commission. With Mrs. Bassett's departure, there is room on the Commission for a new member. Ms. Warren stated that interested parties must apply through the Town to be on the Commission. Ms. Warren further stated that she would ask the Town Clerk if applications would be accepted partway through the year or wait until the usual application period.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mrs. Edmunds ask if there was any additional business to be discussed.

Mr. Stamps shared his recommendation that the Heritage Commission ask that the Town of Collierville require landowners to take pictures of their historic buildings prior to tearing them down. Mr. Stamps suggested that photographs then be shared with the Commission and Museum. Ms. Warren and Ms. Smith confirmed that the Museum would be interested in such photographs. Mr. Stamps further explained that three houses within one-fourth of a block from his home have been sold and had their exteriors completely changed.

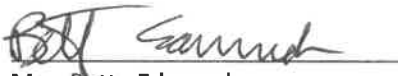
Ms. Smith stated her interest in photographing the house at 157 E Poplar Ave., which is scheduled for demolition. Mr. Hall stated that the house formerly belonged to Catherine Kelsey but was sold. Ms. Smith relayed that the Historic District Commission approved the demolition at 157 E Poplar Ave. and approved the building of one new house on the site. The back of the lot will be subdivided into three lots with new build houses. Mr. Stamps added that Dr. Richard Kelsey once owned the house at 157 E Poplar Ave. and that the house used to be red brick. Ms. Smith stated that a document presented to the Historic District Commission has details regarding the changes and development of the house. Mr. Hall recommended contacting Mr. Jaime Groce, Town Planner, for matters regarding the Historic District Commission.

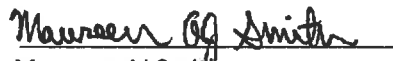
Mr. Stamps stated he has two maps of old Collierville he received from Mr. Herman Wright. Mr. Stamps believes there were meant to be four such maps but the other two have not been found.

Mrs. Edmunds encouraged Commission members to look through their own homes and ask family and friends if they have any items that might be pertinent to equestrian history in Collierville. Ms. Smith also encouraged the donation of modern equestrian items as well.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business or discussion, at approximately 3:30pm, Mrs. Edmunds adjourned the meeting.

  
Mrs. Betty Edmunds  
Chairman, Heritage Commission

  
Maureen AJ Smith  
Collections & Special Projects Coordinator