

**SAVANNAH - CHATHAM COUNTY HISTORIC SITE AND MONUMENT COMMISSION**

**REGULAR MEETING  
112 EAST STATE STREET**

**ARTHUR A. MENDONSA HEARING ROOM**

**May 1, 2008**

**4:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**HSMC Members Present:**

**Walter Wright, Chairman  
LaVerne Ricks-Brown, Secretary  
Walt Harper  
Ryan Madson  
Phillip Williams**

**HSMC Members Not Present:**

**Gordon Smith, Vice-Chairman**

**HSMC/MPC Staff Present:**

**Ellen Harris, Preservation Planner  
Janine N. Person, Administrative Assistant**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

**Mr. Wright** introduced Chatham County Commissioner Helen Stone and stated that in regard to the World War II Monument, he was a retired Army officer and a member of two Veterans organizations. He said that he has never served on the Council and never been involved with the World War II monument project.

**Mr. Walt Harper** stated that he wanted to publicly disclose his membership with the Veterans Council of Chatham County. He said that he is a delegate from the Catholic War Veterans, but did not have any direct involvement in the design of the memorial, and did not contribute any monetary funds.

Present for the petition was Mr. Jim Pomfret.

Ms. Harris gave the Staff report.

**II. Petition of the Georgia Department of Transportation  
Jim Pomfret, Archaeologist  
Preliminary Review for Comments and Feedback  
River Street Interpretive Markers**

**NATURE OF REQUEST:** The petitioner is requesting feedback and comments on 15 interpretive panel markers to be erected along the Riverfront.

The project originated with efforts to mitigate the adverse effects to a historic shipwreck caused by the replacement of a bridge. The mitigation efforts included a public outreach component which has developed into a series of 15 interpretive panels along River Street. Chatham County is working on a similar project for Hutchinson Island and efforts have been combined to ensure consistency and collaboration.

The Hutchinson Island portion of the project has a broader timeframe and will be reviewed by the Historic Site and Monument Commission later in the year.

**FINDINGS:**

Theme: The theme of the project is maritime history. Refer to attached materials for specific themes for each panel.

Location: The location of the panels will be along the Riverfront (see attached map for approximate locations). Panels will be attached to existing railing as shown in attached materials. Panels will be at a 45 degree angle to discourage their use as seats or cup holders.

Design: Each panel will have relevant graphics to the topic.

Panels will be constructed of high pressure laminate, and are guaranteed against deterioration and fading for 10 years. The fabricator is Fossil, the same fabricator that the National Park Services uses. The panels will be two feet by three feet. While the Master Plan and Guidelines encourage the GHS Marker design, this design is not conducive to the graphics appropriate to this project type.

Funding: The project cost is approximately \$25,000 and is being funded by Georgia DOT and The Federal Highway Administration.

**Ms. Harris** stated that this is a petition from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), who is asking for an informal review and comment, not for a vote or recommendation at this time. She said she recommended they come before the Commission during the early development stage of the project and it will be coming back to the Board for final design approval later. The project is to mitigate the adverse affects to a historic shipwreck caused by the replacement of a bridge. This mitigation included a public outreach component which has developed into a series of 15 interpretative markers along River Street. Chatham County is working on a similar project for Hutchinson Island in cooperation with the GDOT to ensure consistency and collaboration between the projects. The River Street portion of the project has a tighter timeframe because the panels would need to be ordered by August, and the petitioner will come back with the final design in June. The Hutchinson Island portion has a broader timeframe and will come before the Commission later in the year. The theme is “Maritime History” with each panel having a specific topic. The locations will be along River Street and Hutchinson Island. Each panel will have graphics relevant to the topic. Individuals would be able to see what is ahead, and what is behind them with a “You Are Here” theme at the bottom of each panel. The panel faces will be constructed of acrylic and they will use the same fabricator that the National Park Service uses for its exterior panels.

She said that although the Master Plan and Guidelines encourages the Georgia Historical Society style marker, the design is not appropriate for this project and she felt this was a more appropriate display. The panel size and other specific details will be submitted at the design detail phase. The project is funded through the GDOT on the River Street side, and the Hutchinson Island side is funded through Chatham County.

The petitioner went before the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and they recommended that the American Colonization Society theme be explored because it was founded in Savannah and was responsible for taking freed slaves to Liberia from this port.

**Ms. Ricks-Brown** suggested that the Number 12 panel regarding the Native Americans in Savannah be moved to the Number 2 panel in sequence of historical significance.

**Mr. Madson** stated that with the recent water quality issues they could consider how the storm water and sewer systems relate to the river front and River Street as it is directly related to the maritime commerce. With the water

quality being of concern it is an educational tool and a great opportunity. He advised adding public seating which was also a consideration brought up by the TAC.

**Mr. Jim Pomfret (Archaeologist, Georgia Department of Transportation)** stated that they were looking at different possibilities and as a result of their last meeting, a rail mount would be the preferred method to not impede foot traffic, and would be set up at a 45 degree angle to discourage using it as a table or seat. He said that a couple of Committee members were on the River Front Association and had made a suggestion to place the panels so they would not impede activities on the river front.

**III. Petition of the Georgia Historical Society**  
**Christy Crisp**  
**File No.: C-080417-37986-2**  
**Marker Application**  
**Beach Institute Marker**

Present for the petition was Ms. Christy Crisp.

Ms. Harris gave the Staff report.

**NATURE OF REQUEST:** The petitioner is requesting a Georgia Historical Marker to be located in the tree lawn in front of the Beach Institute located at 502 East Harris Street.

**FINDINGS:**

Theme: The theme of the marker falls under the Arts and Humanities and Cultural and Ethnic Heritage categories. The proposed marker commemorates the Beach Institute which was the first school in Savannah built specifically for the education of African-Americans. It was named for Alfred S. Beach, inventor and editor of Scientific American.

Location: The proposed site is the tree lawn in front of the Beach Institute which is considered public property. The exact location has been left to the Park and Tree Commission's discretion.

Design: The proposed design is the standard GHS marker design. See attached text.

Funding: The estimated cost for the marker is \$3,000.00. The funds have been fully secured. As GHS, which administers the Georgia Historical Marker Program, assumes responsibility for the repair and replacement of all markers, the petitioner has requested the Escrow Payment be waived.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approval as submitted. The petitioner should coordinate with City Engineering to ensure no utilities are damaged during installation.

**Mr. Harper** asked if the plaque will be facing the street, the building, or perpendicular to the street.

**Ms. Harris** stated that she would allow the applicant to answer that question.

**Mr. Williams** asked if the donor had been approved.

**Mr. Wright** answered yes and said that Wal-Mart and Sam's Club are the donors.

**Ms. Harris** stated that it would be one of several to come before the Commission as a part of an agreement the GHS has with the company.

**PETITIONER'S COMMENTS:**

**Ms. Crisp** stated that this is the last in the series that they have been doing with Wal-Mart and Sam's Club. They are proposing that the marker be placed on Price Street in front of the building as opposed to Harris Street because the visibility would be better. For the same reason they proposed that it face perpendicular to the building so if you are going down Price Street it would be seen.

**Mr. Harper** asked about the width of the plaque.

**Ms. Crisp** stated that it would be 48-inches wide.

**Mr. Harper** stated that the tree lawn is not very wide and he could foresee it being hit by a truck.

**Ms. Crisp** stated that they would get with Park and Tree to find the right place for it and take into consideration that it could be hit. She said she has not measured the tree lawn and would not want it sticking out into the road.

**HSMC ACTION:** **Mr. Harper made a motion that the Savannah – Chatham County Historic Site and Monument Commission approve the petition as submitted. Mr. Madson seconded the motion and it passed 3 to 1. Mr. Williams was opposed.**

**IV. Petition of the Veterans Council of Chatham County  
Jim Vejar, Junior Vice-Chairman  
File No.: C-050817-88954-2  
Monument Application - Concept Design  
World War II Monument**

Present for the petition were Mr. Jim Vejar and Mr. Eric Meyerhoff.

Ms. Harris gave the Staff report.

**NATURE OF REQUEST:** The petitioner is requesting design concept approval of the proposed World War II Monument in Oglethorpe Square. On August 24, 2005, the Historic Site and Monument Commission approved the theme of a WWII Monument. On December 15, 2005, the Site and Monument Commission approved Oglethorpe Square as the location for a WWII Monument. On February 16, 2006, City Council approved Oglethorpe Square as the location for a WWII Monument. On April 5, 2007, the Site and Monument Commission and Technical Advisory Committee reviewed the design concept and both review bodies recommended continuing the petition for further study of the design.

**FINDINGS:**

**Phasing:** The petitioner plans to erect the monument in two phases. The first phase will consist of the globe, bases for the statues, paving, and landscaping. The second phase will consist of the erection of nine bronze figures which will be done in four unveiling ceremonies, on Memorial Day and Veteran's Day in 2009 and 2010.

**Globe:** The proposed monument will consist of a central globe element divided into two hemispheres. The globe will be 25'2" wide and 18'4" tall and have an internal metal framing system covered by an open metal mesh. The proposed metal mesh will likely be stainless steel and a sample will be submitted in the design detail approval phase. The land masses will likely be solid bronze. Placement and other details of the land masses will be submitted during the design detail phase.

Visitors will be able to walk through the center of the globe. The interior of the globe will have a five-foot wide passage through the center, tapering upwards and outwards. The walls of the passage will be covered with the

same metal mesh that covers the exterior and the names of the 494 soldiers from Chatham County who died in WWII will be displayed on this interior wall, either on individual metal plaques or engraved on a solid granite plaque. Details of this interior passage will be submitted during the design detail phase. A life-size bronze statue of Rosie the Riveter will be positioned on the interior working on the globe. The material of the interior floor will consist of a concrete slab, slate, or other material to contrast with the exterior brick pavers (details of which to be submitted later).

The qualifications of the proposed globe manufacturer have not been provided. These will be provided at the design detail phase.

The globe will be inset in a two-foot tall brick base.

**Lighting:** Lighting for the interior has been proposed but no lighting plan has been submitted. Inset floor lighting or overhead lighting on the interior of the globe is proposed.

**Figures:** There will be eight life-size bronze figures representing the six branches of the armed services (Army, Navy, Marines, Army Air Corps, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines), and two auxiliary corps (Women in the Military and Nurses Corp) surrounding the globe. The statues will stand on granite bases measuring eight feet long, two feet deep and 18-inches tall and will be situated 13 feet from the globe. The sculptors of these figures will be Susie Chisholm and Garland Weeks (resumes provided in the booklet). Each figure will be clothed in the appropriate uniform. The Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum will be providing the uniforms to the sculptors to ensure accuracy. Rosie the Riveter will be on the interior of the globe.

**Dedication Plaque:** There will be a bronze dedication plaque on a 3'9" tall, 3' wide, and 2' deep granite base to the west of the monument.

**Text:** Text for the monument will be minimal and will include the names of the branches of the armed services and auxiliary corps on each of the bases of the statues, the dedication plaque, and a series of quotations on the interior of the globe, interspersed with the names of the Chatham County veterans who died in WWII. All text will be submitted during the design detail phase for approval.

**Paving:** The proposed design includes paving the entire center of the square and repaving all existing walkways. The paving will consist of bricks over a two-inch concrete slab. At least a portion of the bricks will be inscribed with names by donors. It is unclear if the brick walkways will also have donor bricks. Un-inscribed bricks may be replaced with inscribed bricks as more are sold through fundraising efforts. On the west side of the center quadrant, the bricks will bow out to allow for the placement of the dedication plaque. There will be approximately 3,190 ft<sup>2</sup> of additional paved surface (excluding the sidewalks and bowed area).

**Site:** The petitioner has worked closely with Harry Jue, Director of Water and Sewer, and other staff in his department to address the issue of the underground utilities. All parties feel comfortable that the globe can be located in the center of the square provided the footing straddle existing lines.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE APRIL 15, 2007, MEETINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Technical Advisory Committee and Historic Site and Monument Commission reviewed the WWII design concept on April 5, 2007, and had the following concerns:

**Globe:** It was felt that the scale of the monument was too large for Oglethorpe Square. The proposed globe at the time was 25' wide and 19'4" tall and it was felt that the globe would dominate the square. The petitioner has reduced the size of the globe to 25' wide and 18'4" tall and has provided a model. The petitioner has also stated that the lamps in the square are 19' tall. It is unclear which lamps the petitioner is referring to, but the decorative black lamps in the square are 15' tall. The petitioner has also provided a comparison of other squares for

reference (see Section 14 of the booklet). This concern regarding the scale of the globe does not appear to have been adequately addressed.

Staff conducted a survey of the footprint, height, width and volume all elements (monuments as well as gazebos) in the center of all squares and the summary of the results are as follows:

**Footprint:** Because of their formal placement around the globe, the statues add to the overall footprint of the monument and were taken into consideration in the footprint calculation.

- The largest footprints of elements in squares are:
  - Pulaski Monument (with the fence) has a footprint of 1681 ft<sup>2</sup>
  - Jasper Monument has a footprint of 784 ft<sup>2</sup>
  - Gordon Monument (with the fence) has a footprint of 729 ft<sup>2</sup>
- The footprint of the proposed WWII Monument (with statues) is 2374.62 ft<sup>2</sup>
  - Larger than Pulaski Monument by 141%
  - Larger than Jasper Monument by 302%
  - Larger than Gordon Monument by 325%

**Volume:**

- The largest elements by volume in any square are:
  - Whitfield Gazebo with a volume of 4747.68 ft<sup>3</sup>
  - Crawford Gazebo with a volume of 3094.58 ft<sup>3</sup>
  - Jasper Monument with a volume of 2424 ft<sup>3</sup>
- The largest monuments are the:
  - Jasper Monument with a volume of 2424 ft<sup>3</sup>
  - Pulaski Monument with a volume of 2187 ft<sup>3</sup>
  - Haitian Monument with a volume of 1980 ft<sup>3</sup>
- The volume of the proposed globe (not including the brick base) is 5998.71 ft<sup>3</sup>
  - Larger than Whitfield Gazebo by 126%
  - Larger than Jasper Monument by 247%
  - Larger than Pulaski Monument by 274%
  - Larger than Haitian Monument by 303%

**Recommendation:** Approval of the concept of the globe split apart, though at a reduced scale. The globe element should have a pedestrian/human scale and should not dominate the square. Consider reducing the globe element by 25 – 50 percent. At a 25 percent reduction, the globe would be approximately 13’7” tall by 18’9” wide. Its volume would be 2525.18 ft<sup>3</sup>. Even with a 25 percent reduction, the WWII Globe would remain the largest monument, by volume, in any square. This size will better fit the square, allow for a better pedestrian experience, and still provide a monument on a grand scale.

At a 50 percent reduction, the globe would be just over 9’ tall and 12.5’ wide. Its volume would be 736 ft<sup>3</sup>. This may be too great of a reduction given the thematic significance.

**Figures:** It was expressed at the last meeting that nine statues are too many and represent too many things. The petitioner has responded by stating that they want to recognize all services and not leave any one out. The issue of diversity of the figures was also raised at the last meeting. The petitioner has stated that they will “insure that all races that served in Savannah/Chatham County are represented,” but this is not explained further. This, as well as details on the proposed statues (including drawings and models of each figure) will be provided at the design

detail phase. The statues will be clothed in accurate uniforms as provided by the Mighty Eighth Museum. Staff is concerned about the proposed uniforms for the Nurses Corps and the Women in the Military statues. This will be addressed in the design detail phase.

**Recommendation: Consider disbursing the figures from their formal positions around the globe and place them in less formal positions throughout the square, such as walking or sitting on a bench. This will reduce the overall footprint of the monument, encourage more pedestrian interaction, and reduce the need for such extensive paving. If the statues are to surround the globe element, as they are currently proposed, they should be slightly closer to the globe and not encroach on the sidewalks.**

**Local Focus:** At the last meeting it was recommended that the monument have a more local focus. The petitioner has responded to these comments incorporating the names of Chatham County soldiers killed in WWII on the interior walls. This concern has been addressed.

**Paving:** It was felt at the last meeting that there was too much paving. There were concerns about the loss of greenspace as well as drainage. The petitioner has responded by stating that other squares have similar amounts of hardscape. These concerns do not appear to have been adequately addressed.

Additionally, the Director of Park and Tree Department states that, “The... paving should be brick on sand or similar pervious surface.”

**Recommendation: Consider restudying the landscape design of the center quadrant and reducing the overall amount of hardscape by 25 – 50 percent. Place the dedication plaque adjacent to the globe to eliminate the need for the additional bowed area of paving. Install brick pavers on sand rather than a concrete slab.**

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Technical Advisory Committee reviewed the above application on May 1, 2008, at 11:00 a.m. and recommended approval of the design concept. The following items were discussed in detail at the meeting:

- Several members felt the scale of the globe as proposed was acceptable.
- Several members liked the concept of the figures being more informally positioned throughout the square.
- It was recommended that the base be changed from brick to granite.
- It was recommended that the support ties between the two hemispheres be eliminated.
- There was some concern expressed that there may be visual incongruity between the historic structures on the square and the globe.

The Technical Advisory Committee voted to recommend that the Site and Monument Commission approve the petition as submitted.

**Mr. Madson** stated that comparing the two gazebos was an apples to oranges comparison. He said they were occupiable volumes that could serve as a living room or an outdoor room for the squares, whereas this globe is largely not an occupiable volume, instead a very large mass and that is important to know that they are different volumes.

**Mr. Williams** stated that it would be like two volumes because you pass through and there is a volume on each side.

**Ms. Ricks-Brown** stated that the bases of the statues on the drawings are two feet by eight feet, but everything in the packet stated the bases are two feet by six feet.

**Ms. Harris** stated that the drawings are correct.

**Mr. Williams** noted that the drawings are different than the model. He said there is a ramp around the globe and an ascent into the monument on the drawings.

**Ms. Harris** stated that the booklet, the model, and the initial drawings were submitted at the same time. There have been several meetings with the Veteran's Council and she made some recommendations about modifications to be made before this meeting. They submitted the revised drawings and did not have time to revise the model, but the ramping has been eliminated. The model shows that all sides of the center quadrant were bowed out with bricks, but actually only the west quadrant would be bowed out with bricks. The drawings are the most up-to-date.

**Mr. Williams** stated that there had been discussion about moving the globe to one side of the square.

**Ms. Harris** stated that what is being proposed is the center quadrant. She said that it was discussed last year when it was felt that the utilities running through the square would pose a major concern. Everyone feels comfortable that it could be worked around through careful placement of the footings.

**Mr. Williams** stated there is a conflict between the two drawings because the site plan shows a straight slice through the walkway and the section shows a pinched area. He asked which is correct.

**Ms. Harris** stated that it is the pinched area.

**Mr. Williams** stated that the elevation shows another relief.

**Ms. Harris** stated that the walls are cut out slightly to allow more space for the passageway to be open with less of an internal passageway and more exposure to the outside. She said it is also the space for the names of the soldiers who died.

**Mr. Williams** stated that there is a ten-foot opening and then an ascension up into the monument.

**Ms. Harris** stated that it would not be as tall or as elevated off the ground in order to eliminate the need for the ramping. It would be lower and somewhat of an ascent that won't require ramping or steps.

**Mr. Williams** asked if there are any other squares with more than one element to a monument. He said there are several elements to the monument and asked if there are any similar precedents.

**Mr. Wright** stated that there are ten pieces to this monument.

**Ms. Harris** stated that the Haitian monument has multiple statues on top and is the only monument that has multiple statues, but they are combined on a single base. She said the only similar monument is in Forsyth Park; beside the Confederate Monument are two busts related to, but apart from each other. The only other one she could think of are the two public sculptures in front of the Federal Building on Telfair Square that are separated from each other, but are related.

**Mr. Madson** asked if the busts at the Confederate Monument are enclosed within a fencing system.

**Ms. Harris** stated that she believed so.



**Mr. Madson** stated that what Ms. Harris is getting at is that this would set a precedent with different vertical elements populating the park.

**Mr. Wright** asked for the petitioner to come forward.

**Ms. Harris** stated that the petitioner has a DVD to show.

**Ms. Ricks-Brown** asked if Ms. Harris could show the visual that compared the 100, 50, and 25 percent once again.

#### **PETITIONER'S COMMENTS:**

**Mr. Jim Vejar (Chairman, Veterans Council)** stated that the World War II Committee consisted of himself; Mr. Jimmy Ray, Senior Vice-Chairman of the Council; Mr. Joe Cetti, Treasurer; First District Chatham County Commissioner, Ms. Helen Stone; and Mr. Doug Andrews. He said the sculptress is Ms. Susan Chisholm and that Ms. Laura Zack designed the model. He introduced World War II veterans Mr. Cliff Joyner who turned 90-years-old a week ago, Mr. Marvin Brown, Mr. Carl Holmen, Mr. Jim McNear, Mr. Hal Beddow, Mr. Charlie Hearn, and Mr. George Doerner. He stated that Mr. Eric Meyerhoff is one of the prime designers.

He said that they never had a model but have one now. He felt a lot of people's concerns were that the globe would be too big and fill the square, but it would occupy 13 percent of the internal square; not of the big square, but of the internal square. In addition, the monument is designed to show a world apart with one sphere split in half. They have put a wall in between to include the individuals who gave their life from Chatham County during that period of time. He said they accommodated the city and closed it off to keep people from doing bad things or destroy the monument. They dropped it another foot to the ground and an eight-inch grade goes up to assist with the drainage. The rain will go through because it is a hollow sphere. Oglethorpe Square is one of the largest squares in the city and they feel the size of the monument does not detract or take away from the actual beauty of the square. They agree that there is too much paving, but some of the money comes from the bricks they sell and they need to accommodate as many as they possibly can. They agree that the areas they don't need should be turned back to green. There is a tree on the left side that is offset with green on the other side, and they would do that on all four corners if possible. The bows shown on the walkway were taken out, and they are leaving the walkways as they are presently. They can do that by moving the dedication plaque in to keep it within the confines of the center square.

It was mentioned that the height of the globe would be affected by the tree growth. There is one branch that comes down and would have to have six feet lopped off and some trimming. He said that trees grow at the top and not out from the base and it wouldn't affect the globe at all. There is only one branch that affects it and it can be corrected; so it is not considered a problem. He watched the people trimming the trees and they said they trim trees all of the time. They said that it would not be a problem and he is not too concerned. What he is concerned about is some of the figures that were given with the percentages. They are 100 percent over because their monument is 147 percent bigger than the Jasper monument. Because of the fact that you have to figure the size of their monument and subtract it away.

**Mr. Wright** asked Ms. Harris if that was correct.

**Ms. Harris** stated she would like to calculate it first before commenting.

**Mr. Vejar** stated that the idea of moving the statue or creating the volume including the statues is not correct as well. He said that they have suggested moving them back into the eight-foot distance and you could still walk around them like you do in and out of the gazebo, as was mentioned before as far as being able to circumvent the volume of those items. It was suggested they move the statues out in various poses throughout the park. He

asked if it included increasing the volume because they moved them out 40 feet from the actual base of the statue. Then this is the way they should do it. He asked it be a level ball field and to look at it as it really is. This is a monument for 400 people; not a monument for 1 or 20.

**Mr. Williams** asked what 400 people was he speaking about.

**Mr. Wright** stated that there were 494 that were killed.

**Ms. Ricks-Brown** stated that those who were killed lived in Chatham County.

**Mr. Vejar** stated that everyone was affected by World War II. He said if you lived during that period of time you would find that a lot of the parents and mothers especially, worked in factories to turn out the warships and they were on rationing. Rosie the Riveter represents those people who supported the troops that were out there and everybody was affected by it. Locating the monument here with this size is for the people who fought the war in Chatham County that came from the area around there because the city only went out as far as DeRenne.

**Mr. Wright** stated that the Commission is all for the location and the World War II Monument.

**Mr. Vejar** stated to reduce the size 25 or 50 percent smaller; you can't see the islands that they fought on.

**Mr. Wright** stated he did not understand that. He would have to be shown.

**Mr. Madson** asked how they would know it without a one-to-one scale mock-up.

**Mr. Wright** stated that you could make a globe the size of a golf ball and show the Pacific Islands... (interrupted).

**Mr. Vejar** stated that if you stand six feet back and look at the golf ball....(interrupted).

**Mr. Wright** stated that they could get the islands on almost any size globe and he did not understand that point.

**Mr. Vejar** stated that it is irrelevant; the idea is being able to see it from six to eight feet back. He said that it would have a curve to it because it is a globe and you would not get up on top of it like you could with a globe and sit with your hands looking at it like a basketball. The size is relevant and they feel it is necessary in order to make sure that they get the shores in. They received that comment from several people a week ago and cut it down further. Then they decided it would lose the shorelines they were looking for and made it straight through instead of on an hour glass basis that is seen on one of the drawings. These were the changes that have been made in the last two days since Tuesday of this week for the people in order for them to be able to see everything that was needed. There is quite a bit of land that is underground because they had to lop off the bottom part of the hemisphere in order to get it to sit flat. Because of the greatness of the situation they were not terrorizing the square. It fits within the square and is shown by the model which is to-scale. They feel it does not do any damage and represents the greatest war ever fought.

**Mr. Wright** congratulated them on the hard work that was done and stated that the model is magnificent.

**Mr. Eric Meyerhoff** stated that he is the conceptual architect for the monument and apologized for the misrepresentations. He said on this past Friday that Ms. Harris suggested they meet with Mr. David White (Park and Tree) and Mr. Michael Brown (City Manager). They had a great deal of input that was positive and it was changed. He could not draw it within the designated time so the Commission could have a copy so the City offered their computer specialist, Mr. Harold Herin, who did the AutoCAD drawing, and consequently, the model still shows rampage and stairs that were eliminated. Prior to the meeting the model had an interior space with the

plaques of the 494 veterans of Chatham County who gave their lives at the Second World War and the maintenance of the area was a concern to Mr. Brown so they changed from an interior space and walk-through. In order to have the length of wall to accommodate 494 plaques they splayed it so the opening at the outer orb of the globe is ten feet, goes to five feet, splays back out to ten feet with the space being open to the sky, and there are two completely separate orbs. Ms. Harris gave numbers about the cubic footage. She did it by taking the cubic volume of the orb, taking off the center opening splay, taking off the 20 percent of the bottom of the globe which is in the ground and instead of having a 6,000 cubic-foot-space they actually have a 3,500-cubic-foot space; it is still large. He said that Oglethorpe Square is one of the larger squares and the center quad inside of the sidewalks is 55 by 58 feet. Of the 21 squares in the city, there are seven squares that have total paving in the center quad.

**Mr. Williams** asked if they were measuring from the centerline of the sidewalks or from the edge.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that it was from the inside face of the sidewalks.

**Mr. Wright** asked to put the visual up so they could talk from it.

**Mr. Williams** stated that he thought it was smaller than that.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that Mr. Herin had a time putting it on AutoCAD because he only had Monday and Tuesday to do it. He said there are a few minor errors that Mr. Williams and Mr. Madson would catch and he wanted to explain. On the drawings there are rectangular lines around the statues. He had made the sketches and Mr. Herin was going to print them onto AutoCAD but the edges of the cut-outs are shown. He said there is nothing around the statues, no lines or anything, and the planter actually goes to the opening and is short on the drawings. There are a lot of things they could not correct. The model and the globe are still the same size except that it has been reduced by one-foot because they took away the elevation of the interior floor.

**Mr. Williams** stated that they were talking about scale and said the Commission needs information. It is a graphical representation but they did not have a hard dimension. He said they don't have a physical survey drawing in the packet and the drawing says "not to-scale" in the corner.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that it was one of the errors that was not corrected, that it is to-scale, the plans are to-scale one-inch to 20 feet, and the model is to scale one-inch to 20 feet. He said the inside quad is 58 feet by 55 feet.

**Mr. Wright** asked if Mr. Vejar stated that the monument takes up only 13 percent of the entire square.

**Mr. Williams** stated that he was talking about the center and thought it would be 13 percent of the whole square.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated they are paving the interior quad and there are seven squares with an interior quad totally paved.

**Mr. Wright** asked if that could be reduced some.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that originally the paving followed the curvature of the orb on all four sides and it made the paving greater. Now, they only show it on the west side.

**Mr. Wright** stated that at some point it would go to the City and the landscape architect would review it for compliance.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that they have worked with the Utility Department and it is not an issue any more because they understand what is being done. He said it is not on center because there are two manholes, the rampage and the planter around it was deleted, and the manholes and the radius would be dead center.

**Mr. Williams** stated that there is a meter that would have to be moved.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** answered yes, and said it is not a big problem. He said that the Utilities Department was very helpful. When they first started there was a question about what happens to the 17-inch waterline that runs north/south but the Utilities Department said that prior to starting with the paving or any work in the center quad that they would dig down, unveil the water line and two storm lines, reseal every joint, and inspect them.

**Mr. Williams** stated that he did not see how they could address scale at all without a scale in front of them.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that it is to-scale 1:20. He said that it was noted as not to-scale but it is to-scale; 55 by 58 feet. Chippewa Square has paving 55 by 115 feet in front of the Savannah Theatre, and in the north/south direction it is paved 415 feet, in the east/west direction it is 55 feet. The scale is an error that should have been corrected because it was written not to-scale, but if you take an engineering scale it is 55 by 58, which is what the survey shows.

**Mr. Wright** stated that this session is about conceptual approval and they didn't want to get into too many details. He asked if the Commission generally approved of the concept of a globe, some statues, and some general landscaping, or did they not like it and want a heroic figure on top of a pedestal with a bayonet fixed. Conceptual is what the Commission is considering today.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that the concept of World War II is monumental because it was a world wide war. He said that 350,000 Americans were killed as well as millions of other people. There were two theatres of war; the Pacific and the European. In creating the concept of a world apart, he took a globe and separated it to show two global arcs. Using the globe he scaled it in latitude and longitude in order to get the Pacific Coast of the United States (Alaska and Japan) and put in the dots of the smaller islands like. He needed the circular space that a 25-foot orb would give them. If they go smaller than that it would be virtually impossible to identify where World War II was in the Pacific zone.

**Mr. Wright** stated that he would have to be shown that. He said he did not find that a credible statement.

**Mr. Williams** stated that it is being looked at in three-dimensions in the way it is conceptualized as a globe. He said it doesn't have to be a globe because if they wanted to get everything they needed it could be on a two-dimensional surface.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that it was another concept and said that a world apart is the globe showing the world. He said it was a monumental war and to have a globe that is reduced in size to a point where it is 13 feet off the ground is virtually impossible. When you walk up to it, it would look like a ball. You want to have a feeling that you are looking up at the world.

**Mr. Wright** stated that the concept is fabulous and he does not have a problem with the concept, but he is just one vote.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that the Pulaski Monument in Monterey Square has a base that is ten and one-half feet by ten and one-half feet. He said the base extends upward 18 feet. The globe extends upward 18-foot 4-inches. Monterey Square is a lot smaller than Oglethorpe Square. The perimeters of the eight branches of service are sitting on a one-foot six-inches by two-foot by eight-foot length granite blocks, which will be used as seating as well as the base for the soldiers. The grandchildren could sit next to a Marine, a Merchant Marine, or a Sailor that their grandfather might have been during the Second World War. They can stand or sit next to them and hold their hands. Don't think of it as girding like a fence around the monument.

**Mr. Wright** stated that is what it looked like. He asked what the objection is to disbursing the statues throughout the square which would reduce the footprint.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated the monument gets bigger. He said if they are disbursed with one sitting on a bench, then they would get abused without question.

**Mr. Wright** stated that it wasn't a directive.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that they are part of the overall monument. He said they were the eight branches that served and they took them all into consideration.

**Mr. Wright** stated that the Army Nurse Corp was part of the military. He said the document sounded like they are treating the military nurses as something different.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that the monument is of a size that would fit in-scale to Oglethorpe Square. He said the height of the monument is under the branches of the oak trees in the southwest corner of the quadrant. The northeast outside of the sidewalk has a branch that goes in and would have to be trimmed six feet.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**Ms. Susan Chisholm (Sculptress)** stated that she took part in the concept. She said that the benches would have a plaque on them with the seal of the branch of service, and the other side of the benches would have a quote that was not actually their slogan but a quote. The Mighty Eighth was going to help them come up with a wonderful quote about the women in the service and the reason that we won the war because of the women in this branch of the service. All of the soldiers would be facing out from the globe, protecting and guarding the world. They would not be in strict formation but in relaxed poses so that you could come up and identify with them. They want an interactive park where people can walk around, see what is written on each plaque, and enjoy the interaction. It is not meant to be something that would be lost all throughout the park.

**Mr. Wright** asked Ms. Chisholm's perception on dispersing the statues.

**Ms. Chisholm** stated that it would lose the continuity.

**Mr. Wright** stated that they could be in some of the green space, still be guarding, and looking out.

**Ms. Chisholm** stated that it would be like the Korean thing in Washington that is affective and wonderful where they are walking though a rice patty. She said she did not know if they had seen it but that is what is brought to mind. They are looking at a friendlier soldier and not one necessarily handing out chocolate. They don't want them to look like they are stalking and they want the quotes on the benches.

**Mr. Wright** stated that some people wanted the number of statues reduced from nine to five which would be Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corp, Army Air Corp, and a female figure of a uniform of your choice.

**Ms. Chisholm** stated that they are trying to represent everyone that was in the war and did serve in the war. She said there were a lot of branches that became branches after the war, but they served in that capacity, and they want to keep them recognized. They were a major part in the war.

**Mr. Williams** asked that as a sculptor in general, how Ms. Chisholm made a face that is not a generic face.

**Ms. Chisholm** stated that she would not do that because she is a portrait sculptor. She said she is working on Johnny Mercer and a life-size of Charles Frazier. It will be someone that fought in the war and not a contemporary person. She will use people that were of that era, hopefully from Chatham County.

**Mr. Williams** asked that conceptually if you think about including all of the people that were involved in World War II, how is it done in five or nine sculptures.

**Ms. Chisholm** stated that she would find someone who was in the Army Air Corp and from World War II. She said that she will make them real people because she did not make generic faces.

**Mr. Williams** asked that if you do not include a sector of our society that was in the war then how would it be addressed.

**Ms. Chisholm** stated she did not understand his question. She said that there would be diversity.

**Mr. Williams** asked if it would be Japanese-American, white... (interrupted).

**Ms. Chisholm** stated whatever is befitting of our area.

**Mr. Wright** stated that in Chatham County they are talking about whites and African-Americans and that's pretty much it. He said they did not have any Navajo Indians from Chatham County.

**Ms. Chisholm** stated that it had all been addressed and they would do extensive research on the uniforms. She is doing a statue for Johnny Mercer now and had 1930's authentic clothing flown from California in order to make the costuming authentic. The costume will be coming from the Mighty Eighth, we will have a model that is the correct size, put the model in the clothing, and she will go from that point. She is right down at City Market and invited everyone to come at anytime to see what she is doing.

**Mr. Wright** asked if Mr. Garland Weeks had just come in and asked if he lived in Texas.

**Ms. Chisholm** answered that he does. She said that they would be working on each statue separately but would fly back and forth to coordinate them. They would all have the same patina using the same person to patina them. Mr. Weeks will make sure that all of the colors are correct and the same throughout.

**Ms. Liz Sprague (Representing the Downtown Neighborhood Association and the Residents of Savannah)** stated that she was of the World War II era and thought it is wonderful to have a monument to those who fought in the war. She said it is a smashing concept and they could not do better than to get Ms. Chisholm to do the sculpting and Mr. Meyerhoff to do the concept. She trusts that they could make it fit the square and not overwhelm it which is her concern. It will be the largest monument in any of the squares in Savannah, and looking at it not in the point-of-view of honoring World War Veterans that should be done somewhere, but maintaining the integrity of the Downtown Plan and squares, and the fact that it is a very permanent project. She could tell that the Commission is aware of the problem of being overwhelming, and she supports and encourages the Commission to be very aware of it in this particular square. She said to either fit the monument to the square in proportion or put a more monumental monument in another spot.

**Mr. Wright** asked what Ms. Sprague thought about the model and if she had a chance to examine it.

**Ms. Sprague** stated that she has and from this perspective the model looked great but models generally do. She said that she can not really tell and can not judge it because she is not qualified.

**Mr. Madson** stated that erring on a side of caution in terms of down scaling the size of the globe is a great idea. He said that for posterity, if it starts getting built and its oversized then there is not much the Commission could do about it. He is not convinced that a 20 to 25 percent reduction is going to lose the legibility of land forms that you want to pop out unless they construct a one-to-one scale model as it is proposed and at a 20 to 25 percent reduction.

**Mr. Harper** asked if Mr. Madson did not think the 25 percent... (interrupted).

**Mr. Madson** stated that he is not convinced that it would totally lose legibility. He said he thinks it would be visible.

**Mr. Harper** asked if the model is to-scale.

**Mr. Vejar** answered yes; the model is to-scale. He said that the question comes that if the Commission wants a one-to-one, who is going to pay for it because they could not afford it. If they had to build a one-to-one object in the field then he could not do it.

**Mr. Wright** stated that nobody is proposing that.

**Mr. Madson** stated that it is hard to be convinced one way or another without actually seeing it at that scale. He said that a 20 percent reduction is certainly doable in this context.

**Mr. Vejar** stated that he disagrees and he guesses they are allowed to do that.

**Mr. Madson** stated that with all due respect to the men and women who wear the uniforms that are going to be represented by the branches of service through the statues, that he takes issue with it. He said that the Historic Site and Monument Commission does not just consider and approve monuments, but are also stewards of the historic Downtown Savannah squares. He is certain that other members of the Commission would agree with him that the squares are sacrosanct, and by setting a precedent of inserting all the vertical elements and the statuary, they could lose some of the genuineness of the squares. Their primary purpose are a public amenity, a public space, providing green infrastructure for the city, pedestrian circulation, and secondary in purpose for such reasons as this, as honorable as it is. It is primarily a public space and he takes issue with cluttering and busying the site with statuary which has not been done in any of the other squares. He thinks dispersing the statues around the square would go a long way toward winning the approval of the Commission.

**Mr. Vejar** asked if Mr. Madson speaks for everybody.

**Mr. Madson** stated that it is his two cents and his opinion.

**Mr. Doug Andrews** stated that he did not know if it had ever been presented to the Commission how they got to this plan. He said it is important for the Commission to hear the background about it. The Veteran's Council conducted a competition and invited designs and the Veteran's Council was then made up of 32 Veteran's organizations. With the design competition, they selected this design and this is the voice of all Chatham County Veterans and what they want to honor the World War II members with. This is their design. We all have opinions, the Commission is entitled to their opinions, and he respects their opinions. But all of the opinions are individual opinions. It does not mean that they are bad or good opinions, but it is the design that the Veterans selected in a manner suitable to honoring the greatest generation. It needs to be the greatest monument this city has. He said he is very troubled by a make weight argument about volume, that it is greater in volume than anything else. In a word it is nonsense. If you are looking at volume it made no sense to measure it that way. If you look at the individual statues and draw a perimeter around it and go to the sky to measure volume, it has no relevance to anything. With the scale being as it is, meticulously to-scale, they spent \$8,000 making it to-scale so

that the Commission would be comfortable that the globe, at less than 20 feet in height, is not overpowering. Even today, Mr. DeLorme, who is very concerned about the Owens-Thomas house when he saw it, did not express concern about it that would merit his voting no. He had some concern but he voted aye in approving it this morning. He knew that there is concern about the Owens-Thomas house being detracted by what's on the square. If you look around the square there is a beautiful parking garage that we are underneath, a wonderful façade of the Metropolitan Planning Commission, and a modern façade that it is. If I were on the Historic Review Board I wouldn't approve the façade. There is the Mariners Marine Hospital of historical significance, but it is a big building. If you look right out the window you will see the Chinese restaurant Canton building is there, and it is not exactly beautiful. This will add immense value to the square in attracting people with national attention because it is unique. As Chairman Pete Liakakis said this morning, he has been all over this country and visited virtually every large monument there is, and he saw nothing that equaled the beauty of this. If you want to make Savannah stand out and give people something to admire, it is this design.

When talking about access to pedestrians, that is part of the plan in that the sculptures have an interactive ability to walk around them, sit on the bench that the sculpture stands on, and grandpas can tell their grandchildren about their experiences as they sit among them. Or, as the heirs of the Veterans who die, their grandchildren can learn their stories. That is the concept of this. He said to talk about volume is a bit inaccurate when you look at the height of it because it is just two or three feet higher than the light poles. If you look out the window you see the limbs hanging down, it is underneath the limbs, it is not overpowering, and they ask for the Commission's approval.

**Mr. Madson** stated that if one of the primary goals of the Veterans Council is to have the largest monument possible, there are other sites available such as Daffin Park where the scale and context are much larger.

**Mr. Quinan** stated that it was addressed at the very first meeting they came to and the concept that they have now was accepted not only by Mr. Michael Brown, but also by the Committee that met before the Commission did today. He said they were in total agreement that they are there today to approve only the concept. Not the details that they are talking about, not the inches in the feet here and there, construction material or anything else, but the concept of what is here. He thanked them and said that he appreciated their vote of confidence.

**Mr. Williams** stated that the Commission was presented with scale from the MPC and that is why the Commission is addressing it. It is not to get away from the concept. He said to keep in mind that everybody on the Commission totally supports it and has said it over and over again. They are not against the monument but are trying to do as Ms. Sprague said and be conscious about the environment that it is in. It is not a question of it being a beautiful monument and their position is not meant to be diverse or combative in any way. They want to take a serious responsibility as part of the community to be a conscious.

**Mr. Quinan** stated he could appreciate the Commission's concern about the scale, but he thought Mr. Meyerhoff addressed it well and there should not be any question about it now.

**Mr. Wright** stated that he was disappointed that a little over one-year ago there were a lot of findings and recommendations and they had all been ignored. He said they added the 494, reduced the height of the globe by one-foot, and asked if they could do better than that because it was miniscule. They utterly ignored last year's recommendation.

**Mr. Vejar** stated that if Mr. Wright would look that the ramps have been removed and they reconstructed the whole inside just like the City Manager (Mr. Brown) wanted them to do. He said that Mr. Brown thought it was great after they did that. To have the Commission tell them that they had not made any changes is completely wrong.



**Mr. Wright** stated that there were two more that he overlooked. He said the inside wall of the hemisphere... (interrupted).

**Mr. Vejar** stated that they blocked out the whole inside of it. He said they could come to 55 different meetings and have 55 different changes to make each time, and by that time they would never get it made. There are people here that are pushing years and that is their whole concern. Telling them that they did not do any changes... (interrupted).

**Ms. Ricks-Brown** stated that this week marks the second anniversary death of her father who was her number one World War II hero. She said that along with the Veterans, she wanted to get it done so that as many people that are here today can be here when it is finished. When the idea was presented at first she thought it should be big, grand, and great, and thought that Daffin Park would have been the ideal place to make it as big as the Veterans wanted it to be. It was shot down; she would go with the location because it would work. She said that before coming to Savannah she searched on the internet and everything was about squares. She grew up in Tidewater, Virginia, surrounded by a military environment and wondered what was with the squares. When she arrived in Savannah the squares hit her to her heart and they are sacred. She agreed with Mr. Madson that her suggestion would be to keep the concept; she loves it and thinks it's great, but believed the 25 percent reduction should be considered to get it done. Her father was in the Philippines, one of the smaller areas that is being talked about. Her father did not want to talk much about World War II because it was very intense what the Veterans had gone through, and even though he would want the past and his comrades honored, he would also want to look toward the future in the honoring. She asked for everyone to try to work through this and hurry up to get it done because it needs to be done.

**Ms. Helen Stone** stated that the site had been approved and this is the square. She said that this is the history of Savannah and Chatham County with the squares, the history of the country, they go together, and they should be together. It is time to honor the men and women who fought in the war and she was embarrassed that they have to build their own monument. The gentlemen and ladies involved in this have met with any committee they have been asked to meet with and have worked with anybody where there were compromises to be made. If you really take a good look, the monument is not offensive and won't damage the integrity of the square because it is history on top of history. We owe it to these gentlemen and women, especially the ones that are no longer here, that we can honor them by name recognition and it is important. She said that we don't need to lose sight of that because they were there to approve a concept, the final details would be tweaked out later, can assure everyone that Mr. Brown doesn't miss a step, and she would be there to watch it get done. It is time, they did not need to waste any more time, and they don't need to let any more of the Veterans die before they get to see what they deserve.

**Mr. Wright** asked for a motion to recommend approval of the design concept.

**Mr. David White (Park and Tree Director/Technical Advisory Committee of the Savannah Historic Site and Monument Commission)** stated that the members of the TAC are more comfortable with the whole concept than they were originally, did not feel that it should be reduced any more, and were contrary to Staff's recommendation. He said he felt it had to be the size planned to get the impact of walking through it and approaching it as a monument. When you are outside, 18, 19, or even 25 feet in diameter is not that big in an outside environment. The TAC recommended approval and would hope that the Commission would consider the recommendation from the TAC.

**Mr. Williams** asked Mr. White about the objections from the last time.

**Mr. Wright** stated that this is what puzzles him. He said that last year the TAC voted unanimously to grant the Veteran's Council a continuance so they could go back and do all kinds of stuff. They did not change very much but this year it was unanimously supported... (interrupted).

**Mr. White** stated that they had made some significant changes to it. He said that part of it is that sometimes things have to sink in for a while, especially in Savannah, and you have to get used to it. There is more familiarity with it, they have met with the City Manager, they have changed the interior space, and it is shaping up with getting rid of the ramps. It is coming together as a monumental structure which is why the TAC felt that the current size is not an issue any more with the other issues having been addressed.

**Mr. Charles Frances Hern** stated he was born and raised in the City of Savannah and has been on the World War II Committee since the beginning. He said that all of the men in the presentation from World War II were from 16-years-old to about 27-years-old, and a 30-year-old man was an old man in World War II. The monument goes back 63 years and no one in Savannah had even recommended a monument. This monument is not just for the soldiers in the room who represent it but for everyone in Savannah. He worked at the shipyard before he went to the Army and they built liberty ships where women and men, blacks and whites worked, and they deserve a lot of credit. The mothers who lost men in World War II deserve credit and they should be honored in the monument. Mr. George Doerner was 16-years-old when the first American soldier from the City of Savannah was killed in World War II. He has seen this proposal go up and down with the location and it threw them back. Mr. McNeir said that the Veterans of today, one who is 90-years-old and another that is 98-years-old would like to see the monument built. He asked for the Commission's recommendation.

**Mr. Wright** stated that they needed a motion.

**Mr. Williams** stated that they had received the plans yesterday afternoon, it is not popular, and asked that if they approve the concept as presented, do they have time to go back and address scale at the next meeting. He said that the scale is part of the issue.

**Ms. Harris** stated that she told the Veterans Council she felt strongly about the scale being a part of the concept approval. She said that she would strongly suggest the Commission consider the scale now.

**Mr. Williams** stated that he received his drawings at 4:30 in the afternoon, it isn't going to be popular, but he suggests tabling it until the next meeting.

**Mr. Wright** stated that it would be a month. He asked if there was a motion to recommend approval of the design concept to City Council provided the following stipulations are met: a 20 percent reduction in the size of the globe; either one of the following, the number of statues reduced from nine to no more than five or, if they must have nine statues, disperse them out farther from the central monument into the square; and reduce the overall amount of paving by 20 percent.

**HSMC ACTION:** **Mr. Harper made a motion that the Savannah – Chatham Historic Site and Monument Commission recommend approval of the design concept to City Council provided the following stipulations are met: 20 Percent reduction in size of the globe; either reduce the number of statues from nine to no more than five; or disperse nine statues farther out in the square; and reduce the overall amount of paving by 20 percent. Mr. Madson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**Mr. Williams** asked how is that going to be... (interrupted).

A member from the audience shouted (out of order) that Staff had made a comment... (inaudible).

**Mr. Joe Cetti** asked if the Commission is supposed to be approving the concept instead of designing the monument.

**Mr. Wright** answered yes, and said that is part of it... (interrupted).

**Mr. Cetti** stated that they weren't. He said that the Commission made a motion to change it and that was not what the Commission was there for. Either accept the concept up or concept down... (interrupted).

**Mr. Wright** stated that the motion said to recommend approval of the design concept to City Council, provided the following stipulations are met. He said they would address the scale today and that's... (interrupted).

A member from the audience shouted (out-of-order) that it changed the concept.

**Mr. Joe Cetti** stated that it changed the concept.

**Mr. Wright** stated that it did not change the concept. He said the motion has been voted on, was passed, they have recourses... (interrupted).

A member from the audience spoke out-of-order and said that they do have recourse and appreciated the Commission's time... (interrupted).

**Mr. Wright** stated that they could appeal to City Council.

Members of the audience spoke out of order and said that they will.

**Mr. Wright** stated that they are welcome to do that. He said it is still the largest monument in Savannah.

(Audience members began shouting.)

**Mr. Wright** stated that they tried to compromise with them.

A member of the audience shouted (out-of-order) that it was no compromise.

**Mr. Wright** asked if it was not a compromise.

**Mr. Quinan** answered no sir.

**Mr. Wright** stated that he hadn't seen any compromise... (interrupted).

**Mr. Quinan** stated that it was not part of the conceptual approval this morning and shouldn't be this afternoon. He said that they have come with a lot of detail stuff that would be in the next phase of the approval and right now they are looking for conceptual approval only like it was this morning. That was all they asked for.

**Mr. Wright** stated that the concept is approved with the stipulations.

A member of the audience shouted out-of-order and asked where Mr. Wright was during World War II.

**Mr. Wright** stated that he was in Vietnam.

(Shouting from the audience.)

A member of the audience asked out-of-order for the Chairman to reconsider and asked for a motion to approve the concept as is rather than go into all of the other details and stipulations.

(Commissioners and audience are all having discussions at the same time... inaudible.)

**Mr. Madson** stated that he mentioned earlier the idea of a one-to-one scale mock-up. He said he was not asking or suggesting a detailed model but something made of tubular frame and fabrics. If they put together a one-to-one scale of it so the Commission could see what it would look like it is possible that they could entertain it. Without seeing it the Commission is not convinced that it would work at this scale. He is not asking for a \$200,000 detailed model but asking for something to get the impression of the size, the context, and the scale in the square.

(Shouting from the audience.)

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that they need an approval of the concept before they could go to the architect or engineer.

**Mr. Wright** stated that those who have walked out all mad saying that the Commission has not approved the concept, please be corrected. He said they have approved the concept.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that they hadn't.

**Mr. Wright** stated yes, they had.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that reducing everything by 20 percent is not approving the concept.

(Shouting and conversations from the audience.)

**Mr. Wright** stated that they could have disapproved the whole thing and that they have approved the concept.

(Multiple conversations to the Chairman from the audience.)

**Mr. Wright** answered no. He said they had the option to do that or disburse them out from the monument. They would receive it in writing to the architect and the command group of the Veteran's Council, it will be in black and white, and there will be no misunderstandings.

**Mr. Quinan** asked Mr. Wright to repeat his statement.

(Multiple conversations from Commission members and audience continue in the background.)

**Mr. Wright** stated that they would give them the motion and the listing of the conceptual 20 percent items in writing. He said that it would be hand-delivered to them early next week.

**Mr. Quinan** stated that they were looking for an approval of the conceptual design today.

**Mr. Wright** stated that their idea of the concept... (interrupted).

**Mr. Quinan** stated that the Commission took exception to what the TAC gave them.

**Mr. Wright** stated that the Commission has the authority to override the TAC Board.

**Mr. Quinan** stated that he understood that and thought they made their points as well as they did earlier. He said there is no question about the scale and they had it made to impress upon the Board and all of the people they come before that so the design would be to-scale and would be right. That was why they asked for the approval of the conceptual design only. The details and all of that comes into the next part of it.

**Mr. Wright** stated that the Commission needed to get to the scale part of it and the size of the globe today so that they would not start contracting, going down the pike, and everyone be locked into...(interrupted).

**Mr. Quinan** stated that if the City seemed to think that the size of the globe is not a problem at this point, why the Commission would want to go against it. He said the City feels that it is fine the way it is.

**Mr. Williams** stated that the City appointed the Commission as part of the community to be responsible for issues that have already been stated over and over again that are not being listened to. He said if you live in this area you would be... (interrupted).

**Mr. Quinan** stated that they have listened for three years and have come back with the best they could. He said that he thought what they have is adequate for the square... (interrupted).

**Mr. Williams** stated that he is not... (interrupted).

**Mr. Quinan** stated that it will not subtract from the square, but add to the square as the Commission has been told today.

**Mr. Wright** stated that if a one-fifth of the reduction of the size of the globe causes them all of this heartburn. He said it is not that big of a deal.

**Mr. Quinan** stated that if one-fifth was not that big of a deal then why is it such an issue with the Chairman.

**Ms. Chisholm** asked if the Commission understood that they were only asking for the globe to be three feet taller than the light post and that the globe is made of mesh; you see through it. She said they are not talking about a solid mass.

**Mr. Wright** stated that he understood.

**Mr. Williams** stated that it is not only the height but its width; it's a globe.

**Ms. Chisholm** stated that it is this big in the middle of the square and they should all go stand out there... (interrupted).

**Mr. Quinan** stated that it is tiny. He said that it is tiny in comparison... (interrupted).

**Mr. Williams** stated that all they could do is judge what they have already in existence on the squares. He said it has been addressed and did not think that one-fifth was a lot to compromise.

(A member of the audience shouted out of order.)

**Ms. Chisholm** stated that they also took out parts of the armed services.

**Mr. Williams** stated that they were just part of the community that was all they were.

**Mr. Wright** stated no, and said that they were not listening. He said that it was... (interrupted).

**Mr. Quinan** stated that they were listening very well. He said that the World War II Veterans came today with their hearts full of satisfaction after the first meeting. The Commission gave them a slap in the face by telling them that they are not worthy of what they have done, with all of the work that they have put in, and the Commission is not ready to listen to what they have to say. He thought the Commission had come in with their minds made up and that was the end of it.

**Mr. Horn** stated that the men are now up in their 60's and are 30 years behind World War II starting this whole thing. He said they have been all over what kind of monument the Commission wants. He is somewhat of a wood carver and had the same concept that they had of having a carrier of a bunch of men blown up like it is over in Iraq today. He wanted to let others see what they did in the war. What they are talking about with this concept is for everybody.

**Mr. Wright** stated that they approved the concept.

**Mr. Horn** stated that the American Marines were at one time the fifth service and were less than the Army like the Air Force. He said his uncle was captive six months before Pearl Harbor, was on the death march on Baton, and was rescued by four Savannah heroes on Luzon Island where there were 2,163 civilians; so let that register in. We have had all these obstacles thrown at us and the men are the ones that made the money to build the monument. They had a man who won the lottery that gave them some land... (interrupted).

**Mr. Wright** asked if Mr. Horn was under the impression that the Commission disapproved the monument. He said that they have a communication problem because they did not disapprove the monument.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that he understood the Commission's position and it is that they were approving a 20 percent reduction in the globe.

**Mr. Wright** stated that they were approving the concept with a 20 percent reduction in the globe... (interrupted).

**Mr. Andrews** stated that they wanted the globe 20 percent... (interrupted).

**Mr. Wright** stated that the people were saying that the Commission was disapproving the monument.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that the Commission was disapproving the monument as they proposed it.

**Mr. Wright** stated that they were approving the concept.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that it will put it smaller in height than the silly light pole. He asked if it would give anybody the impression that this is a real world split apart.

**Mr. Wright** stated that it would make it 14 ½ feet high.

(Shouting from the audience.)

**Mr. Andrews** stated exactly. He said that the lamp post were above that.

(A member of the audience shouted out-of-order that it was 15 plus.)

**Mr. Andrews** stated that it would be off-scale for that reason and the globe had to be large enough to be important.

**Mr. Harper** asked if there was any way that they could go back and undo what the Commission just did and reconsider...(interrupted).

**Mr. Andrews** stated to make a motion.

**Mr. Harper** stated that they were talking about scale. He said that at first he thought that 20 percent was going to be good. He just ran some numbers on a calculator and like they said, it would be smaller than the light post out there right now.

**Mr. Wright** stated that it would be six inches or something shorter.

**Mr. Andrews** stated exactly, so what, let's make it real.

**Mr. Harper** asked if it required another motion.

**Mr. Wright** stated that you make a motion to rescind that motion and offer up the alternative, and then the Commission would vote on whether to...(inaudible).

**Mr. Harper** made a motion to rescind the motion he made concerning the 20 percent reduction, and go with the recommendation of the TAC to have the monument approved for the World War II Veterans that are passing away as they speak. He said that was going to be his form of motion.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that City Council would not approve something they did not think is a good idea and they have the final say.

**Mr. Wright** stated that he knew that. He said that if they did not like this... (interrupted).

**Mr. Andrews** asked if they would want to be on the winning side of the argument.

**Mr. Wright** stated that if they couldn't live with a one-fifth deduction then go to City Council and... (interrupted).

**Mr. Andrews** stated that it destroys the concept of the scale they are looking for. He said the Commission wants a little globe and they want one that is sufficiently large enough, but not overpowering, to create the impression that this was the world that was at war. It's that simple and he thought Mr. Wright, as an Army veteran, would appreciate it.

**Mr. Williams** stated that there was a level of intimidation going on that he is totally uncomfortable with. He said he was not ready to participate in it.

**Mr. Harper** stated that he made a motion to rescind the motion that he had made about the 20 percent reduction after consideration and looking at the numbers. He said he believed that it is doable the way that it is, the TAC has recommended the approval of this, and he thought he ought to go with it.

**Mr. Williams** stated that he was not going to participate. He said that he was not comfortable with the whole thing.

Mr. Williams walked out of the meeting at approximately 6:00 p.m..

**Mr. Andrews** stated that's good. He said he was glad that the Veterans did not walk out on his needs.

(An audience member shouted bye to Mr. Williams.)

**Mr. Quinan** shouted (out-of-order) that a Veteran understood orders, rules, our... (interrupted).

**Mr. Andrews** stated that Mr. Williams was the one walking out. He said there is a democratic process here.

**Mr. Wright** stated to let the records show that Mr. Williams walked out.

**Mr. Madson** stated that he did not think his suggestion to create a one-to-one mock up of some element or a total monumental element put it in context so that people could see what it looks like was a bad idea. He said the model is great and helps, but actually seeing what this looks like is the only thing that can convince him that at that scale it will work.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that he did not disagree with Mr. Madson and had proposed to get a bunch of hoola-hoops or something and do a one-to-one in the square. He said he did not believe that it would give the proper perspective on it because its worlds apart and not just a round orb.

**Mr. Madson** stated that they did not have to. He said they could re-create the same geometry and volume, close it in fabric, and it would let them see... (interrupted).

**Mr. Andrews** stated that Mr. Madson had the mental capacity to see and understand what it would be without seeing it one-to-one. He said his problem with one-to-one is... (interrupted).

**Mr. Madson** stated that Mr. Andrews was commenting on his mental capacity. He said that he just stated before that designers do those kinds of things.

(A member of the audience spoke out-of-order and wanted to interject.)

**Mr. Andrews** stated that his problem is the delay that it would cause. He said they want no more delays.

**Mr. Madson** stated that it would take them a month to fabricate it.

**Mr. Harper** stated that the one-to-one mock-up in theory sounded good, but the monument being placed in the square would be stone, steel, and other things. He said that Mr. Madson was talking about putting fabric over hula-hoops. It's not going to look the same and that he did have a motion on the floor.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that they are talking about the concept and appreciated what the Commission wanted from them; to restudy it somewhat. He said if there was a motion to approve the concept and not have any numbers in it by saying 20 or 10 percent, and just say work on reducing... (interrupted).

**Mr. Wright** stated that they would not do it. He said they did not do it from the last time.

(Shouting from the audience.)

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that they had. He said a motion without any numbers or percentages in it and to tell them that the Commission wants them to further study it, then they could move forward.

**Mr. Andrews** asked if it would satisfy the Commission's concerns if they had a motion state something similar recommending approval of the concept but express the concerns about whether reduction would be appropriate, and leave it to City Council.

**Mr. Wright** stated that he had no confidence that they would do it or consider it. He said they would state they considered it and then say no.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that it was up to City Council. He said that City Council is the one who would say yes, they have the concerns and would adopt the views of Mr. David White and Mr. DeLorme. He said that the Commission is entitled to their opinions and they don't disrespect their opinions, but they are their individual



thoughts about it. He knows the Commission's role and their role is important but they are micromanaging something when they are saying 20 percent. If it is no big deal, then it is no big deal.

**Mr. Wright** stated that he was coming in under the Staff's recommendation of 25 percent or higher hoping that... (interrupted).

(A member of the audience shouted out-of-order asking who is Staff.)

**Mr. Harper** stated that he still had a motion on the floor.

**Mr. Wright** stated that there was a motion that the Commission rescind the previously passed motion and approve the petition as presented.

**Mr. Harper** stated as presented by the Technical Advisory Committee.

**HSMC ACTION:** **Mr. Harper made a motion that the Savannah – Chatham County Historic Site and Monument Commission recommend approval to City Council the recommendation of the Technical Advisory Committee. The motion was not seconded and the motion failed.**

**Mr. Wright** stated that if nobody seconds the motion, it dies. He said that the previous motion stands.

**Ms. Ricks-Brown** stated that it feels that nobody in the room is satisfied. She said that the men that will be lost by the time the monument is finished would appreciate the efforts that everyone put into it. When Mr. Harper said it came below the lamp post, she did not realize that it would be that low. She is thinking that time is of the essence and they should be able to come to a compromise that would work.

**Mr. Madson** stated that he did not see why they could not build a simple model, a mock-up, and see what it looks like in the square. He said it is a very common practice in the design field to resolve issues just like this.

**Mr. Wright** stated that it is another delay that they do not want to do. He asked about a ten percent reduction.

**Ms. Ricks-Brown** stated that she could not conceive how the Technical Advisory Committee went from the recommendation they had about the size last year, which was basically ignored except for some draining issues and a base, and then unanimously passed it today. She said it makes her wonder if the real concerns about the size, the square, and the community were taken into consideration, along with the importance of what the monument represents.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that Dr. Blood summed it up well when she said that she appreciated the scale because she envisioned a much larger overpowering globe. He said that when you say globe you think DeRenne. That globe out there from DeRenne being moved here would be too much. When you look at it being under the tree canopies and just barely above the lamp post there's nobody that can say, even Ms. Sprague did not say it was too big, she just wasn't sure about the scale. She thought it looked okay. He did not know where the concern is about the scale.

**Ms. Ricks-Brown** stated that when she looks at the model and the picture of the 100 percent size versus a 25 percent reduction, to her the 100 percent looks larger in the square than what she sees in the model.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that it is misleading because what you see in the model is an open sphere; two hemispheres. He said what was seen in the photos is a solid orb and an optical illusion with a solid orb as opposed to an open space.

**Mr. White** shouted something (out-of-order) regarding a panoramic shot showing the whole width of the square... (remainder inaudible).

**Mr. Andrews** stated that there is one important number that is being overlooked. He said when Mr. Meyerhoff explained that the square is 51 by 58, they have a plat that shows it and it can't be disputed as to the center quadrant being all they are occupying. A 13 percent footprint is all they are occupying in the center quadrant. If the number is wrong then tell him. He asked Mr. Meyerhoff if that is right.

**Mr. White** shouted (out-of-order) that it is 14 percent.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that it is not massive in design or concept and begged the Commission's indulgence.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that the concept is a world apart, a second world war, and if they reduce it by 20 percent they will have to drop it to 14 feet.

**Mr. Wright** stated 14 1/2 feet.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that there are ceilings in Savannah houses that are 14 1/2 feet. He said that he is 5'6" and if he looks at something 14'6" he will not feel like he is looking at the world globe because it would look like a ball.

**Mr. Wright** stated that it was at almost 4 feet from 18' 4" to... (interrupted).

**Mr. Andrews** stated that they want a motion to be made to increase it by 25 percent if the truth be known. He said that is the compromise and they won't ask for it to be longer.

**Mr. Wright** stated that Mr. Madson wants a sidebar with Mr. Meyerhoff.

**Mr. Madson** stated with Ms. Harris as well.

**Mr. Wright** stated in private.

**Ms. Harris** stated that she did not feel it would be appropriate to speak in private, and their conversation should be part of the public meeting.

**Mr. Madson** stated that he did not want to put Ms. Harris on the spot, but wants to ask her some questions.

**Ms. Harris** stated that it was fine.

**Mr. Madson** asked when Staff arrived at the recommendation for a 25 percent reduction, if Staff was considering the scale and the context.

**Mr. Harris** answered yes.

**Mr. Madson** stated that based on the computer models and the Photoshop image that it was felt that 25 percent would be appropriate.

**Ms. Harris** answered yes.

**Mr. Madson** asked if Staff did or did not consider the legibility of the land masses.

**Ms. Harris** stated that the consideration of the land masses was a factor because it had been brought up at public as well as private meetings. She said that Mr. Madson’s suggestion for a one-to-one mock-up would solve whether it would be an issue, but she has not seen any data to say that at 25 feet wide, for example, the smallest island shows up at six inches across. If you shrink it by 20 percent then it’s only going to be four-inches across. She has not seen proof of numbers like that. Leading from the suggestion of a one-to-one mock-up, in order to address the legibility of the land masses, it doesn’t have to be a mock-up of the globe but could be a flat piece of paper approximately 24 by 36 showing the legibility of some of the smaller land masses. It is a one-to-one concept but on a flat piece paper of a 24- by 36-inch square section of the globe.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that even if the islands are visible at 20 percent less they still believe that it shouldn’t be lower than the silly light poles out there.

**Mr. Madson** asked Mr. Andrews to let Ms. Harris finish and he asked her to speak again to the context and the scale of the overall size, and how it went into Staff’s thinking about the 25 percent reduction.

**Ms. Harris** stated that the height at 18 feet is not a real concern of Staff because there are monuments that are much higher than that. She said what is the concern is the massiveness... (interrupted).

**Mr. Madson** stated the volume and the mass.

**Ms. Harris** continued that it is the massiveness, the volume, and the width of it. She said if there is a way to reduce the width and volume of it without reducing the height, the 18 feet is a non-issue. She thought it is appropriate for it to be a tall monument; there is a history of tall monuments, but it just so happens in this particular case if the volume and mass is reduced, it does decrease the height. That is not a particular issue, but if there is a way to restructure it so it wouldn’t change without destroying the concept of the globe and make it less wide, she thought it would... (interrupted).

**Mr. Wright** stated that it wasn’t just height but it reduces the circumference also.

**Ms. Harris** said right, and said how she arrived at the 25 percent reduction was really in the other monuments... (interrupted).

**Mr. Madson** said the comparable size.

**Ms. Harris** continued that Oglethorpe Square is a medium size square, it’s not the biggest square, and not the smallest square, but a good size square in the middle of the range. She said it is appropriate to compare it to the other monuments around. She said the 25 percent reduction still made it the largest monument in any square and she felt that is appropriate. That is where that number came from.

**Mr. Quinan** asked who is “the Staff” and if there are experts on this.

**Ms. Harris** stated that it is her.

(Members of the audience make comments out-of-order regarding Staff.)

**Mr. Wright** said and Ms. Beth Reiter.

**Mr. Madson** stated that Staff is trained in Historic Preservation and Urban Design... (interrupted).

**Mr. Quinan** stated that she is making her own decisions.

**Mr. Madson** stated with issues dealing with urban context and historic preservation, Ms. Harris is well-qualified to make the recommendations, which is why she is appointed to the Commission.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that they demean no one here and do not intend to. He asked the Commission to please understand the passions that are being expressed and that they are not intended as disrespect but frustration and passion that the Commission is hearing.

**Mr. Wright** stated that the Commission did not disapprove... (interrupted).

**Mr. Andrews** stated that the project has been under works for at least 15 years and they are now talking about more delay. He said that even two minutes is too long because if you look in the obituaries, every day you will see two or three World War II Veterans dying and we need to move on.

**Mr. Wright** asked how ten percent would work.

(Multiple conversations are being held by members of the audience.)

(Mr. Meyerhoff approaches the dais and proceeds to hold a private conversation with Commissioners. Background discussion is taking place at the same time that the meeting discussion is taking place)

**Ms. Harris** stated to Mr. Meyerhoff that he cannot have private conversations with the Commissioners.

**Mr. Wright** asked if they were not willing to do anything.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that the model was done exactly to-scale and shows that it is not overpowering. If ten percent would satisfy the Commission then they are close enough to ask if the world would come to an end if it is approved as is.

**Mr. Madson** stated that Mr. Meyerhoff shared a rescaled sketch of what it would look like with a 20 percent reduction in-scale to a 5'8" human. He said the line represents where the 20 percent reduction would be.

(Members of the audience hold multiple private conversations.)

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that the 20 percent reduction would be... (remainder inaudible due to private discussion with Commission members).

**Mr. Wright** stated that he offered ten percent which would be half of that.

(Mr. Meyerhoff continues with private conversation...inaudible.)

**Mr. Wright** stated that they were directed to reduce it and asked how much they would reduce it.

(Mr. Meyerhoff continues with private conversation...inaudible.)

**Mr. Andrews** stated that Winston Churchill said never surrender; never, never, never, never surrender.

**Mr. Wright** stated that maybe they are getting somewhere.

**Ms. Ricks-Brown** asked if they... (inaudible due to rattling paper on the microphone).

(Mr. Meyerhoff continues with private conversation...inaudible.)

**Mr. Wright** asked if reducing it by 20 percent would not permit that.

(Mr. Meyerhoff continues with private conversation...inaudible.)

**Mr. Madson** stated that if they are going to agree to make a new motion without... (interrupted). He said the Commission is discussing rescinding the motion and having a new motion that does not specify a percentage of reduction but requires a reduction to be determined. At the same time it would be at the Veterans discretion to provide other models, documentation, and even consider the idea of a one-to-one mock-up with some level of reduction not being specified. The motion would leave it open for future discussion and they would pass or approve the concept itself. The petitioner would come back to the Commission to respond to any further reduction.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that he feels that is fair and reasonable.

**Mr. Madson** asked if it is something they could live with.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that with the details they would have to bring it back. He said it would have to go through the City Building and the Utilities Departments because they are trying to get to the next step. He is a volunteer and they need to hire a structural engineer and/or an architect to design it and select the materials. That is what they are trying to get to... (remainder inaudible).

**Mr. Madson** stated that the Commission is trying to make the compromise with them and trying to work with them.

(Mr. Meyerhoff continues with private conversation...inaudible.)

**Ms. Ricks-Brown** asked if everything regarding the statues that had been suggested was covered or should they say anything about the statues out right now. She asked the Commission what they thought.

**Mr. Madson** asked if the statues are part of the conceptual design.

**Mr. Wright** answered yes.

**Mr. Madson** stated that the Commission needs to address it. He said the suggestion to disburse them or reduce the numbers should stand in the motion.

**Mr. Wright** stated that the motion is revised as follows. Be it moved that the Historic Site and Monument Commission will recommend approval of the design concept to City Council provided the petitioner reduces further the size of the globe.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated studies the reduction.

**Mr. Wright** asked about the term “studies.” He said it would read that the petitioner reduces further the size of the globe. The study is a sham because they have no intention of doing any reducing.

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated no. He said they don’t understand... (interrupted).

**Mr. Wright** stated that they say it is impossible... (interrupted).

**Mr. Meyerhoff** stated that they have to see whether they can get the... (inaudible).

**Mr. Wright** stated that the motion reads that he asks for a motion to recommend approval of the design concept to City Council, provided the petitioner reduces further the size of the globe. He said regarding the number of statues: this is a choice, be reduced from nine to no more than five, or, if they must have nine statues that they be disbursed further away from the center of the globe.

**Mr. Quinan** shouted (out-of-order) from the audience for the Commission to do them a favor and tell them which ones they don't want so when he goes to...(interrupted).

**Mr. Wright** stated that it is their choice.

(Members of the audience began shouting.)

**Mr. Wright** stated that this is the third time that they were not listening. He said it is either/or, and if they want the nine they could keep the nine but move them out further from...(interrupted).

**Mr. Andrews** stated that if they disbursed them that it increases the footprint.

**Ms. Chisholm** (initially inaudible...) said that if they take three of them and away from the central core, placing the woman in the corner and someone else in another corner, they are being taken away from the central field of the monument and lessening their importance by taking them away from the unit. She did not understand why they could not leave them there and let it all be decided (together). The Commission is not eliminating any of the structure by taking three sculptures out of the middle.

**Mr. Madson** stated with all due respect he is being generous by approving or agreeing to keep the statues in there. He said he does not think they should be there at all.

(Members of the audience began shouting; a member of the audience shouts out-of-order if that is Mr. Madson's opinion.)

**Mr. Madson** stated that he gave his reasons earlier if they were listening. He said that he very carefully explained why he felt that way but is willing to entertain keeping the statuary there. This is the compromise that...(interrupted).

**Mr. Andrews** stated that they appreciate the modified motion and if that is the Commission's final decision, to go with the modified motion and it would be reviewed later.

**Mr. Wright** asked if everyone understood the motion.

(A member of the audience shouted out-of-order to repeat it one more time.)

**Mr. Wright** stated that he was asking for a motion from the Commission to recommend approval of the design concept to City Council, provided the petitioner reduces further the size of the globe. He said they were not describing a percentage at 20 percent but simply reduce it further. There is a choice: reduce the number of statues from nine to five, or, if you have to have the nine to move them out from the globe. Show the Commission whatever...(interrupted).

**Mr. Andrews** stated that it is a practical policy matter for the Board... (interrupted).

**Mr. Wright** continued, and reducing the overall amount of paving by 20 percent or just reducing the overall amount.

**Mr. Andrews** stated for the stature of the Board that they would not prefer to say it is their sense that there should be some reduction, and it is their “sense” that the statues should be reduced or something of that nature.

**Mr. Wright** stated that it is absolutely nothing. He said the Commission would be utterly dismissed. He asked if there is a second.

**Ms. Ricks-Brown** stated that she wanted to discuss the motion and her problem at this point is that the men and ladies were like a brotherhood and sisterhood. She said even when the brothers did not want to call it brotherhood and sisterhood they were still together. She wants a reduction in the size of the separated globes, understands the concern about the square and visualization, but the whole thing with the World War II Veterans is that they stand by one another. It is a sticky point with them, she understood what the Commission was saying and she agrees with it, but there is a generational strength about them. Even when there was racial and gender divides they still stood together in a force against wrong and evil and she is shaky on the part about pulling out three because it is like a family of Veterans. She asked what three or four do you pull out.

**Mr. Wright** stated not to pull out three, to keep all nine. He said if you keep all nine to move them out.

**Ms. Ricks-Brown** stated that she understands what they are saying about the park but she thinks that this particular monument, out of all of them there, is not one they want to pick three or four to separate. She said that is her concern about this one.

**Mr. Wright** stated to go with the other option to keep all nine but just disburse them out. He said it is their choice.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that then they wouldn't keep them in the center quadrant. He said the Commission wants them to use other parts of the square and it just seems to be inconsistent with the Commission's concerns.

**Mr. Wright** stated that they could keep five in the center quadrant and get some diversity by putting the others out in other places. He said he was not talking about the end of the square. He would like to see...(interrupted).

(Audience members are having private discussions.)

**Ms. Ricks-Brown** asked Mr. Madson if he would reconsider just having them around the globe for this one particular monument because of what the brotherhood and sisterhood of World War II stood for. She asked if it is a problem.

**Mr. Madson** stated what it symbolized is not a problem at all but the location of it. He said it sets a precedent and this square is more important to maintain the integrity of the open space and its public amenity and not cluttering it. Without actually seeing what it would look like and how pedestrian circulation is going to work is difficult for him to image that it won't clutter up the square. It is too small for where it is proposed and Staff made a similar recommendation.

**Mr. Wright** stated that he was hoping to see some spirit of compromise on the part of the petitioner but, apparently, there is not going to be any. He said they further compromised in eliminating the 20 percent, and this is directive in nature provided they further reduce the size of the globe. This is not prescribing a percentage. He knows they will come back and take one-foot off the way they did last time and that is progress. He did not want anyone leaving thinking they disapproved the monument. The Council can tell you that it is not what the Commission has done.

**Mr. Madson** stated that Ms. Person has asked that the background talking could be reduced for the sake of recording.

**Mr. Wright** said it is interfering. He asked if Mr. Andrews understood the Commission's position.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that they came expecting...(interrupted).

**Mr. Wright** stated 100 percent approval of everything.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that some people say that half a loaf is better than nothing all and they will leave with some portion of the loaf. There will be further reviews and people will have continuing input as to what it should be, and they would get guidance about what reductions are necessary to satisfy every level of approval.

**Mr. Wright** stated that the next review is not concept but specific design so they want to see the canteens on the soldiers down to that level of detail.

**Mr. Quinan** stated that they seemed to be dealing with a whole lot of detail today and they were only present for the approval of the conceptual design. He said they put a lot time in the detail that will be addressed at the next level when they come back.

**Mr. Wright** stated that it did get into a lot of detail, which it shouldn't have, but with something as fundamental as the size of the thing it is not a detail. He asked if the Commission had voted on it and said that a motion was on the table.

**HSMC ACTION:** Mr. Madson made a motion that the Savannah – Chatham County Historic Site and Monument Commission recommend approval of the design concept to City Council provided that the petitioner reduce further the size of the globe; that the number of statues be reduced from nine to no more than five, or if there are nine statues that they be disbursed away from the globe and reduce the overall amount of paving. There was no second and the motion failed.

**Ms. Ricks-Brown** stated that she has a problem with the statues. She said that she understood the power of what they are trying to do around the globe.

**Mr. Harper** stated that the statues add to the continuity of the globe and the individuals being represented by the statues. He said the Commission should tell them which statues they don't want but he would not be the one to tell the Merchant Marines, the Army, or the Navy that they couldn't be in there.

**Mr. Wright** stated that they have been given a choice. He said that all nine could be kept and he would be happy for them to keep all nine.

**Mr. Harper** stated that he did not see how it would set a precedent because any monument still has to come before the TAC, the Commission, and the City Council. He said the gentlemen have worked hard on it, that the TAC is made up of people smarter than him and that is why they are on the Committee. He believed the Commission should go with their recommendation.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that Ms. Ricks-Brown is concerned about the statues. He suggested that the Commission break the motion in half and do two separate motions about the approved concept subject to possible reduction, and the second motion about the statues. He thought the Commission could move forward then.

**Mr. Wright** stated that they are not directing that the number of statues be reduced from nine to five.

**Ms. Ricks-Brown** stated that they discussed the placement of them or choosing four to be somewhere else separate. She said in their minds and what they have been through is a different concept.



**Mr. Wright** stated that out of the nine statues that five could stay clustered around the globe and back off the other four. He said if they don't get a second then the whole meeting collapses.

**Ms. Ricks-Brown** stated that if they don't get a second on it then the suggestion about breaking it into two parts and voting on them separately might get something done today to go forward.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that way the Commission could go on record as to what the issue is.

**Mr. Wright** suggested making a motion without considering the statues.

**Ms. Harris** stated that Mr. Madson would have to agree to amend his motion.

**Mr. Madson** stated that he could agree.

**Mr. Wright** asked for a motion to recommend approval of the design concept to City Council provided the petitioner reduces further the size of the globe.

**HSMC ACTION:** **Mr. Madson made a motion that the Savannah – Chatham County Historic Site and Monument Commission recommend approval of the design concept of the globe to City Council, provided that the scale of the globe is reduced. Ms. Ricks-Brown seconded the motion. Mr. Wright did not vote, Mr. Williams was absent, and Mr. Harper was opposed. The motion passed 2 to 1.**

**HSMC ACTION:** **Mr. Madson made a motion that the Savannah – Chatham County Historic Site and Monument Commission recommend approval of the dispersing the statues 15 to 20 feet from the globe to less formal positions throughout the square, with five or six of the statues close to the globe. There was no second to the motion and the motion failed.**

**Mr. Andrews** asked if the original vote actually had a motion to rescind when Mr. Williams was present. He said for the record the Commission might want to do that so it is clear to everybody because the two last issues...(interrupted).

**Mr. Harper** stated that he thought he did that.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that he did not know that it was ever voted on.

**Ms. Harris** stated that Mr. Andrews is right that it was not formally rescinded because it did not receive...inaudible).

**Mr. Andrews** stated for clarification that it might be better to do it or state that it is implied.

**Ms. Madson** stated that it would be a good idea to formally rescind it.

**HSMC ACTION:** **Ms. Ricks-Brown made a motion that the Savannah – Chatham County Historic Site and Monument Commission rescind the original motion. Mr. Madson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**Mr. Wright** stated that the statues are not being addressed and when it comes to the design phase there would be some static. He said they all knew what he wanted.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that it was another opportunity to excel.

**Mr. Harper** stated that he did not think that they voted on the last motion.

**Mr. Madson** stated that it did not carry.

**Mr. Wright** stated that it did not carry because there was not a second.

**Mr. Andrews** asked what was the verdict on it.

**Mr. Wright** stated that it was not addressed and they will take another look at it when it is presented at the design phase.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that it appears the Commission passed a motion approving the concept provided the petitioner reduces the globe by some amount.

**Mr. Wright** stated that is correct. He said they would get it to him in writing and to the architect, as well as the commander of the Veterans Council. The reduction of the overall amount of paving is agreed to and the Commission did not specify an amount.

**Mr. Andrews** stated in terms of paving they have undone the concrete slab and would be sand to make it pervious. He said there would be brick pavers that are donated bricks.

**Mr. Wright** asked Ms. Harris if there is a general agreement regarding the square footage and if they take the bowing out.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that they eliminated the bowing and the only bowing that remained under discussion was to bow it out enough to place a plaque, but they have agreed to remove the bow completely.

**Mr. Vejar** spoke out-of-order...(inaudible).

**Mr. Andrews** stated that any paving would only be within the center quad.

**Ms. Ricks-Brown** asked if they would call the Veterans that stormed out because the Commission did not want anyone getting upset and ending up in the emergency room. She said to let them know immediately the outcome of today.

**Mr. Wright** stated that the Commission did not disapprove the concept but approved the concept from the beginning. He said they had great pains over the notion of reducing it by one-fifth and have further compromised. Still, the word would apparently get out that the Commission disapproved the concept which was never done in the first place.

**Mr. Andrews** stated that on behalf of all of the Veterans, for the Commission to understand that their being upset is frustration coming forward, and they don't mean disrespect. He said they appreciate the Democratic processes and the rights to have a hearing to go through the process. They did not intend disrespect toward anyone and he thanked the Commission for their indulgence.

**Mr. Wright** stated that there was no disrespect perceived.

**V. MEETING MINUTES - February 7, 2008**

**HSMC ACTION:** Mr. Madson made a motion that the Savannah – Chatham County Historic Site and Monument Commission approve the minutes as submitted. Ms. Ricks-Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Ms. Harris stated that she would not be present for the June meeting. She said that if a petition, came in for the June meeting that Ms. Beth Reiter would be the Staff person to contact.

Mr. Madson stated that he spoke to the Chairman and Ms. Harris earlier to announce that he would be putting in his resignation for the Commission after the July meeting and it would be his last service on the Commission.

Mr. Wright stated that Mr. Madson has been a wonderful Commissioner and a great asset.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Savannah - Chatham County Historic Site and Monument Commission, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen Harris  
Preservation Planner

**EH/jnp**