



S A V A N N A H - C H A T H A M C O U N T Y
HISTORIC SITE & MONUMENT COMMISSION

Arthur A. Mendonsa Hearing Room
November 5, 2009 4:00 p.m.
Final Agenda

Regular Meeting November 5, 2009

HSMC Members Present: Phillip Williams, Acting Chairman
Walt Harper
Mary Soule
Adrienn Mendonca
Eli Karatassos

HSMC Member Not Present: Gordon B. Smith

MPC Staff Present: Ellen Harris, Preservation Planner
Julie Yawn, Systems Analyst
Mary E. Mitchell, Administrative Assistant

I. Call to Order and Welcome

1. Mr. Williams called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

2. October 1, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Attachment: HSMC Minutes 10-01-09.pdf

Board Action:

Approve the minutes of the meeting of October 1, 2009. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Walt Harper

Second: Mary Soule

Walt Harper - Aye

Eli Karatassos - Aye

Adrienn Mendonca - Aye

Mary Soule	- Aye
Phillip Williams	- Aye

III. Regular Agenda

3. C-091008-39746-2 Chatham Artillery Monument- Iraq Plaque Addition

Attachment: Location Map.pdf
Attachment: Photographs.pdf
Attachment: Staff Recommendation.pdf
Attachment: Text.pdf

Present for the petition were Dr. Frank Rossiter, past president, and Mr. Bernard Lowenthal, current president.

Ms. Harris gave the staff report.

NATURE OF REQUEST: The petitioner is requesting approval to add a 30" x 56" granite ground slab to the existing Chatham Artillery Monument commemorating the Chatham Artillery Iraqi service.

FINDINGS: The theme falls under the military history and there is a direct local focus. The slab will be located within the currently enclosed fence. One slab is already within the fence on the north side of the monument and the petitioner has confirmed that the second slab will be located on the south side of the monument. The existing slab consists of two pieces of granite and the new slab will consist of one piece of granite with the same measurements. The Commission has already received a copy of the text which provides the overview of the Chatham Artillery service in Iraq. It is anticipated that there will be additional commemoration for the Afghanistan service once this is completed and will be on a separate plaque. The size of the proposed font will be 2.75" (title) and .75" (text).

FUNDING: It is estimated that the funding will be \$1,000 and has been fully secured. The petitioner has requested that the escrow payment be waived.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval providing that the petitioner coordinates with the City Engineer to make sure that no utilities or other areas are damaged during installation.

Mr. Harper asked if a part of this is to add the past president on the monument and will they need to come back every year to do so.

Ms. Harris answered no.

Mr. Karatassos wanted to know if this could be all inclusive and not be limited only to Iraq.

Dr. Rossiter stated that the existing monument has a history of Chatham Artillery participation in vary sundry wars encounters up to the time that is being requested. The history of Afghanistan will be updated once it is completed. Hopefully, in future years there will be minimal input. They now only want to update through the Iraq service as their unit has completed its tour in Iraq.

Ms. Mendonca wanted to know where the text would be placed on the granite monument.

Dr. Rossiter stated that the text presently on the monument is on the north side and the new text will be on the south side.

Mr. Harper questioned whether this would be a memorial to any soldiers that lost their lives during the conflict.

Dr. Rossiter explained that this would only show the soldiers' actual participation; where they were and the services they provided. Luckily, they have not had any lives lost from the National Guard unit. In May 2011, they will celebrate their 225th anniversary.

HSMC ACTION: Mr. Karatassos made a motion that the Savannah - Chatham County Historic Site and Monument Commission approve the petition as submitted and recommended by staff. Mr. Harper seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Board Action:

Approval. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Eli Karatassos

Second: Walt Harper

Walt Harper - Aye

Eli Karatassos - Aye

Adrienn Mendonca - Aye

Mary Soule - Aye

Phillip Williams - Aye

4. C-091021-55322-2 GHS Scarbrough Marker

Attachment: Staff Recommendation.pdf

Attachment: Text and Supporting Documentation.pdf

Attachment: Location Map.pdf

Present for the petition were Mr. Will Hanley of the Georgia Historical Society and Mr. Tony Pizzo, Executive Director, Ships of the Sea Museum.

Ms. Harris gave the Staff report.

NATURE OF REQUEST: The petitioner is requesting approval that a Georgia Historical Marker be located in the tree lawn in front of the Ships of the Sea Maritime Museum on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

FINDINGS: The theme falls under Arts and Humanities and commemorates historical and architectural significance of the William Scarbrough house. The proposed site and tree lawn are on public property. The exact location has been left to the discretion of the City.

DESIGN: The proposed design is the standard Georgia Historical Society (GHS) marker design.

COST: The estimated cost is \$3,000. The funds have been fully secured. GHS administers the Georgia Historical Marker program and assumes responsibility for the repair and replacement of all markers. Therefore, they have requested that the escrow payment be waived which is typical.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the petition as submitted and that the petitioner coordinate with the City Engineer to ensure that no utilities or damages occur during installation.

PETITIONER'S COMMENTS:

Mr. Hanley said they will be happy to invite City Engineering to come to the site and they will show them their proposed locations. They are looking at a site immediately in front of the building or immediately to the left of the building.

Mr. Karatassos asked Mr. Hanley if there would be a landscaped area or would it be at the sidewalk.

Mr. Hanley answered that it will be a landscaped area, but they will not cut into the sidewalk.

Ms. Soule wanted to know if the marker would be in the tree lawn.

Mr. Hanley stated it will be placed between the Ships of the Sea Museum's garden wall and the City's sidewalk. It will be two-sided with identical text.

Ms. Soule asked if this is private or public property.

Mr. Hanley answered that he believes it is City's property and when they meet with the City Engineering, this will be addressed.

Mr. Williams said he assumed the strip of grass is approximately two feet.

Mr. Pizzo answered that it is approximately four and one-half (4 1/2) feet of space between the garden wall and sidewalk. The area where they want to place the marker is landscaped with a boxwood hedge which actually is concaved and touches both sides of the sidewalk; a grassy area is in the center which will be the perfect location for the marker. This does not obstruct the front view of the museum. The marker will be parallel with the sidewalk.

The dedication is being proposed for May 20, 2010.

HSMC ACTION: Mr. Karatassos made a motion that the Savannah-Chatham County Historic Site and Monument Commission approve the petition as recommended by staff. Ms. Soule seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Board Action:

Approval - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Eli Karatassos

Second: Mary Soule

Walt Harper - Aye

Eli Karatassos - Aye

Adrienn Mendonca - Aye

Mary Soule - Aye

Phillip Williams - Aye

IV. Other Business

5. Joint Meeting

Ms. Harris reported that on Tuesday, November 17, 2009, the Historic Site and Monument Commission will have a special joint meeting with the TAC at 10:00 a.m. in the Arthur Mendonsa Hearing Room.

V. Adjournment

6. Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Commission, Mr. Williams adjourned the meeting at 4:23 p.m..

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen Harris
Preservation Planner

EH:mem