



Savannah - Chatham County Historic Site & Monument Commission

Arthur A. Mendonsa Hearing Room - 112 East State Street
May 4, 2023 4:00 PM
FINAL Agenda

May 4, 2023 Historic Sites and Monument Commission Meeting

I. Call to Order and Welcome

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. Approve March 2, 2023 HSMC Meeting Minutes

[📎 03.02.23 MEETING MINUTES.pdf](#)

Motion

Approve March 2, 2023 HSMC Meeting Minutes as presented.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Sean Mannion

Second: Eileen Baker

Kristopher Monroe

- Abstain

Sean Mannion

- Aye

Lisa D. Watson

- Aye

Eileen Baker

- Aye

Ashley Rainge

- Not Present

Catherine D. Kostilnik, PhD

- Aye

III. Regular Agenda

2. Petition of Kewan Drayton | 23-001381-PA | 1305 Barnard Street | Mural

[📎 Staff Report -23-001381-PA 1305 Barnard St..pdf](#)

[📎 Staff Research- 1305 Barnard St.pdf](#)

[📎 Submittal Packet- 1305 Barnard St..pdf](#)

Ms. Caitlin Chamberlain presented the staff report. The applicant is requesting approval for an installation of a mural on the property located at 1305 Barnard Street. The mural is proposed to be located on the façade that faces Henry Street and will cover a non-historic painted sign. It will be the full size of the wall and painted with high-quality exterior paints. The proposed theme represents Savannah's diversity and love of the city.

Per the applicant, "The Mailbox Café Community Mural is an art piece incorporating the love for our City's culture and diverse population." The original design has been modified from the first submittal which would have qualified as a sign rather than a mural because it included the business name. But the design has since been modified as originally shown in the submittal packet and staff found that the mural still could stand on its

own.

1305 Barnard Street was built in 1965, is a non-contributing resource, and currently functions as a mailbox café. The artist is Zay Hutchins a local artist and Savannah State University alumnus. With regard to materials, the artists will use Behr ultra stain blocking paint and primer and vandal guard anti-graffiti coating.

Staff recommends approval of the mural at 1305 Barnard Street as requested because the public art project meets the standards in the Master Plan and Guidelines for Markers, Monuments, and Public Art.

PETITIONER COMMENTS:

Mr. Kewan Drayton stated he wants to bring a vibrance to the area with the mural. A lot of their customers are SCAD students that come to the area to buy drinks and ship their packages. He stated that a lot of the students mentioned that the side of the building would be a great place for a mural. He mentioned that they also offer luggage storage and thought the mural would give tourists a good photo opportunity. This mural would bring attention to the business as well as color up the City.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mr. Sean Mannion commended the Applicant for taking the effort to list the proper type of paint that would be used.

Ms. Lisa Watson mentioned she was happy to see a Savannah State Alumni paint the mural.

Motion

The Board recommends approval of the mural at 1305 Barnard Street as requested because the public art project meets the standards in the Master Plan and Guidelines for Markers, Monuments, and Public Art.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Sean Mannion

Second: Catherine D. Kostilnik, PhD

Kristopher Monroe	- Abstain
Sean Mannion	- Aye
Lisa D. Watson	- Aye
Eileen Baker	- Aye
Ashley Rainge	- Not Present
Catherine D. Kostilnik, PhD	- Aye

3. Petition of First Bryan Baptist Church, Georgia Benton | 23-001824-MON | Monument, Part I

[☞ Staff Report- 23-001824-MON Rev. Andrew Bryan Bust.pdf](#)

[☞ Submittal Packet- Rev. Andrew Bryan Bust.pdf](#)

[☞ Staff Research - Rev. Andrew Bryan Bust.pdf](#)

Ms. Caitlin Chamberlain presented the staff report. The Applicant is requesting approval of a monument application, Part I: Theme, Location, and Preliminary Design, for the creation and installation of a five foot eight inches tall bronze bust of Reverend Andrew Bryan in Yamacraw Square.

Per the applicant, “the proposed bronze bust, rendered from approximately mid-chest up and positioned upon

a pedestal, is to be located on the east side within Yamacraw Square, facing west into the plaza towards an array of narrative bronze plaques. Yamacraw Square lies directly in front of First Bryan Baptist Church.”

The Applicant provided a digital mockup of where the bust would be facing. There is no other such monument commemorating Reverend Andrew Bryan. The historic first Bryan Baptist Church is an African American church organized 12 years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence by Reverend Andrew Bryan formerly enslaved in 1788. Considered to be the mother church of Black Baptists, the site was purchased in 1793 and to date is one of the oldest continuous parcels of real estate owned by African Americans in the United States.

Staff recommends that the Historic Site and Monument Commission recommend approval to City Council for the application of Part I: Theme, Location, and Preliminary Design for the creation of a bronze bust of Reverend Andrew Bryan, to be installed in Yamacraw Square, as requested because the project meets the standards in the Master Plan and Guidelines for Markers, Monuments and Public Art.

Mr. Sean Mannion asked if the cost was a part of this phase.

Ms. Chamberlain stated the Applicant did provide a cost breakdown in the application, but it's not required for this phase.

PETITIONER COMMENTS:

Ms. Ellie Isaacs, Preservation Consultant for Petitioner stated that based on the pads and the plaques that are already in the square it would make more sense for the bust to face the way it is. She also indicated that there is the possibility of another bust being added in the future.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Ryan Jarles spoke on behalf of the Historic Savannah Foundation expressing their support of the bust.

Ms. Georgia Benton stated that she is the historian for the First Black Baptist Church and a part of the Yamacraw Restoration. She went on to say that this was a divine idea and looks forward to the addition of future busts.

BOARD COMMENTS:

The Board supported the petition.

Motion

The Historic Site and Monument Commission recommend approval to City Council for the application of Part I: Theme, Location, and Preliminary Design for the creation of a bronze bust of Reverend Andrew Bryan, to be installed in Yamacraw Square, as requested because the project meets the standards in the Master Plan and Guidelines for Markers, Monuments and Public Art.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Sean Mannion

Second: Catherine D. Kostilnik, PhD

Kristopher Monroe	- Abstain
Sean Mannion	- Aye
Lisa D. Watson	- Aye
Eileen Baker	- Aye
Ashley Rainge	- Not Present
Catherine D. Kostilnik, PhD	- Aye

4. Nominating Committee to Vote for Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary

The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers:

Mr. Kristopher Monroe is nominated for Chairman

Ms. Lisa D. Watson is nominated for Vice Chair

Ms. Catherine Kostilnik is nominated for Secretary

Motion

Nominating Committee motioned to approve the slate of officers as presented.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Eileen Baker

Second: Sean Mannion

Kristopher Monroe	- Aye
Sean Mannion	- Aye
Lisa D. Watson	- Aye
Eileen Baker	- Aye
Ashley Rainge	- Not Present
Catherine D. Kostilnik, PhD	- Aye

5. Technical Advisory Committee Discussion

The Board engaged in a discussion about the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and its purpose. It was determined that many of the positions listed in the rules no longer existed and no appointments had been made. The Board discussed plans to remove the TAC from a future version of the Master Plan and Guidelines.

Mr. Sean Mannion made a motion to withdraw the TACs review of projects, seconded by Ms. Lisa Watson.

Motion

Withdraw Technical Advisory Committee

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Sean Mannion

Second: Lisa D. Watson

Kristopher Monroe	- Abstain
Sean Mannion	- Aye
Lisa D. Watson	- Aye
Eileen Baker	- Aye
Ashley Rainge	- Not Present
Catherine D. Kostilnik, PhD	- Aye

6. Square Naming Application Process

Mr. Kristopher Monroe began the discussion of the Square Naming application process. He informed the Board that the City of Savannah is currently in the process of taking applications for the naming. There are only

two names that have gone through but the City has received 100s of emails, but they aren't a part of the process since it's not a full application. The deadline for the application is May 15, 2023. The applications will go before the Park and Tree Commission in July and then come before this Board in August.

V. Adjournment

[7. Next Meeting: June 1, 2023 at 4 PM- 112 East State Street: Mendonsa Hearing Room](#)

[8. Adjourn](#)

The meeting adjourned at 5:09

The Chatham County - Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission provides meeting minutes which are adopted by the respective Board. Verbatim transcripts of minutes are the responsibility of the interested party.