



Savannah - Chatham County Historic Site & Monument Commission

Chatham County Commission Chambers, 124 Bull Street, 2nd Floor
January 2, 2020 4:00 P.M.
MINUTES

JANUARY 2, 2020 SAVANNAH - CHATHAM COUNTY HISTORIC SITE & MONUMENT COMMISSION

Members Present: Dr. Nicholas Henry, Chair
Kristopher Monroe, Vice-Chairman
Sean Mannion
Lisa Watson

Members Absent:: Thomas Gensheimer

MPC Staff Present: Leah Michalak, Director of Historic Preservation
Ryan Jarles, Cultural Resources Planner
Bri Finau, Administrative Assistant

I. Call to Order and Welcome

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

[1. Approve December 5, 2019 Meeting Minutes](#)

[📎 12-05-2019 Minutes.pdf](#)

Motion

Approve December 5, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Sean Mannion

Second: Kristopher Monroe

Thomas Gensheimer - Not Present

Dr. Nicholas Henry - Aye

Kristopher Monroe - Aye

Alicia Blakely - Not Present

Sean Mannion - Aye

Lisa D. Watson - Aye

III. Regular Agenda

[2. Petition of Kara Adoff | 19-007044-PA | 1930 Montgomery Street | Mural](#)

☉ [Application - 1930 Montgomery Street 19-007044-PA.pdf](#)

☉ [Submittal Packet - 1930 Montgomery Street 19-007044-COA.pdf](#)

☉ [COA - 1930 Montgomery Street 16-000126-PA.pdf](#)

☉ [COA - 1930 Montgomery Street 15-005512-PA.pdf](#)

☉ [19-007044-PA Recommendation.pdf](#)

☉ [AERIAL MAP 19-007044-PA.pdf](#)

Mr. Ryan Jarles presented the petitioner's request of approval for a mural to be located at 1930 Montgomery Street. The mural will be painted onto a CMU block wall of a non-contributing building on which there is an existing mural; the mural will replace the existing as per the previous approval for a rotating mural at this location [15-005512-PA]. The proposed mural will be 40'-0" wide and 25'-0" tall.

On January 7, 2016 the Board approved the site and concept of a rotating mural at 1930 Montgomery Street with the condition that all murals at the site must come before the Historic Site and Monument Commission for approval. [15-005512-PA]

On February 4, 2016 the Board approved a mural at the site with the conditions that: 1. Paint type and other materials are provided for staff approval prior to installations; 2. Details about the removal process are provided; 3. Examples of the previous works of art are provided. [16-000126-PA]

The standards of the Historic Site and Monument Commission Guidelines for Markers, Monuments and Public Art apply. The purpose of regulating murals is to ensure the continued visual aesthetic of the community, by establishing a process for compatible artistic and creative expression through murals in appropriate locations and designs. The review criteria seek to establish guidance as to the compatibility and appropriateness of the theme, location and design of murals, with minimal intrusion into artistic expression and/or the substantive, personal or social/political expressive content of the artwork. Murals will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The theme of the mural should be respectful of the greater context of the community, including historic and socio-cultural contexts.

Per the applicant: The mural will be titled "Be Happy". The artist states the mural's goal is to spread love, unity, and strength to the community. He goes on to express that he will achieve this by utilizing bright colors and fun imagery which speak to the city of Savannah and the surrounding neighborhood/community that the mural will be located in. The imagery will include but will not be limited to bright flowers, whimsical characters and dogs, the coastal scene, holding hands, heart symbols, and music notes. There's no official design; that can be a condition.

The focal point of the mural will be the verbiage "Be Happy" in the center; the mural will be created surrounding the words. The mural is not proposed to advertise any illegal activities under the laws of Georgia or the United States. The site and wall have been approved for murals and it was determined that murals at this site, due to the non-contributing nature of the structure, would not detract from character defining features; it will enhance and complement. The mural will be respectful to the greater context of the neighborhood. The mural is located within a mixed-use area. The public was notified. No response was received. The mural is not located on a historic structure. The mural is sited far enough away from other murals as to allow proper appreciation of it.

The mural is an original design. The proposed medium is solely labelled as "paint". Ensure that the proposed paint type is of superior quality and is intended for exterior use. Ensure

that the mural has a weatherproof or vandalism resistant coating.

The artist has provided images or samples of existing similar monuments or works of art, and demonstrated the ability to meet the proposed timeframe.

The applicant is fully responsible for funding the design, construction, installation, and any necessary landscaping, paving, or lighting involved with a new marker, monument, or work of art. Funding for the murals was not provided. Staff recommends that the funding source be provided to staff.

As required in the Master Plan and Guidelines, written notice was sent to all property owners, and the neighborhood association, within 200 feet of the subject property. A sign was posted on the property fifteen days prior to the meeting. No comments were received from the public.

Ms. Kara Adoff, the petitioner, stated she will be leasing a space January. The artist is engaging the neighborhood, making it a neighborhood event. She hopes it will stay at least one year, as it will have Savannah landmarks.

Mr. Mannion asked will she be willing to submit a sketch before the staff. **Ms. Adoff** agreed. **Mr. Jerome Elder** stated they will provide a safety plan.

Motion

The HSMC hereby recommends approval of the mural located at 1930 Montgomery Street with the following conditions:

1. Ensure that the proposed paint type is of superior quality and is intended for exterior use.
2. Ensure that the mural has a weatherproof or vandalism resistant coating.
3. Provide staff with the source for funding the mural.

Because otherwise it meets the standards in the Master Plan and Guidelines for Markers, Monuments, and Public Art.

4. Present final rendering to Staff.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Kristopher Monroe

Second: Sean Mannion

Thomas Gensheimer - Not Present

Dr. Nicholas Henry - Aye

Kristopher Monroe - Aye

Alicia Blakely	- Not Present
Sean Mannion	- Aye
Lisa D. Watson	- Aye

IV. Other Business

V. Adjournment

[3. Next Regular Meeting - Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. in the Chatham County Commission Chambers \(2nd Floor\), 124 Bull Street](#)

The next meeting date was announced. The meeting was adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Jarles
/bf

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.