

NOTICE OF MEETING
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
CITY OF ST. GEORGE
WASHINGTON COUNTY, UTAH

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given that the Historic Preservation Commission of the City of St. George, Washington County, Utah, will hold a regular meeting at the Community Development Conference Room, 175 East 200 North, St. George, Utah on Wednesday, **March 30, 2022**, commencing at **12:00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Bob Nicholson, Member
Rick Atkin, Member
Scott Messel, Member
Allan Carter, Member
Bette Arial, Chair

EXCUSED:

CITY STAFF: John Willis, Community Development Director
Carol Davidson, Planner III
Jami Bracken, Assistant City Attorney
Brenda Hatch, Development Services Office Manager

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

Chair Bette Arial called the meeting to order at 12:04 pm.

1. NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION

Consider a request to recommend the nomination of the Dixie Hillside "D" to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- located at 50 East Tabernacle

Carol Davidson presented the following:

Carol Davidson – There is a nomination for the "D" to be on the National Registry. Zachary Clegg put an application in to add it to the registry. In order to get on the national registry, it has to go through the state. The state requires your recommendation. They want your knowledge, if you found anything on the application that is incorrect or should be added to. The application was lengthy a large narrative on it. The evaluation sheet will be signed by Bette Arial the chair, the sheet is in your packet. That will be the voice of this commission.

Jami Bracken – Is there a place for them to make comments?

Carol Davidson – I will type that up and send it with this form.

Jami Bracken – When did it get put up on the hill?

Carol Davidson – 1915

John Willis – Right now, it gets lit up, who will maintain that, will it be the group that does it now?

Rick Atkin – That is an important question, that is why my parents deeded the land to the Alumni Association specifically and not the college because of the longevity of an Alumni Association that would outlast changing leadership at the university. It sounds like it's just a national designation where the Association would still own and upkeep it.

Chair Bette Arial – When I first went to work with BLM we were restoring Mt Trumbell School House. Which was on private family property. Bill Lamb proposed that they restore it, the government said you are not going to touch it as long as it belongs to that private family. Finally, a grandson deeded the part where the school was to the government. After it was burned down by vandals we rebuilt it, I thought about that a long time because if someone else had owned it then may not have been done.

Rick Atkin – I have legal questions. Does this give it any legal protection? Are there any other monoliths on the National registry or is this the only one? Does this give any legal protection even those the Alumni Association will still own it?

Jami Bracken – What it would do is it would prevent any developer from removing it from the hill.

Rick Atkin – What does it take to get it off of the National Registry?

Jami Bracken – There is a process. They can apply.

John Willis – It won't give it complete protection, but it will give it more protection than it has now. I'm hoping that they recognize there is some level of maintenance that needs to be done.

Rick Atkin – So does the maintenance need to go through the national committee to whitewash it every year?

Jami Bracken – I think when they put it on the registry there is a maintenance plan that says we don't need your permission to do x, y, and z.

Bob Nicholson – We put the Opera House on the registry years ago and regular maintenance does not have to go through any processes.

Jami Bracken – Yes, regular maintenance is fine. If they wanted to change it in any way then there would be a process.

Chair Bette Arial – So will there be any political consequences? I don't want to protect this and then have unintended consequences.

Jami Bracken – I don't think the legislature is going to care.

Alan Carter – It really doesn't have anything to do with the college anymore.

Chair Bette Arial – If you go back in history, Brigham Young called it Dixie from the beginning, that is what it means to me.

Rick Atkin – Yes the college changed its name to that.

Alan Carter – The name Gregerson is spelled wrong, it only has one g. On page 5 section 7, I think that it ought to be checked because it is involved with somebody significantly historical to this area. And that is Ruger and Mona Atkin. Not just on what they've done, but the Atkin family has probably done more in Southern Utah than even the Gardner or McArthur family. The other thing that I would recommend that Ralph do is record an affidavit in the County records that references the conveyance specifically and state that he is the only surviving child and that he knows for a fact that it was deeded as the permanent location for the use and benefit of the people of Southern Utah including the college. While that isn't a restriction imposed by the grantor. I would recommend that. On page 1, item number 2 location in my opinion it ought to contain a reference to the attached deed or the legal description found on that deed. It gives the geo locations, but it is important that the original deed and legal description are on the reference too. Page 17 section 9 under D it shows St. George Boulevard as the location and that isn't the location.

Scott Messel – It's on the google map. It's on the road below it.

John Willis – We can white that out, it's just the google maps.

Chair Bette Arial – We need to document that the Atkin family owned it.

Rick Atkin – It was the Price Family Homestead, which were my ancestors, and then my Grandparents bought it and made the black hill their homestead. On page 2 it says that public state is the owner, I don't think that is correct. I know when my grandparents deeded the land, they specifically deeded it to the Alumni Association and not the college. Section 8 page 8 it talks about the social history of it, and I think that it should include that "Dixie" is a term that unites distinct communities together even though we are divided by geography. That's why I like the "D" on the hill, it says these hills don't divide us.

Chair Bette Arial – When I moved here in 1980 there was no distinction, I thought Santa Clara was St. George.

John Willis – Washington City, their slogan is "Where Dixie Begins"

Rick Atkin – So it depends on who you talk to but when you ask where is the center of Dixie, it will be the university or St. George or Washington. So, we have a big responsibility to protect the name. Something about that needs to be added, the importance of connecting these.

Chair Bette Arial – We do get along; St. George provides water to Santa Clara.

Bob Nicholson – I think the application is well done; it says the "D" is representation of the City, of the community. I know the college students put it up, but it really represents the City and it's a community symbol. It's a good idea to put it on the National Registry.

Rick Atkin – Do we know of any other monoliths that have been on the National Registry?

Discussion speculating other monoliths.

Scott Messel – I think it's great. There are these different built features that are important to the community. This is one of those built features.

Chair Bette Arial – I think it's important to give the town identity. I think this is a great effort and I would be really proud if our committee approved this. I think the Dixie on the rock should get this as well.

John Willis – I think that it is going that way.

Discussion continued on what else should be protected.

MOTION: Rick Atkin made a motion that with the suggested edits from the committee to the application we approve the application to the National Registry, and we give Chair Bette Arial authorization to sign the document.

SECOND: Alan Carter

AYES: (5)

Bob Nicholson, Member

Rick Atkin, Member

Scott Messel, Member

Allan Carter, Member

Bette Arial, Chair

NAYS: (0)

Motion Carries

2. UPDATES

Carol Davidson – I just wanted to let you all know we are proceeding with the CLG Grant. Bob helped with the interviews, we did choose one, but the contract is not final, so I don't want to announce who it is. It will need to be done by July so we will have a few public meetings. Last time Bob asked about Green Gate Village, I contacted them, but they are having a hard time finding contractors, that's all that is. The 295 S Main did go to the Planning Commission, they recommended denial as well. They were supposed to go to City Council on April 7, 2022, but the applicant can't make that so they will be going to City Council in May.

3. MINUTES

Consider approval of the February 16, 2022, meeting minutes.

MOTION: Scott Messel made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction of the spelling of his last name with one l.

SECOND: Bob Nicholson

AYES: (5)

Bob Nicholson, Member

Rick Atkin, Member

Scott Messel, Member

Allan Carter, Member

Bette Arial, Chair

NAYS: (0)

Motion Carries

ADJOURN

MOTION: Bob Nicholson made a motion to adjourn at 12:45 pm.

AYES: (5)

Bob Nicholson, Member

Rick Atkin, Member

Scott Messel, Member

Allan Carter, Member

Bette Arial, Chair

NAYS: (0)

Motion Carries
