

REGULAR MEETING
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE
JUNE 3, 2009
WEDNESDAY - 2:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL

The Historic Preservation Commission held a regular meeting on Wednesday, June 3, 2009. Members present were Peter Sterling, Sandra Owen, Nikki Owens, Bette Sprecher, Herbert Nelson, Bob Kearney, Shawn Leatherwood and Tom Shaw. David Felmet was absent; he was out of town. Chairman Bette Sprecher called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of May 6, 2009

Nikki Owens moved, seconded by Shawn Leatherwood, to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2009 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Annual Elections

Chairman

Shawn Leatherwood moved, seconded by Herbert Nelson, to nominate Nikki Owens as Chairman. It was the consensus of the Commission to close nominations for Chairman. The motion carried unanimously.

Vice Chairman

Shawn Leatherwood moved, seconded by Herbert Nelson, to nominate Bob Kearney to serve as Vice Chairman. It was the consensus of the Commission to close nominations for Vice Chairman. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Bette Sprecher turned the meeting over to newly elected Chairman Nikki Owens. Commission members thanked Bette Sprecher for the time she has served as chairman. Bette said she has only missed one meeting while serving on the Historic Preservation Commission, adding that it has been a pleasure to serve as chairman.

Other Business

Meeting With Love Lane Residents Regarding Historic District Designation

Bette Sprecher said she has spoken with Ann Melton and is trying to arrange a meeting at The Oaks to discuss the possibility of Love Lane being designated as a historic district. There wasn't enough time to arrange the meeting.

Slide Presentation

Tom Shaw said he was reviewing some software and made a movie out of slides. Voice recordings could be included on the slides by someone reading into the computer.

National Register Nomination

Paul Benson said the cost for a full blown National Register nomination is around \$5,000. Tom Shaw said the Love Lane area would not need to hire a consultant. Shawn Leatherwood said if the residents complete the nomination themselves it would reduce their cost. Tom Shaw said in the past he has completed around fifty nominations. Bette Sprecher said she would like to get Ann and Tom to meet as soon as possible regarding the Love Lane historic district.

Grant for Spread Out Area

Paul Benson said Clay Griffin with ACME Preservation in Asheville knows that we have received the grant. A contract will need to be signed. The grant is \$3,800 and the Town is required to submit a 40% match (\$2,612). This would bring the total to \$6,412.

Strategic Plan for Historic Preservation Commission

There was discussion about code enforcement and whether the Town's ordinance includes demolition by neglect. Commission Members said they would like to give information to encourage property owners to make repairs on their property in the proper way to maintain the historic significance. Peter Sterling said sensitivity is needed on such issues. Tom Shaw said a separate preservation group is needed that takes on advocacy roles and areas such as Charleston, South Carolina has such a group. Nikki Owens said Preservation Greensboro also does this.

It was suggested that Peter Sterling's article about a Preservation Sensitive Community be published in The Mountaineer. Tom Shaw moved, seconded by Sandra Owen, for Chairman Nikki Owens to contact The Mountaineer and pursue the publication of the article. Peter Sterling will make some changes and submit the article for publication. Peter Sterling said he felt that this is important to the development of a strategic plan by the Commission on how they should move forward. The motion was withdrawn.

Tom Shaw moved, seconded by Sandra Owen, to support the submission of Peter Sterling's article for publication in the local media and that he identify himself as a member of the Historic Preservation Commission noting that the article is published with their support. The motion carried unanimously.

Nikki Owens said at the next meeting she would like for the Commission to establish three to five goals. For instance, what should be done with the rock wall inventory done by the Commission. Shawn Leatherwood said he and Nikki have talked about the many little things the Commission has worked on and how these could be tied together.

Tom Shaw said the Commission could gather historic preservation materials to distribute to owners

of historic properties. Tom Shaw said the Commission could tap into resources very reasonably with a membership in National Trust for less than \$200 per year. Subscribing to available list serves could increase the professional level.

Properties at 99 Walnut Street and 124 Keller Street

There was discussion about historic properties at 99 Walnut Street belonging to the Parker family and 124 Keller Street belonging to the Pankiw family. The house at 99 Walnut Street was recently renovated but does not have historic designation. Some of the structure's historic integrity may have been compromised by the renovations. The house at 124 Keller Street may have historic significance. Bob Kearney will see what he can find out about the property.

Glenn Duerr and wife Jennifer expressed appreciation to Shawn Leatherwood and Nikki Owens for visiting their property and giving them some pointers. They did not know this commission existed until recently. They want to complete as much of the nomination application as possible by themselves and have a rough draft prepared now. They can come to the next meeting with their presentation but would like advice regarding the work they have done on the application. They are currently studying the historic background on this house. Tom Shaw said the document needs a statement of significance for architecture and he can help with this. Mr. Duerr said he has been in contact with Clay Griffin in Asheville. Mr. Duerr hopes to attend the next meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission.

Distribution of Information to Property Owners in Spread Out

Commission members felt that information regarding historic districts should be provided to property owners in the Spread Out area. Tom Shaw said he could distribute the information on behalf of the Commission. He will submit information to Nikki Owens for approval. Bob Kearney suggested step by step information to encourage action from the reader.

Amendment of Minutes of May 6, 2009

Sandra Owen moved and it was the consensus of the Commission to amend the minutes of the May 6, 2009 meeting to include the title of Peter Sterling's Article - "A Preservation Sensitive Community."

Adjournment

With no further business, Tom Shaw moved, seconded by Shawn Leatherwood, to adjourn the meeting at 3:10 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Phyllis R. McClure
Town Clerk

Nikki Owens
Chairman