

REGULAR MEETING

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
16 SOUTH MAIN STREET
OCTOBER 1, 2014



Those present:

Chairman Bette Sprecher
Sandra Owen
Henry Foy
Peter Sterling
Joanna Swanson
Glenn Duerr
Ron Sullivan

Also present:

Secretary Ginny Boyer
Planning Director Paul Benson

Absent:

Vice-Chairman Ann Melton

1. Minutes of the August 6, 2014 regular meeting (September's meeting was canceled) Peter Sterling made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 6, 2014 meeting as presented; Henry Foy seconded and all were in favor.

2. Love Lane Day

The first Love Lane Day was held on August 24, 2014. This event was organized to raise awareness of the historic significance of Waynesville's first residential street and included a picnic and open houses. Love Lane is not currently on the study list for potential National Register District; the State has informed the HPC it does not qualify. There are plans for next year's Love Lane Day to continue to raise awareness of its historic significance.

3. Cemetery Update

Chairman Sprecher made sure members read and understood correspondence from the State Historic Preservation office in regard to potential designation of Green Hill Cemetery as a National Register listed property. Mr. Benson explained that while Green Hill Cemetery is currently included on the study list, he would be very surprised if funding is allowed as Annie McDonald, Preservation Specialist with the State Historic Preservation Office has already said she does not support cemetery designations. However, Ms. McDonald was overruled at the SHPO and Green Hill was placed on the study list. The cost for hiring a consultant has already been estimated at eight to ten thousand dollars. A CLG (Certified Local Government) grant may

be applied for and once the information needed is received from the state, near the end of 2014, Mr. Benson will begin work on the grant application.

Chairman Sprecher mentioned that Green Hill Cemetery is one of the last town-owned cemeteries in the state. Henry Foy mentioned the historic preservation commission may want to consider pursuing local landmark designation if a historic register listing is not attainable.

4. Item of Interest

Glenn Duerr of Windover Inn shared with members a letter which was originally published in The North Carolina Mountaineer and Waynesville Courier dated December, 1918. The letter was sent to Dr. and Mrs. William A. Graham from their youngest son Sgt. William Alexander Graham, Jr. near the end of WWI.

A guest of Mr. Duerr's who was staying at Windover Inn shared the letter and a CD about life as it was at the turn of the century (the disc was made in 1971). Both the letter and CD have been sent to the Haywood Historical Society.

5. Boarding Houses of Waynesville Research

Ann Melton and Henry Foy are continuing to research and gather photographs related to boarding houses in Waynesville (some properties are still standing, others fell to ruin long ago) in hopes of publishing a boarding houses book.

6. Application for Appointment for your review

An application was received from the public, the applicant of which members felt might be better suited elsewhere. It was the consensus of the board and agreed by Paul Benson that since members "must have a special interest or expertise in historic preservation," this applicant did not qualify for membership. Mr. Benson said he would communicate to Town Clerk Amie Owens the application was not accepted and there remains one vacancy on the board. Peter Sterling mentioned the need to recruit qualified candidates for service on the commission.

7. Other Business

Chairman Sprecher would like each member to read the first two chapters (Preface; 1. The Historic Preservation Commission: An Overview; 2. Establishment of the Commission) of Handbook for Historic Preservation Commissions in North Carolina (*a joint publication of Preservation North Carolina and State Historic Preservation Office Division of Archives and History North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources*) for the next meeting. This will help long-standing members and those new to the commission familiarize themselves with the commission's establishment, purpose, and powers & responsibilities.

Commissioner Joanna Swanson who is also a member of Haywood County's Commission for a Clean County announced the annual awards recognition program is underway to recognize businesses, community/civic groups, schools and outstanding individuals including children of school age who show commitment to a clean and healthy environment. 2014 community Pride

Award nominations may be made by filling out an application found in the Town Clerk's office with a deadline of November 21.

8. Adjourn

With no further business, Glenn Duerr motioned to adjourn the meeting; this was seconded by Peter Sterling. The meeting adjourned at 2:45 with more discussion following.

Ginny Boyer, Secretary

Bette Sprecher, Chairman