

REGULAR MEETING  
TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
JUNE 5, 2002  
WEDNESDAY - 2:00 P.M.  
TOWN HALL

The Waynesville Historic Preservation Commission held a regular meeting on Wednesday, June 5, 2002. Members present were Bob Breese, Georgia Forney, Ron Fleenor, Bette Sprecher, Ruth Chacto, Warren Gresham and Sandra Owen. Others present were Planner Andrew Powell and Town Clerk Phyllis McClure. Acting Chairman Ron Fleenor called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of April 3, 2002

Bette Sprecher moved, seconded by Georgia Forney to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2002 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Request by Roger and Judith Winge for Historic Designation Nomination - October Hill Bed and Breakfast, aka The Atkins House - 421 Grimball Drive

Roger and Judith Winge have requested Historic Designation Nomination for their home at 421 Grimball Drive. It is currently being used as the October Hill Bed and Breakfast and is historically known as "The Atkins House". The house was constructed on its present site in 1923 and there have only been three significant exterior alterations since its construction.

- 1) The original green tile roof was replaced in the 1980's with asphalt shingles.
- 2) The front verandah was replaced in the mid 1990's because of deterioration and breakage. The present verandah is white concrete with columns, is the same size and shape as the original and is very compatible with the style and architecture of the house and period.
- 3) The original back porch was converted to an elevator shaft in the 1980's when an elevator was installed in the house. The exterior walls of the elevator were finished in stucco to match the rest of the house.

The interior of the house has remained virtually unchanged since its construction. All of the windows, doors, window and door hardware, floors, wall light sconces, mantles, bathroom fixtures (tubs, toilets and sinks are original to the house). The upstairs trunk room was converted to a bath in 1998. The kitchen has been modernized but remains the same size with original tile floors and some of the original cabinetry.

The Commission Members felt that although the architectural prints were contained in the report, there is a lot of history about the house which is relative to Waynesville and could be expanded in Section #7 of the report.

Bob Breese said that Hilliard Atkins and his father were very close friends. In 1923 Mr. Atkins told his father that he was going to build one of the finest homes in Waynesville and the house has changed very little since its construction at that time. Mr. Breese said that Nora Atkins was Hilliard Atkins first wife and Katherine Ray was his second wife. Commission Members also pointed out that Mr. Atkins was a former Mayor in Waynesville which gives the house additional historical significance. The house was designed by Asheville Architect Charles Parker, designer of Asheville's Grove Arcade. Commission Members felt that additional information should be included on how the house was built during that time.

Ron Fleenor pointed out that the changes to the roof were made before the current owners purchased the house. Therefore, this change would not affect National Register designation.

It was the consensus of the HPC that Robert and Judith Winge add additional information regarding the history of the home in Section #7 Historical Sketch and Architectural Description of the Property and allow the HPC to review this information before submission to the State. The HPC will vote on this at the next meeting.

#### Discussion Regarding Williamson House on Walnut Street

Andrew Powell said that HPC Member Shawn Leatherwood has advised that he has not received authority to proceed with work on the Williamson house and the Town may want to follow through on condemnation proceedings.

Ron Fleenor asked if there was any way that the Town could pick up where it left off without starting from the beginning of the condemnation process. Andrew Powell said he was not sure where Code Enforcement Jack Morgan left off on the process.

#### Report Regarding Masonic Temple - Church Street

Andrew Powell said work has begun on installing the handicapped access through the side of the Masonic Temple building rather than the front. This was preferred since this building is on the National Register.

#### Election of Officers - Term Limitations

Andrew Powell said election of officers was held at the last meeting. At that time it was thought that the Rules of Procedure contained limits on the terms of HPC Officers but it does not. Andrew asked the HPC how they felt about this issue. They all agreed that it would be good to have limits on terms of office for those officers.

Warren Gresham moved, seconded by Ruth Chacto, to amend the Rules of Procedure to conduct the election of officers each year, with each elected officer serving a maximum term of office of two (2) consecutive years. The motion carried unanimously.

#### NC Re-enactors - June 3 at the Shelton House

Bette Sprecher said on Saturday, June 3 the NC Re-enactors will be at the Shelton House on Pigeon Street in Waynesville. This event is open to the public free of charge. The program ends at 4:00 p.m. when a wreath will be placed on the Confederate Memorial.

### Historic Preservation Week

Bette Sprecher said the Waynesville Historical Society gave one plaque and two certificates to the three students who participated in the Historic Preservation Week contest. Since there was such low participation by the students in these contests, it was the consensus of the HPC to cancel the contests for next year.

### Adjournment

With no further business Georgia Forney moved, seconded by Bob Breese, to adjourn the meeting at 2:55 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

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Phyllis R. McClure  
Town Clerk

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Ron Fleenor  
Acting Chairman