

REGULAR MEETING
TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 1, 2006
WEDNESDAY - 2:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL

The Historic Preservation Commission held its regular meeting on Wednesday, November 1, 2006. Members present were Peter Sterling, Sandra Owen, David Felmet, John Binford, Laura Soltis, Bette Sprecher and Malinda Messer. Also present were Planning Director Paul Benson and Town Clerk Phyllis McClure. Chairman Bette Sprecher called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. The following members were absent: Shawn Leatherwood (to attend work-related workshop) and Marc Yops (reason for absence unknown).

Approval of Minutes of August 2, 2006

Laura Soltis moved, seconded by David Felmet, to approve the minutes of the August 2, 2006 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Update on Williamson House - Walnut Street

David Felmet reported that he spoke with Stanley Williamson while he was in Waynesville during September. Mr. Williamson told him that paint and stain have been chosen for the outside of the house and the inside plumbing and wiring are now complete. They are waiting to complete installation of the sheet rock until they know what inside design a future tenant would like.

Training

There was discussion about the workshop regarding benefits of the National Register of Historic Places at the Haywood County Library. Commission Members felt that the photos presented were not pertinent to Western North Carolina and should be redone so they will be applicable to this area. Paul Benson pointed out that there are not many examples in this area. However, he has received several telephone calls and referred them to Becky Johnson since this should go through her office.

Historic Rock Walls

Peter Sterling presented photographs of historic rock walls in Waynesville, including the areas of Boyd Avenue, Church Street, Daisy Avenue, Tate Street, Haywood Street, South Main Street, and one rock building, the Music Cottage. He said extraction and transportation costs of stone is very expensive.

Commission Members felt that Chris and Lynn Sylvester deserve special recognition for their project on Haywood Street.

John Binford read a proposed news release seeking help in getting information about rock walls and their history in Waynesville. It was the consensus of the Commission that this news release be distributed to the news media and placed on the Town's web site and quarterly newsletter. Malinda Messer said she can help with the distribution of the news release through her employment at "Fun Things To Do In The Mountains". Bette Sprecher can help John Binford and Peter Sterling with historical information on the rock walls.

The Commission thanked Peter Sterling for the photographs and John Binford for the news release.

Property for Sale on Meade Street and North Main Street

Bette Sprecher said she will contact the realtor to inform them of the importance of preserving the rock walls on this property. Paul Benson will find the property owner's name and address for Bette.

Plaques for Historic Properties

Paul Benson said money has been budgeted for the plaques for historic properties. Paul Benson will prepare a letter to be sent to owners of historic properties. The letter will include a photograph and price estimate for the plaque. Costs will be shared between the Town and property owner. If property owners are interested in these plaques, they can propose a location on their building for the plaque to be approval of the Commission. Peter Sterling felt that it really doesn't accomplish much if the plaques are on the house and cannot easily be seen by the public. The Commission felt that the building was the most appropriate location for the plaques to be displayed rather than the yard area.

Brochures

The Commission would like to have the brochures updated, adding more photographs and omitting information which becomes obsolete such as the names of commission members. They felt that a map showing the location of historic structures would be a helpful addition to the brochure. Laura Soltis suggested that the Commission discuss the brochures further at the next meeting.

Tom Ezell - 233 Rolling Drive

Mr. Tom Ezell attended the meeting. He said there is a rock wall and stone house on the corner of Rolling Drive with magnificent stone work. Laura Soltis said this house belongs to the Bevel family. She was willing to make the initial telephone call asking the family to consider historic designation of this home and rock wall.

Mr. Ezell said he would like to see the area of Love Lane included as a historic district. Commission members expressed the need for the area known as "Spread Out" to be designated as a historic district since there are so many changes occurring in this area.

Paul Benson said the deadline for submission of an application for grant money to designate an area on the study list is December or January with an announcement made in April. Malinda Messer

suggested that areas be prioritized according to their historic importance. It was the consensus of the Commission to proceed with submission of the grant application. Bette Sprecher asked that this be done as quickly as possible.

Bette Sprecher thanked Mr. Ezell for coming to the meeting.

Miscellaneous

Dave Felmet said renovations have been made to the Grover Davis house on Walnut Street. And weeds are now gone from the gutter.

A new roof has been put on the Sam Stringfield house.

John Binford said he is in the process of gathering information on the 50th anniversary of the old Dayco property. John Binford suggested that the Commission preserve this type of information. Bette Sprecher said this could be placed in the Haywood County Historical Society archives in the Haywood County Library.

Adjournment

With no further business, Dave Felmet moved, seconded by Malinda Messer to adjourn the meeting at 3:12 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Phyllis R. McClure
Town Clerk

Bette Sprecher
Chairman