

TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE

Historic Preservation Commission

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Development Services
Director
Elizabeth Teague

Chairman
Sandra Owen
Board Members
Ann Melton (Vice)
Joanna Swanson
Coley Bartholomew
Bette Sprecher
Peter Sterling
Glenn Duerr
Ronald Sullivan

REGULAR MEETING HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE MUNICIPAL BUILDING 16 SOUTH MAIN STREET NOVEMBER 4, 2015

Members present:

Chairman Sandra Owen
Vice Chairman Ann Melton
Coley Bartholomew
Peter Sterling
Bette Sprecher
Glenn Duerr

Also present:

Development Services Director Elizabeth Teague
Land Use Administrator Byron Hickox
Deputy Clerk Eddie Ward

Absent:

Ron Sullivan
JoAnna Swanson

A. CALL TO ORDER:

1. Welcome and announcements

Chairman Owen called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm, and welcomed everyone.

2. **Adoption of Minutes**

Chairman Owen brought everyone's attention to the minutes of October 7, 2015. She pointed out several corrections that need to be made.

Page 2 – Adoption of minutes

The motion should read: ***A motion to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2015 meeting was made by Ann Melton, seconded by Glenn Duerr. The motion passed unanimously.***

Page 2 – Paragraph 2, second sentence

The sentence should read: ***The Town currently has a list of minimum housing codes to be followed for houses.***

Page 3 - Paragraph 1, third sentence

The sentence should read: ***It was the consensus of the Commission Members to ask about preserving its contents as a historic museum, apart from the commission.***

Page 3 – Paragraph 3, ninth sentence

The sentence should read: ***Characters represented in the tour include Richard Barber, Sr., Caroline Miller, William Greer, Brian Barr (Gig Young), Robert Love and William Holland Thomas.***

Page 4 – Paragraph 2, fourth sentence

The sentence should read: ***Other items of interest include inviting Jonathan Key with the Mountaineer Newspaper and Thomas Woltz, heir of Hilda Way Gwyn, regarding the restoration of the Gwyn house located beside the Way Inn.***

A motion was made by Ann Melton, seconded by Coley Bartholomew, to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2015 meeting as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

B. BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. **Review of cemetery tour and lessons learned for next time.**

Ms. Elizabeth Teague, Development Services Director, stated she had heard nothing but great things about the Cemetery Tour that was held on October 10, 2015, both from the Board of Aldermen who were involved, and from people who attended. She congratulated everyone, with special thanks to Ann Melton, Sandra Owen and Coley Bartholomew for putting the tour together. Also, she added a special thanks to Eddie and Jr. Ward for their help during the event. Commission Member Ann Melton said the Aldermen did a fantastic job researching and portraying the characters. They answered questions, and encouraged participation from the audience. An estimated 85 people took the tour. Commission members felt the Mountaineer newspaper articles, and the fact that the tour was the same day as the Apple Festival, contributed to the success. There was much discussion concerning the characters that should be portrayed in the next tour.

As far as lessons learned from the first Historic Preservation Commission tour, Chairman Owen said the parking situation needs to be addressed. There was discussion of the possibility of a shuttle van being utilized for transporting people to and from the cemetery. Other items that need to be in place is a microphone for the speakers, and more printed programs to be available

Commission Members asked about the possibility of taking donations at the next tour. The donations could be used for historic signage for self guided tours in the future. Ms. Teague suggested asking the Board of Aldermen for interpretative signage for the next budget year. Byron Hickox, Land Use Administrator, asked about an App (application for smart phones) that could actually use voice recordings to narrate the script for the characters in the tour. Commission Member Ann Melton said The Mountaineer newspaper had recorded the narratives as the Aldermen spoke, and an App would be created. Ms. Teague added there could be a link to the program from the Town website. Commission members agreed it was a fun way to connect with Town Leaders.

Thank you cards were signed, and will be mailed to each participant.

2. At risk properties:

Barber House near Ingles

Ms. Teague said she had spoken to Ms. Mary Barber concerning the Barber House. Ms. Barber and her three nephews own the house, and it is on the market for sale. When asked about going inside the house and possibly taking pictures, Ms. Barber said there was nothing inside the house, and she would not be comfortable with people going inside because of the bad condition of the house. Ms. Barber was very appreciative of the Commission's interest.

Clark house on Shackford Street

There was discussion about the ownership of the Clark house on Shackford Street. Ms. Teague said she would continue research on the property.

Coffey Hardware Store on Main Street

At the last Commission meeting, Town Staff was to compose a letter to the Coffey family and signed by Chairman Owen, to work with them to help preserve the Hardware Store on Main Street as a historic museum. Chairman Owen felt the commission needed more information concerning the Hardware Store before composing a letter. The Commission did find that the old store is owned by Eleanor and Kristen Coffey, with a home address of 165 Valley View Terrace. This information gives the Commission a place to start in contacting them about the Hardware store.

3. Report on the Request for Proposals ("RFP") for the Federal Register Nomination for Green Hill Cemetery.

Ms. Teague stated she had a list of qualified consultants for proposals for the Federal Register Nomination for Green Hill Cemetery. She drafted an RFP and submitted it to the state office for their

Waynesville's Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes of November 4, 2015

approval. She also sent the RFP out over the state Historic Commission list serve, and copied everyone on the consultant list. The deadline for proposals is December 11, 2015, and she hopes to receive at least three proposals. Because this project is below \$30,000.00, it is considered an informal bid. She stated that if three bids are not received, there is flexibility in the standards for the Town for choosing a consultant. At the January 2016 Commission meeting, a consultant will be chosen, and the goal is to have the work completed by July 1, 2016.

4. Report from Historic Speaker Series

Chairman Owen reported that the Commission Speaker Series Committee met on November 2, 2015, at Commission Member Peter Sterling's home to discuss timing, locations, and presenters for the Historic Preservation Speaker Series. This is a series of programs highlighting the Town's history through stories about people, places, and events. The purpose is to heighten awareness of this area's rich history and historical properties. The hope of the Commission is to encourage people's interest and value our "sense of place."

The times and dates for the winter/spring programs will tentatively be on the first Thursday of each month beginning February 4, 2016, through May 5, 2016. The suggested time is 4:00 p.m. The locations will depend on the program but will mainly be the Town Hall Board Room. Some of the speakers to be contacted include:

Vicky Hyatt , editor	The Mountaineer
Ron Sullivan , author	<u>Logging and Sawmills in the Area</u>
Ann Melton , author	<u>Hotel and Boarding Houses of Waynesville</u>
	<u>Greenhill Cemetery</u>
Buffy Messer ,	Director Downtown Waynesville Association
	Buildings in Downtown Waynesville Historic District
Thomas Woltz ,	Landscape Architect and author
	Restoring his family home on South Main Street

Promotion ideas for the series include the Town website, newspaper, flyers, and personal invites. There will be greeters and introducers for each program.

Some other ideas for a fall speaker series include:

- Shelton House tour
- Peter Sterling's (Snapshot Project)
- Mary Ann Enloe (Hazelwood History)
- Donald Davis (Memory Walk through Waynesville)

Chairman Owen also would like to include a program about the Haywood County Library. This would include library archives and how best to access that information. Ms. Teague stated that she had spoken with Carol Litchfield, a volunteer at the library in the archive room, and Ms. Litchfield would be another potential speaker at a program.

Commission Member Peter Sterling reiterated the purpose of the speaker series is to tell excellent stories about Haywood County and Waynesville. The stories should not be about buildings, but what goes on inside the building. He said the Commission had set December 26, 2015, as the first promotional advertising for the series.

C. COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF

Ms. Teague and Mr. Hickox met with Mr. Mel Fergenbaum of the Frog Level Business Association. They are interested in pursuing historic signage for some of the key buildings in Frog Level. Mr. Hickox stated there are 19 buildings and one structure (Richland Creek Bridge) that are located in the Frog Level District. Three of the buildings are referred to by the State Historic Preservation Office as non-contributing buildings, and are historic purely because of their age. They have been altered, and their historic values have been diminished. The remaining sixteen buildings maintain their historic status. Mr. Hickox talked with Mr. Fergenbaum concerning the amount of money they might want to spend on historical signage. There are no standards "set in stone" when it comes to signage on National Register properties. The Frog Level Association wants to have continuity throughout the District for the signage. Mr. Hickox said there are local sign companies capable of creating the signs. He said he had also met with some people in Hazelwood and he will pursue researching historical properties there.

D. CALL ON THE AUDIENCE

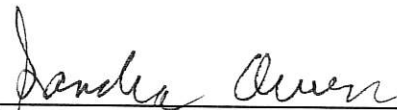
No Comments.

E. ADJOURN

With no further business, it was the consensus of the Commission to adjourn at 3:20 p.m.



Eddie Ward, Deputy Clerk



Sandra Owen, Chairman