

Minutes of Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission
January 15, 2014

Members Present: Martin Burke, Carmen Creamer, Eric Jenkins, Curt Mason, and Michael Musick. Guests: Brielle, Nicole, and Sara Lambert.

Minutes: Minutes of the December 18, 2013 meeting were distributed. Acceptance was moved by Michael Musick, seconded by Curt Mason, and passed.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was presented by Carmen Creamer, with handouts distributed. As of December 18, 2013, there was \$6,810.07 in the operating account, with \$358.98 debits. As of January 15, 2014, the operating account was \$6,451.09. The biggest issue is the cost of utilities for Peter Burr Farm. This was discussed. We will try to reduce this expense. Acceptance of the treasurer's report was moved by Curt Mason, seconded by Michael Musick, and passed.

WV GeoExplorer Project: Bill Theriault is sick and therefore unable to personally report. Martin Burke noted that some 10,000 photos have been put online. Bill is still working on this and has about 5,000 additional photos to complete the project.

The JCHLC has approached the Jefferson County Museum about putting the Museum's photo collection online. Conversations are ongoing.

Bill has donated his personal photo collection of 15,000 images to the JCHLC, which will be store at the Shepherd University Library.

JCHLC Properties Update:

Peter Burr Farm, kitchen upgrades and painting have been postponed until warmer weather and a better balance in the bank. PVAS has requested using PBF in summer 2014, offering to pay \$100 per week to cover utilities. We have about \$350 left in the Fairs and Festivals Grant. We have done pest control, etc., and have a bill for rebuilding the porch on the back of the house.

Cement Mill property, Burke has obtained a demolition permit for the Lowe house. Asbestos testing needs to be done at the house, which will cost about \$450. Burke will look into this.

Cell Towers: Burke gave a presentation on the Trough Road cell tower last night (January 14) to the Jefferson County Planning Commission. However, the commission voted to approve the site plan for the tower. The application has not yet been approved at the federal level. Verizon is planning to add seven additional cell towers in Jefferson County. There was discussion of the cell tower site near Summit Point.

Updates to JCHLC Database and Vote on Changes: Musick moved to approve the changes made to the JCHLC Database (as shown in a handout which was distributed), which was seconded by Curt Mason and passed. Burke has assigned 911 addresses for each historic resource in the Database (for occupied houses), or *near* the place whenever unoccupied. He has also gotten the addresses of property owners, many of whom are in other states, as well as parcel identification numbers. There was discussion of the format in which JCHLC members would like to have this information.

Discussion of Long Range Plans for 2014: In addition to the ongoing work of documenting JC historic sites, the Landmarks Commission will be active in the 2014 JC Comprehensive Plan. There are approximately 2,000 historic resources in unincorporated areas of Jefferson County. In the 2004 JC Comprehensive Plan JCHLC was asked to survey all historic resources and draft a historic preservation ordinance. That work was completed, but the ordinance was voted down in a referendum vote. The JCHLC will renew its efforts to create a historic preservation ordinance as part of the new Comprehensive Plan. There is also countywide interest in creating an inventory of JC viewsheds to be protected. Since the JCHLC has already completed two viewshed surveys the Commission will offer to lead that effort. Curt Mason will look into creating a driving tour of Jefferson County.

JC Landmarks Nominations for 2014: Properties and person to whom the nomination is assigned: Rose Lawn (Martin Burke); Feagan's Mill (Carmen Creamer); Rock Hall (Curt Mason); and Elk Branch Church and Academy (Mike Musick). The Jacob Homar Barn (John Allen).

At 8:42 Musick moved that the meeting be adjourned, which was seconded by Eric Jenkins and passed.