



Minutes

Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission

7pm - Charles Town Visitor's Center

110 E. Washington St., Charles Town, WV

September 21, 2016

Members Present: Martin Burke (Chair), Curt Mason (Treasurer), Eric Jenkins, Leigh Koonce, Sara Lambert (Secretary)

Guests: Peter Onoszko (County Commissioner), Tim Johnson, Bill Theriault, John Demer, Rob Aitcheson, Bo Bolyard, Susan Laughton

M. Burke called the meeting into order at 7:06pm.

Introductions: M. Burke welcomed all in attendance for the meeting.

Minutes: Minutes of the August 17 meeting submitted by Sara Lambert and Rob Aitcheson.

Acceptance was moved by C. Mason, seconded by L. Koonce and passed.

Treasurer's Report:

C. Mason stated that the full report was not yet available from JCHLC's accountant. Once the completed report was received, C. Mason stated he would report full and complete data. M. Burke presented on expenses at the Shepherdstown Battlefield, the pending Fairs & Festivals grant award and the State Audit for FY 2016.

(no motion on the treasurer's report)

WV GeoExplorer Project Report: B. Theriault announced that he and a volunteer would be launching a Kickstarter Campaign to fund the WV GeoExplorer Project. Dr. Theriault also announced that he had recently published an Amazon Kindle book on Jefferson County History.

Endowment Funds at the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation: M. Burke announced that JCHLC had been approached by Mr. John League descendant of Katherine Burr Jackson for a potential donation to the Peter Burr Farm. Mr. Burke added that this donation would contribute to the existing endowment fund managed by Reliving History Inc. E. Jenkins provided background on the fund and management of its assets. Mr. Jenkins also provided insight into Reliving History Inc.'s thoughts on renaming the fund or using assets for maintenance and upkeep expenses. M. Burke added that discussion had ensued with EWVCF in regards to JCHLC setting up an endowment fund for various projects. M. Burke and R. Aitcheson also added additional information on current project underway to add a PayPal account to JCHLC's website.

AmeriCorps Member Report: R. Aitcheson presented newly re-branded interpretive materials, highlighting the recent rebranding undertaken by JCHLC. R. Aitcheson also informed JCHLC of upcoming events for October 2016 which included a tax credit workshop in Middleway and a realtor workshop in Charles Town. Mr. Aitcheson reported that the event dates were set and good attendance was expected. M. Burke provided additional information in regards to the realtor workshop and discussed the possibility to developing materials about the Washington family homes in Jefferson County.

Peter Burr Farm: M. Burke and E. Jenkins discussed the upcoming Harvest Faire to be presented by Reliving History Inc. at the Peter Burr Farm. E. Jenkins confirmed the event date and the particulars of the event schedule. M. Burke added that school visits to the site would occur in late October 2016.

Jefferson County Civil War Battlefield projects: M. Burke presented an update on the Shepherdstown Battlefield restoration project, discussed the possibility of constructing trails and a parking lot on the site and the pending preservation of 11 additional acres. M. Burke then informed JCHLC that the Old Standard Quarry tract on the Harpers Ferry Battlefield had been appraised and the boundary for the proposed easement had been re-drawn. M. Burke concluded his comments by announcing that the Civil War Trust had agreed to negotiate for a portion, approximately 56 acres, of the old 3M plant in Middleway (part of the Smithfield Crossing Battlefield.) Mr. Burke said that the property could be potentially transferred to Jefferson County Parks and Recreation for a park since their ten-year master plan encourages creating parks that have water/stream access.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

AmeriCorps Recruiting: M. Burke announced that no additional applications had been received to fill the AmeriCorps position for 2017.

Historic Preservation Zoning Ordinance: M. Burke updated JCHLC on the ongoing meetings with the Jefferson County Planning office staff on a delay of demolition element to the proposed Historic Preservation Zoning Ordinance. P. Onoszko, County Commissioner and member of the Planning Commission, would be willing to act as a moderator with the Planning Commission when the proposed ordinance was presented.

Announcements: C. Mason updated JCHLC that he would continue to work on the photography project with a new volunteer, Ms. Nicole Lambert. Mr. Mason also announced that Michael Mills from the Mills Group would be in Jefferson County on October 27th at White House Farm. C. Mason, also a trustee of the Preservation Alliance of WV, presented an update on PAWV's involvement and opinion on the Hilltop House project in Harpers Ferry.

M. Burke made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by S. Lambert. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:52pm.