



Minutes

Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission

7pm - Charles Town Visitor's Center

108 N. George St., Charles Town, WV

November 16, 2016

Members Present: Martin Burke (Chair), Curt Mason (Treasurer), Leigh Koonce, Sara Lambert (Secretary) **Guests:** Michael Walton (Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation), Peter Onozko (County Commissioner), Bill Theriault, John Demer, Rob Aitcheson

M. Burke called the meeting into order at 7:01pm.

Introductions: M. Burke welcomed and introduced guest presenter, Michael Walton, Executive Director of the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation (EWVCF).

Presentation: M. Walton provided background and information on EWVCF and endowment funding. Mr. Walton also discussed the establishment of the Katharine Burr Jackson Fund for the Peter Burr Farm.

Minutes: Minutes of the September 21 meeting submitted by Sara Lambert and Rob Aitcheson.

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

Treasurer's Report: M. Burke gave current account balance. C. Mason presented Treasurer's Report, providing additional information on income and expenses and new reporting methods. P. Onozko commented that future consideration would be given by the Jefferson County Commission on forgiveness of Land Tax payments made by JCHLC on battlefield preservation projects.

S. Lambert moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, M. Burke seconded and the motion passed.

WV GeoExplorer Project Report: B. Theriault discussed the launch of a Kickstarter project to fund the re-development of the WV GeoExplorer website and collaboration with JCHLC on the project. Dr. Theriault also informed JCHLC that local newspapers on past presidential elections had been digitized on the WV GeoExplorer website.

Endowment Funds at the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation: M. Burke provided background on the establishment of an endowment fund for JCHLC at EWVCF. Discussion ensued.

M. Burke moved to establish an endowment fund for JCHLC at EWVCF, C.Mason seconded and the motion passed.

AmeriCorps Member Report: R. Aitcheson presented on JCHLC events held in October 2016. This included reports on the Harvest Faire at Peter Burr Farm, Tax Credit Workshop in Middleway, Realtor Workshop in Charles Town and 3rd grade student visits to the Peter Burr Farm. R. Aitcheson also presented published copy of JCHLC's driving tour, "A Contested County: Jefferson County and the 1864 Shenandoah Campaign".

Jefferson County Civil War Battlefield projects: M. Burke discussed issues regarding a conservation easement on the Van Evera tract on the Shepherdstown Battlefield. M. Burke also notified JCHLC that the Eyler property project will close on November 17 and will be transferred to JCHLC. Mr. Burke announced that the Old Standard property project on the Harpers Ferry Battlefield would be decided by ABPP in November 2016. Additional announcements by M. Burke

included ongoing discussion with Limited Liability Corporation and the Civil War Trust in regards to property on the Smithfield Crossing Battlefield and that the efforts for boundary expansion legislation of Antietam National Battlefield would be renewed in 2017.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Americorps Recruiting: M. Burke announced that he had spoken with former intern, Lauren Kelly, in regards to the AmeriCorps position with JCHLC and that she would apply for the position. Mr. Burke noted that Ms. Kelly is more than qualified for the position.

Shepherdstown Bike Path: S. Lambert notified JCHLC that a letter had been sent regarding JCHLC's comments on the Shepherdstown Bike Path project. Mrs. Lambert also discussed notification of a congressionally recognized battlefield (Williamsport) which encompassed the path route.

Jefferson County Courthouse Committee: L. Koonce updated JCHLC on who the new Circuit Judge is. Mr. Koonce commented that he did not know the newly elected County Clerk. P. Onozko that a grant had been awarded to the Jefferson County Maintenance Department for the replacement of windows on the Courthouse building. M. Burke provided background on JCHLC letter of support for the project, which accompanied the grant request.

Announcements: M. Burke announced he had spoken with the new owner of Wild Goose Farm in regards to a potential National Register nomination. J. Demer announced that the Feagan's Mill National Register nomination at been accepted by the WV Division of Culture and History Division Commissioners and the application had been advanced to Washington, D.C.

M. Burke made a motion to adjourn, C. Mason seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 9:01 pm.