

Minutes of Jefferson County Landmarks Commission Meeting

October 15, 2008

Members Present: John Allen, Don Amoroso, Carmen Creamer, Michael Musick, Kip Stowell. Guests: Bill Berry, Irvan Groff, Maggie Keeler, Bill Theriault

Minutes: The minutes of the September 17, 2008 meeting were distributed. Don Amoroso moved their acceptance, which was seconded by Kip Stowell and approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was presented by Don Amoroso, with handouts distributed. Regarding the upcoming Harvest Faire, Don asked the Friends Group for their expenditures. Maggie Keeler, of the Friends Group, responded that the expenditures for entertainment would be around \$200. Don reviewed the HLC budget, noting that \$3,800 has been paid for restoration work at the Burr Farm. Michael Musick moved approval of the treasurer's report, which was seconded by Kip Stowell and passed unanimously.

Peter Burr Farm: Bill Theriault called attention to the recent death of Bob McGarry, one of the oldest living Burr descendants. Bob put a tin roof on the Peter Burr house at his own expense, thereby saving it. He was a firm supporter of farmland preservation and the HLC, and our commission should have a presence at his funeral.

John Allen today looked at Bart Wheatley's work on the Springhouse, which is progressing satisfactorily. A mason in Schuyler, VA, has been contacted. Irvan Groff remarked on the need to repair the commode, and Don Amoroso said he would get a plumber. Maggie Keeler asked about wood preservative for the deck, and Kip Stowell said he would talk to Bart about it.

Irvan Groff gave the report for the Friends of Peter Burr. Volunteer staff for the Harvest Faire this weekend was discussed. There was discussion of food to be served, and the need for a grill, which will be obtained by the Friends, not the HLC. Official hours will be 10 to 3. The need for money for the fair was noted, and the fact that \$600 had been approved at the last meeting. Bill Berry reported that the Friends have \$2,545.59.

Poor Farm: John Allen reported that Walter Washington is waiting for Rock Spring Church to give us the previous survey. The church's bank has not yet approved the property transfer.

Map/Database: John Allen noted the new ordinance effective this month. HLC needs to be ready for questions on historic properties; we also need to update the map. John is working with Lyle Rush to update the map so that it is ready for the ordinance's effective date. John Allen moved that a committee be formed to deal with data development and updates. The proposed committee members of this new committee were John Allen, Lyle Rush, and Bill Theriault. This committee would report to the HLC about any changes to the official historic resources database and/or map. Carmen Creamer seconded this

motion, which was passed. Information won't be added directly to the database, but will be voted on. For example, changes for the first half of 2009 will be announced for a vote. Bill Theriault pointed out the goals of merging the current database with the Taylor database, working with the planning commission, and making information available to the commission and to the public as well.

National Register: The Bullskin NR District was passed at the Archives and History meeting October 3, and now goes on to a reviewer.

New Landmarks - Rocky Marsh Area: John Allen reported that today we visited four houses: the Billmyer-McQuilken Farm (Rock Spring); the Jacob Folk House; the William S. Kearney House; and the Van Deever-Orndorff House. He nominated them as County Landmarks, which motion was seconded by Kip Stowell and passed.

Community Impact Statements: No information has been received on Scrabble Bridge; Carmen Creamer will try to get it. We also have no information on 480 at 9. There is a proposal for Rattling Springs, near Harpers Ferry. We tried to give information on this, submitted before the ordinance went into effect. Bill Theriault described the quarry, boat turnaround, warehouse and millrace remains there. The Strider house has been protected, but there may be need for a soil contamination test in that area.

Upcoming Events, Miscellaneous: PATH transmission line was discussed. The Jefferson and Berkeley County Commissions voted to oppose the line, but the state of West Virginia supports it. The HLC map was used by the County Commission in their discussions of the project.

John Allen sent an annual report to the SHPO.

Jefferson County Discovery Magazine has offered us an advertisement in that publication, but it was agreed that this would not be appropriate for us.

Carmen Creamer expressed concern with the sewer system being put in at a new subdivision near "Beallair." The company has asked for HLC comment. Carmen observed that we need to have a discussion with the planning commission. She will respond to this request.