

Minutes
Union County Historic Preservation Commission
May 4, 2010

The Union County Historic Preservation Commission met at 3:30 on Tuesday, May 4, 2010 in the Heritage Room at the historic Union County Courthouse, Monroe, North Carolina.

Present: Al Diehl, Sis Dillon, Carolyn Funderburk, Brad Hudson

Absent: Dr. Jerry Surratt, Charles Williams, Danny Stegall, Dale Loberger

Also Present: Virginia Bjorlin, Mary Lou Gamble, Harriett Moore

Al Diehl began his term as Chairman presiding over the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Diehl asked if anyone had any changes or questions about the minutes. Due to lack of a quorum, the minutes from the April meeting could not be approved.

Financial Report

Mr. Diehl asked the commission members to review the April financial report. Mrs. Gamble reported that appropriations had been received for the rest of this budget year from the City of Monroe in the amount of \$6,000.00 and Union County for \$4,100.00. There will be no more appropriations made until October, 2010.

Report of Committees

Mr. Diehl said that plans for establishing a museum in the historic courthouse are still on hold.

Unfinished Business

Mrs. Bjorlin said that the County Commission has called for a public hearing regarding the designation of Stallings Methodist Church but the information has not yet been sent from the legal department to the commissioners. She suggested members of the Historic Preservation Commission should attend the public hearing when it is scheduled.

Mrs. Bjorlin said that the clock, circa 1790-1800 was moved to the historic courthouse on April 23. The anonymous donor of the clock visited the Heritage Room and saw the clock.

Mr. Diehl asked about the future move of the Heritage Room to across the hall. The floor in two rooms has not yet been replaced and one room needs to be repainted.

Consideration of Applications

Mr. Diehl asked if a letter of recommendation had been taken to the County Commissioners from the group requesting a monument for pensioners of color to be placed at the Confederate Monument on the west side of the historic courthouse. Mrs. Bjorlin reported that she attended the County Commissioners meeting May 3 and reported that Tony Way made the presentation to the County Commissioners about the proposed monument. Mrs. Bjorlin mentioned that at least fifteen descendents of the pensioners were also in attendance. Mrs. Bjorlin reminded Tony Way that an Application of Certificate of Appropriateness would have to be filed and that Barry Wyatt, Director of General Services, would be the one to submit the application. She suggested that when the application is received, a meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission be scheduled 30 days after the date on the application. Mrs. Bjorlin referred to the existing wording that is inscribed on the Confederate Monument. Mrs. Patricia Poland feels that the wording does not include these specific people. Mr. Diehl mentioned other participants in the war that also have not been mentioned such as the women, nurses and others that also should be recognized should this monument be approved. Members discussed placing a plaque or designing a permanent display in the museum recognizing the pensioners and their stories.

New Business

Mr. Diehl asked the Commission to express their thoughts about charging a fee for the filing of Applications of Certificates of Appropriateness. He felt we should at least charge postage for the mailings and that the applicant should provide a list of neighbors and addresses who would need to be notified of the public hearing regarding the application. The ordinance will be checked to verify who should be notified from the surrounding properties. Also discussed was: should a fee be charged for the Application of Certificate of Appropriateness for the proposed monument and which surrounding property owners should be notified.

Mrs. Bjorlin said that July 4 is the 100th anniversary of the placing of the time capsule in the Confederate Monument. The Historical Society will be planning a celebration. Mrs. Bjorlin mentioned that a tube made of PVC has been constructed by the Keith Corporation to bury as a time capsule. She asked for suggestions as to what to put in the time capsule.

Meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be on June 1, 2010 in the Heritage Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Diehl
Chairman

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