

Minutes
Union County Historic Preservation Commission
October 6, 2009

The Union County Historic Preservation Commission met at 3:30 on Tuesday, October 6, 2009 in the Heritage Room at the historic Union County Courthouse, Monroe, North Carolina.

Present: Virginia Bjorlin, Carolyn Funderburk, Charles William, Danny Stegall, Al Diehl, Sis Dillon

Absent: John Dickerson, Margaret Bivens, Brad Hudson

Also Present: Mary Lou Gamble, Harriett Moore

Mrs. Bjorlin recognized Emmy Lou Haywood's retirement from the Historic Preservation Commission. Because Waxhaw is forming a historic preservation commission, our commission will no longer have a representative from Waxhaw. After serving two terms, Mr. Dickerson's term has also expired. He will be eligible for reappointment after a year's absence.

Approval of Minutes

Due to lack of a quorum at the September meeting, the July minutes were not approved. Mrs. Bjorlin asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the July meeting. Mrs. Funderburk motioned to approve the July minutes. Mr. Stegall seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously as written. The September minutes were reviewed and Mrs. Funderburk motioned to approve the September minutes. Mr. Stegall seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Financial Report

Mrs. Bjorlin asked the commission members to review both the July and September financial reports. The reports were approved and will be filed with the minutes. Mrs. Gamble said that she will mail requests tomorrow to the County and the City for first quarter funding.

Report of Committees

Mrs. Bjorlin asked if there had been any action towards the lighting of the historic Courthouse. Mrs. Dillon reported that Mr. Clayton Daniel has written letters to both the City and the County encouraging them to work together to implement the project and he has also spoken to Mayor Bobby Kilgore. No action has been taken.

Unfinished Business

Mrs. Bjorlin said that the Waxhaw Commission had named six out of the seven members to serve on their historic preservation commission. When the seventh member is named, the commission will elect a chairman and other officers. Waxhaw has been in touch with Alta Cassidy at the State Preservation Office and the appointees have attended a workshop in Southern Pines.

Mrs. Bjorlin reported that the William Houston House on Goldmine Road at Dead Man's Curve has been sold as of September 11, 2009, and will be demolished.

Regarding the designation of the Stallings Methodist Church, Mrs. Bjorlin said that Sidney Halma is preparing the Survey and Research Report. He will be paid \$500 once the report is delivered. Mrs. Bjorlin has researched the Western NC Methodist Church Archives and found no new information on Stallings Methodist. Mr. Halma has all the information available concerning Stallings Methodist at this time, although Mrs. Bjorlin is trying to find a newspaper account of a fire at the church around 1919. Mrs. Funderburk offered to contact the Stallings Town Hall for any information they might find concerning the fire.

Mrs. Bjorlin stated that Courtney Ritchie, Union County Legal Department, decided that Marshville Town Council will need to designate the Hamilton-Marsh House, 1311 Highway 205, Marshville, NC, since it has zoning jurisdiction. All materials will need to be reorganized and delivered to Bobby Griffin, Marshville Town Attorney, before an ordinance can be adopted. Mrs. Bjorlin reported that Marshville Town Council did vote to approve the designation of the Hamilton-Marsh house. The owners, William M. and Patricia S. Potter were present at the meeting.

Consideration of Applications

Mrs. Bjorlin said that we do not have any applications for designation pending at this time other than Stallings Methodist Church.

New Business

Mrs. Bjorlin said that the election of officers is usually made in September. Mrs. Bjorlin's term expires next year and the commission will need to elect someone as her replacement. She said that once the new chairman is elected, she would work with them as Vice Chairman until the end of her term. Mrs. Bjorlin said we should delay the election of officers until all commission members are present. Mr. Diehl moved to suspend the election of officers until new appointments to the commission are made. Mr. Stegall seconded the motion and the vote carried.

Mrs. Bjorlin mentioned that the grandfather clock used in the late 1800's in the courtroom has been bought and given to the museum by a former resident of Union county. The clock predates 1840, and has been changed through the years but still has

the original wooden workings. Mrs. Dillon has recommended a clockman who can refinish the outside and restore the workings of the clock. The donor has offered to pay for restoring it unless the estimate comes in too high. The clock needs to be picked up and delivered to the clockman. Mark Watson has done a great deal of research on the clock and has been to see the clock where it is stored at the home of Edith Brooks on Weddington Road. Gideon Roberts made the inner works and the clock is stamped with his name. The clock will be documented as having a Union County connection.

Mrs. Gamble and Mrs. Moore were asked to leave the room in order for the commission members to discuss a salary increase for the two part-time employees. Mrs. Bjorlin asked for a motion that the increase be in line with the percentage given to county employees. Mr. Stegall motioned to approve salary increase and Mrs. Dillon seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Adjournment

The next meeting will be November 3 at 3:30 in the Heritage Room.

Respectfully,

Virginia Bjorlin
Chairman