

Minutes of Jefferson County Landmarks Commission

August 18, 2010

Members Present: John Allen, Don Amoroso, Martin Burke, Michael Musick. Guests: Becky Bethany, Joyce Cole, Erin Riebe, Bill Theriault.

Minutes: Minutes of the July 21, 2010 meeting were distributed. Acceptance of the minutes was moved by Martin Burke, seconded by Don Amoroso, and passed.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was presented by Don Amoroso, with handouts distributed. Since our last meeting we have spent \$418 on the Burr House clean up, \$6,000 on the Viewshed Survey, \$237 on our website, \$154.64 on utilities, and \$460.10 on the asbestos survey of the Poor House. We have not yet received our first check from the hotel/motel tax, which may be less than last year. We need to get the money before we can spend it. We now have some \$13,000 in cash. \$8,000 has been committed to the Peter Burr House. Martin Burke remarked regarding the tractor at the Burr Farm that we have no bushhog, so we can't cut the grass with it. He added that we would like to know if the bread bakers can expand the definition of what the money they make can be spent on. Don suggested that we wait on this. Michael Musick moved acceptance of the treasurer's report, which was seconded by Martin Burke and passed.

Viewshed Survey: The final maps for this will be on their way soon.

Bullskin Run Historic District, National Register Nomination: Erin Riebe, from SHPO, explained and discussed this nomination, for which she has done her best to triple the area covered. There is difficulty with four properties. The NPS has asked for more agricultural and industrial history information. John Allen noted recent discovery of an 1820 county map. Ms. Riebe invited comment on the nomination. They need to get the draft to the state review board by mid-September. John Allen thanked Erin Riebe and Becky Bethany (also from SHPO) for their work. Martin Burke pointed out that PATH will go right through the area nominated.

Poor Farm: The next project is a lead and asbestos abatement assessment, and roofing.

Peter Burr Farm: Martin Burke announced that the bridge is now gone. There have been 15 maintenance improvements. We will see about installing smoke and heat detectors. He hopes by next meeting to have a proposal for intrusion protection. Our goal is to take down the fence while keeping the property protected. Martin is gathering information with no commitments. Holes in the barn roof and the drainage problem were touched on. He is meeting with the Freshwater Institute. Mowing will facilitate the flow of water. Bill Theriault asked if anyone is checking the well water level; Joyce Cole responded that the level has gone down, which was followed by discussion. Martin said grass cutting will be less than \$250. David Gibney will be working on the house and will have put in windows by our next meeting. We have an offer to paint the kitchen and bathroom. The effort to get rid of the wagon was discussed. There is \$250 in the budget

for painting, and \$250 for mowing. John Allen said if we don't get our money in two weeks he will go before the county commission to ask for an immediate check. Don Amoroso said the insurance payment is coming. Joyce Cole, from Reliving History, expressed pleasure at what Martin is doing. She will pay \$100 if he can't get it. Her group will be advertising workshops. Homecoming will be much smaller than originally expected. They will utilize Homecoming as manpower for the Harvest Faire, and will have things to sell there. There was discussion of building a firepit to barbecue, which was tabled until Carmen Creamer can be part of the discussion. There was discussion of liability; we will have an answer on that before the middle of October.

Website: Martin Burke reported once a month updates. A searchbar has been added, also county landmarks nominations. We continue running usage statistics. A search feature is now being used. The Perry Collection is being put online.

Long Range Plan: Michael Musick moved to approve the plan, which was seconded by Martin Burke and passed.

Upcoming Events, Miscellaneous: Walter Washington received the ca. 1830 Van Tol coverlet, given to the HLC, and now being stored in the county museum. It has no connection with the county. Our options are to continue to hold it; to contact the Van Tol family; or to give it to an institution in Greenbrier County, which has a connection to it (we don't have a place for such things). Disposition of the quilt was discussed. Michael Musick will look into getting an unofficial estimate of its value. The Charles Town Festival is September 18. There is a tour of Taylor Sketchbook sites October 13-16.

Ad Hoc Committee on Data: Bill Theriault reported that his grant will be finished by September 1. Don Amoroso is working on a grant. Bill has worked out what the HLC needs to insert in the grant, which is due by mid-September. He has sent John Allen the form and requirements. The GeoHistory project is still ongoing. They are working on data structure, etc. Bill explained the project to the ladies from SHPO who were present. Erin Riebe offered to share information with Bill.