

Minutes of Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission
March 20, 2013

1. Attendees: HLC members: Martin Burke, Carmen Creamer, Curt Mason; Lyn Widmyer, Jefferson County Commission representative; John Allen; Willis Nowell; and Daniel Lutz. HLC Members absent: Mike Musick and Eric Jenkins.
2. Minutes: Martin Burke presented Minutes from the February 20, 2013 meeting. Carmen Creamer moved and Martin Burke seconded the minutes be approved. Motion passed.
3. Treasurers Report: JCHLC treasurer John Allen presented the final treasurers report of his term, which expired March 20.
4. HLC Projects Underway or Completed:

Cement Mill

- Reinforcement of the door and window openings has been completed.
- During the week of April 8th a baseline easement report will be initiated by the Land Trust of the Eastern Panhandle that will be attached to the conservation easement.
- A general cleanup of the area will be conducted under a “Make it Shine” grant on April 6, coordinated by the Shepherdstown Battlefield Preservation Association
- In late April or May, the National Park Service will host a public meeting to present the draft easement report and gather public information for an environmental impacts study.

Snow Hill

- Redirection of the \$5,000 available for lead abatement needs to be considered, in concert with a needed decision as to the ultimate fate of the windows on the side walls, i.e. whether to fill in windows that were added to the structure after its original construction.

Peter Burr House. Nothing to report.

GeoExplorer Project. Dr. Bill Theriault reported:

- The Two Rivers Giving Circle grant has been completed by archivist Brad Wiles. A report was submitted March 8 summarizing the results of digitizing 20,500 images from Jefferson County public records and wills from the 19th century contained in the Spirit of Jefferson newspaper archives dated between 1870 and 1930.
- \$1500 grant was received from the West Virginia Humanities Council to digitize holdings of the Middleway Conservancy.
- Upgrading the Search Interface for the GeoExplorer Project should be completed by 1 April 2013.
- A presentation at the APUS’ March 30th Civil War Symposium will be given by Don Watts and Bill Theriault.
- A number of WVU students have volunteered to assist the project during the summer of 2013.

HLC Archives. A draft agreement between the HLC and Shepherd University’s Scarborough Library to place on deposit 25 boxes of HLC archives. The document is under review by the signatories.

HLC Fourth and Eighth Grade Contributions to Education Programs and Curriculum Standards. Generation of materials for the teachers is underway for the 4th Grade and material

relating to the GeoExplorer project is being developed for the 8th Grade to insure that local history is integrated into the schools' curriculum.

Election of Officers: Curt Mason moved and Carmen Creamer seconded a motion that the following officers be elected unanimously for terms beginning March 20, 2013:

President Martin Burke

Treasurer: Carmen Creamer

Secretary Michael Musick

The motion passed.

Other Projects

- Horseshoe Bend Preservation Area. Mr. Willis Nowell of Friends of Shannondale Springs reported that his group continues to monitor and care for this property which is managed by the HLC in partnership with the WV Department of Natural Resources, which also helps maintain it. DNR plans call for restoring the area to foster deer and small animal habitat. Mr. Nowell invited members of the HLC to contact him if they wished to visit the property with him.
- Route 340 Corridor: Commissioner Widmyer stated that a public meeting would be held to discuss plans for relocating and improving Route 340 in the extreme south end of the county.
- Feagen's Mill. Mr. Daniel Lutz discussed a letter he had received from the Federal Emergency Management Authority clarifying that state-recognized historic resources located within flood plains are not subject to "restrictions" due to their being in the flood plain. After some discussion, it was agreed that the HLC will write a letter to the JC Planning Office citing the FEMA Letter and stating that the mill is indeed recognized historic place based on the recent HLC survey and its classification as a state historic resources.

Letter to Mr. Lutz will be drafted and sent by Martin Burke confirming mill is a historic property.