

Minutes of Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission

October 17th, 2012

Members Present: John Allen, Martin Burke, Carmen Creamer, Michael Musick, Eric Jenkins, County Commission Liaison Frances Morgan and Bill Theriault.

Minutes: Minutes of the Sept 19th 2012 meeting taken and presented by E. Jenkins. C. Creamer moved to accept, M. Musick seconded and passed.

Treasurers Report: John Allen presented treasurers report with handouts. Total \$23,129.77 C. Creamer moved to accept report, seconded by M. Musick. Motion passed.

Note: The water leak at the Burr Farm has been fixed which explained the excessively high water bills.

Shepherdstown Cement Mill: Still waiting for signatures from Mr. Speg and Cynthia Rider, adjacent landowners, on plates and deeds. Attorney Walter Washington is handling issues.

Peter Burr Farm: Commissioner Jenkins noted what a great event, Peter Burr Day, Reliving History Inc. held at the Burr Farm. Event was very well attended.

Next week all of the 4th graders from Jefferson Co. Schools will be hosted at the Burr Farm. The program has again been developed and staffed by Reliving History Inc.

Estimates were received to repair roof leaks on the Barn from two contractors: (Virginia Pro Roofing and Russell Roofing Co.) Changes were made to estimate as to what would be historically appropriate and a re-estimate will need to be obtained.

Proofing room, in the PBF main house for bread needs to be insulated in order to help bread rise during the cold months. Rough estimate given of \$200.00 to accomplish the task of insulation.

Snow Hill (Poor Farm): Idea was put forth to hire a tree service to clean around the old wash house to allow documentation during the winter and clear tree on front lawn from storm damage. C. Creamer moved to accept, J. Allen seconded moving to spend up to \$1,000. Motion passed.

Possibility of having Shepherd University students document the washhouse structure will be explored.

Still waiting for an estimate for lead testing and remediation in the four rooms and main foyer of Snow Hill (not including wing). Work is a priority in advance of other stabilization work.

Geo Explorer: Visual Resource Assoc. Foundation Grant presented to M. Burke for signature. Two Rivers Giving Circle has granted \$3,500, the largest grant in the organization's history, to the GeoExplorer Project to digitize county records.

Work continues on the Humanities Council Grant for Middleway Conservancy documents.

PAWV Conference: Commissioners M. Burke, J. Allen attended. Burke and Bill Theriault presented in two sessions one on the GeoExplorer Project and the other battlefield preservation.

Miscellaneous: November the 5th John Allen will give a tour of Shenandoah Junction historic district structures to Shepherd University students in advance of their photographic documentation project.

Discussion on what JCHLC would like to do with National Register Properties which are not listed as county landmarks and nominating additional county landmarks. General sense is that most of the large homes are listed but Commission needs to diversity the list of county landmarks to include other types of structures; churches, mills, commercial buildings, and etc. Commissioners are asked to personally identify structures, which they feel would be good additions as county landmarks, and to bring these ideas to the next meeting.

Proposal for a barn survey to be undertaken by JCHLC and a farmstead survey by Shepherd University. Need has been shown to conduct a survey noting the quick

pace in which these structures are disappearing from the county landscape. John Allen and Martin Burke will discuss funding and order.

Note made that JCHLC works in the unincorporated areas of Jefferson County as the question of jurisdiction has been raised several times, particularly with Shepherdstown.

November meeting of JCHLC will not be held do to its proximity to Thanksgiving. December Landmarks meeting will be held at Oak Tree Farm in Uvilla (Home of Commissioner Eric Jenkins)

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm