Minutes of Jefferson County Landmarks Commission Meeting

May 21, 2008


Minutes: The minutes of the April 16, 2008 meeting were approved unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report: The treasurer’s report was presented by Don Amoroso, with handouts distributed. John Allen noted that Kip Stowell is working on drawings for the Spring House porch at the Burr Farm. Kip Stowell spoke of the needs of buildings at the farm, which were discussed by Bill Theriault and John Allen. John Allen remarked that we do not know the cost of work on the Spring House porch, which was followed by discussion of costs for that building, and of funding for repairs, including comment by Don Amoroso and Bill Theriault. Kip Stowell moved that $8,000 plus be spent for painting the Poor House - assuming we receive a check from the SHPO - which was seconded by Don Amoroso and passed. John Allen will talk to a county commissioner about it.

Peter Burr Farm: Irvan Groff reported that the barn doors are finished, and that the school program was cancelled due to bad weather. Maggie Keeler stated that the Spring event will be on June 21. The farm will be open Garden Day. Bill Berry reported on Burr Farm finances, noting that the current balance is $2,447.90. Maggie Keeler commented that there will be a basket class on baking day.

Survey: Bill Theriault noted that there are two surveys, one by Taylor and Taylor, which is 90% complete, and a Landmarks Commission survey overseen by John Allen. He is working on putting the Taylor and Allen surveys into software to project them onto a map. The initial goal is longitude and latitude coordinates, after which the Taylor and Allen surveys will be reconciled. Bill Theriault has purchased microfilm of land record books from the Utah Historical Society and is donating it to the Landmarks Commission. Don Amoroso moved that $300 be spent for four rolls of microfilm at West Virginia University, which was seconded by Kip Stowell and passed.

Rules: Bill Theriault has put our rules into Word, for which John Allen thanked him.

Civil War Markers: Don Amoroso has written up nominations for three sites (the Aug. 21, 1864 engagement at Cameron’s Depot; the Rutherford House in Charles Town - site of an important meeting between Generals U.S. Grant and P.H. Sheridan; and the location of Col. J.S. Mosby’s “Greenback Raid”) to the Civil War Trails marker program, which allows only three sites per county. John Allen will forward these to the Trails program.

Landmarks Workshop: Don Amoroso reported that he and John Allen represented the Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission in a seven-hour landmarks
commission workshop in Shepherdstown May 17.

**National Register:** John Allen reported that the Bullskin District was pulled from an Archives and History meeting because some property owners had not been notified. He took Erin Riebe of the SHPO around to see possibly eligible properties May 15. He also led a discussion on the need for updating National Register nominations that are over 30 years old, one of which is Harewood. He urged that Harewood get National Historic Landmark status. Bill Theriault noted that files for the National Register are incomplete.

**File Storage:** John Allen will talk to Tom Hall to discuss a day to move records.

**Upcoming Events, Misc.:** Events scheduled for the Peter Burr Farm were discussed.