

Minutes of Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission Meeting

September 20, 2007

Members Present: John Allen, Walter Washington, Don Amoroso, Kip Stowell, Carmen Creamer; County Commissioner Rusty Morgan. Guests: Bill Theriault, Irvan Groff, Maggie Keeler, Bill Berry.

Minutes: The minutes of the August 20, 2007 meeting were approved unanimously; the revised minutes of the July 19, 2007 minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was presented by Don Amoroso. John Allen noted the Commission will need to buy a computer to maintain the Historic Resources Survey database. The treasurer's report was accepted unanimously.

Rules: The revised rules sections reflecting the rule changes adopted at the July 19, 2007 were distributed.

Landmark Nominees: The following nominations for designation as a Jefferson County Historic Landmark were approved unanimously: Rees-Daniel Farm (Fair View), Prospect Hall, New Hopewell and Bel-Mar. The designation of Locust Grove was approved 4-0, with Carmen Creamer abstaining.

National Register/Survey: John Allen reported that the nomination of Rock Spring had been postponed. Jack Snyder presented an update on the Duffields Train Station. He reported that \$8500 was needed to match a state grant and that \$3300 had been raised to date, leaving a balance of \$3300. John Allen reported that David Taylor had been engaged to work on the nomination for the Bullskin Watershed Rural Historic District. The possibility of applying for a grant from SHPO to survey churches in the county was discussed.

Peter Burr Farm: Bill Theriault presented the draft of a book he has written entitled "Artisan Breadbaking for History Organizations." He suggested that the Jefferson County Historical Society might be in a position to publish it. Irvan Groff reported that the pest control work had been completed by Erlich Pest Control. He also reported that he had purchased a Torro mower with a small wagon attachment from Home Depot. He reported that electricity had been off due to a problem with the circuit breaker. He also noted that the stairs to the ice house basement had broken. The need for carpentry work on windows for the spring house and doors for the barn was discussed. Walter Washington reported that Dan Douridas with RAI was interested in meeting with the Commission to discuss proposed improvements to adjoining lots. Bill Berry reported the balance of Peter Burr account was \$2,673.10.

Road Names: John Allen reported on research on the history of names for Myerstown Road, Johnsontown Road and Bower Road.

Viewshed Survey: John Allen reported on the preliminary report on the viewshed survey. The consultant preparing the report will be invited to the October Commission meeting.

Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission

Minutes from October 18, 2007

Library Meeting Room, Charles Town

Commissioners Present –

Kip Stowell, Don Amoroso, Carmen Creamer and John Allen. Also present: County Commissioner Jim Surkamp

- **Approval of Minutes** – Minutes of September 20, 2007 submitted via e-mail by Walter Washington. Unanimous vote of approval for minutes.
- **Treasurer's Report** – Don Amoroso reported on the accounts and stated that some small bills had been paid. John Allen discussed the budget line items that had been e-mailed to the commissioners. The treasurer's report was accepted unanimously.
- **New Landmarks** – JA stated that the County Commission and SHPO had been given reports on the new landmarks, fulfilling the HLC obligation of notification.
- **Guest: Tom Hall** – New county employee, Tom Hall, introduced himself to the HLC. Hall works as a planner and landscape architect for the county. He gave information on the HALS program and stated that he would like to see some Jefferson County landscapes documented.
- **Road Names** – JA reported that a letter had been sent to the CC with the HLC recommendations regarding the three road names.
- **Viewshed Survey** – JA reported that the HLC is waiting for recommendations and pricing for further viewshed work from Scenic America.
- **Peter Burr Living History Farm** – The HLC voted unanimously to recommend that the Jefferson County Historical Society publish Bill Theriault's new book, "Artisan Bread Baking for Living History Organizations". JA reported on a meeting with Dan Douridas regarding encroaching development adjacent to the Peter Burr Farm. Douridas offered to build an access to the side of the house while expanding parking lots in the business park. Kip Stowell questioned the affects of an earthen ramp to the house, suggesting that drainage could be dammed. A discussion opened regarding the Right of Way to the house. Carmen Creamer asked that the minutes reflect her dissatisfaction with County's inability to resolve the ROW issue. Commissioner Surkamp asked the HLC to forward their understanding of the ROW in letter form to the CC and County Planner. Irv Groff reported that this weekend is the Harvest Faire at the Peter Burr Farm. The festival will include historic activities and bread and produce for sale.
- **National Register** – Consultant David Taylor will be starting work on the Bullskin Heritage Area Nat'l Register nomination next month, JA reported.

- **Awards** – The HLC announced that it would be giving three annual awards starting in 2008. The awards are as follows:

Landmark Preservation Award – Given annually to persons, groups, or businesses that have worked to preserve a Landmark building or significant historic site in Jefferson County

Theriacult Award -

Given annually to a deserving person who has contributed greatly to the study and understanding of the history of Jefferson County.

Volunteer Award –

Given annually to persons or groups that have donated their time and expertise to the preservation and/or interpretation of Jefferson County's historic sites.

JA remarked that the HLC had decided to name the historian award for Mr. Theriacult due to his longtime service to the HLC and community. Bill Theriacult thanked the HLC for this honor.

- **Other Business** – JA reminded the HLC of the public hearing regarding county funding of the Shepherdstown Battlefield on October 30th. Lastly, a motion was passed to ask SHPO to review the proposed waterline work by Jefferson Utilities as published in the October 3rd public notice.

Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission

Minutes from November 20, 2007

Library Meeting Room, Charles Town

Commissioners Present –

Kip Stowell, Don Amoroso, Carmen Creamer and John Allen.

- **Approval of Minutes** – Minutes of October 18, 2007 submitted by John Allen. Unanimous vote of approval for minutes.
- **Treasurer's Report** – Don Amoroso gave his report on the budget. He said that he would be meeting with a representative from BRIM on December 5th. Amoroso asked the Friends or Peter Burr group to give him a list of events held on the site to discuss with BRIM. Unanimous vote to approve Treasurer's Report.
- **National Register** – John Allen reported that David Taylor would begin field work next week on the Bullskin NR District.
- **Washington Family Legacy National Park** – JA said that he would e-mail information on the proposed Washington Family Nat'l Park to the other commissioners. He asked that the HLC vote at the next meeting, whether or not to support the proposal.
- **Peter Burr Living History Farm** – Bill Berry reported that the Friends group has \$2,585.04 in their account. This figure does not show sales from the Harvest Faire or costs from that event. Kip Stowell that he has been designing the doors for the barn. JA asked for pricing information on that project when available.
- **Standard Quarry NPS Museum** – JA began discussion on the proposed plan to acquire the Standard Quarry property and build a museum of the National Park Service there. Allen asked if the other commissioners approved of this plan. Several commissioners asked for more details regarding the proposal. JA said that he would try to get more information to them.
- **National Register** – Consultant David Taylor will be starting work on the Bullskin Heritage Area Nat'l Register nomination next month, JA reported.
- **Other Business** – JA reported that local businessman, Bill Scott, has volunteered to pay for the restoration of some historic prints hanging in the courthouse. Allen has been in contact with Scott at the request of the County Commission. Next the commission talked about the situation regarding the Bierer tombstone, currently in the possession of the State Archives in Charleston. The county commission has asked the HLC to look into the status of the artifact. JA asked if tombstones are protected under state law. CC said that a tombstone would not be considered protected as an archaeological artifact. It was decided that JA would contact the Archives and look into state law concerning the item.

Minutes of Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission Meeting

December 20, 2007

Members Present: John Allen, Walter Washington.

Due to lack of a quorum, no meeting was held.