

## MINUTES

### **HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION JANUARY 24, 2007**

The Historic Resources Commission met on Wednesday, January 24, 2007 at 4:00pm in the Commissioners' Conference Room of the Henderson County Office Building.

Committee members present were: Judy Abrell, Babs Kuykendall, Susan Sneeringer, Roger Snyder, James Stockman, Dries Jansma and Eugene Avergon.

Committee members absent were: Donald Wilson.

Henderson County staff in attendance were: Board of Commissioners Chairman Bill Moyer and Research and Grants Coordinator Amy Brantley.

#### **CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME**

Bill Moyer called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

##### **Appointment of a Chairman**

A copy of the Ordinance establishing the Historic Resources Commission was distributed. Bill Moyer pointed out that the Ordinance did not specify how the Chairman of the Commission was to be decided, and suggested that the Commission appoint the Chair. Babs Kuykendall nominated Judy Abrell to serve as Chairman, and Susan Sneeringer seconded the nomination. *Jim Stockman made the motion to accept the nomination by acclamation. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

##### **Importance of the Commission**

Mrs. Abrell showed the members a map created by the County's GIS Department which contained structures greater than 50 years old. That map indicated over 6,400 potential historic sites in Henderson County. Additionally, preservation of historic sites is called for in the Henderson County Strategic Plan. The number one challenge will be to find money to do a survey of historic properties. A survey does exist, but it is almost 20 years old. Mrs. Abrell noted that possible funding sources were grants, such as the Blue Ridge Heritage Trust Fund. She suggested inviting the State Historic Preservation Officer from Asheville attend an upcoming meeting to discuss preservation specifics with the Commission.

There followed much discussion of exactly what constituted a historic building. Must everything be original? Could the building have been transplanted? Could additions have been added? It was the consensus of the members to acquire a copy of the "Handbook for Historic Preservation Committees in North Carolina" for each member to assist with such questions.

##### **Introductions**

Each Commission member introduced themselves, provided a brief background and discussed their interest in serving on the Commission.

##### **Additional Discussion**

There was discussion about exactly what being designated on the National Register meant. It is primarily an honor, not a protection. A designated building may still be torn down. However, local designation does provide more protection power than the national designation.

DATE APPROVED: MARCH 28, 2007

It was the consensus of the Commission to have the members do an initial assessment of potential historic properties before proceeding to a formal survey. To assist in this assessment, staff will produce a list of properties containing structures older than 200 years, between 150 and 200, 100 and 150, and 50 and 100. Physical addresses for such properties were requested if possible. There was discussion about whether schools, churches, and barns would be included on that list. There was also discussion about whether the Commission would be considering designation of historic properties.

Finally, there was discussion about setting up a phone number where people could call in with information on historic properties. Staff will look into the best method of providing such a service, and discuss it at the next meeting.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

It was the consensus of the Commission to schedule the regular meeting date and time for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 4:00pm.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned.