

-HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2026

The Historic Resources Commission (HRC) met on Monday, May 18, 2026, at 1:30 P.M. in the King Street Meeting Room at 100 N. King Street, Hendersonville, N.C.

ATTENDEES

Kathie Doole, Chair
Anne Bryan Hanson
Michael Arrowood
Mandy Gibson
Bob D. Johnson
Knox Crowell
Miles Kish (Staff)
Carlos Martinez (Staff)

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kathie Doole commenced the meeting at 1:34 P.M.

ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

The May 2026 Meeting Agenda was printed and emailed to the Commission prior to the meeting for their review. Knox Cowell moved to approve the agenda with no revisions. Bryan Hanson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

The March 2026 Meeting Minutes were emailed to the Commission prior to the meeting for their review. Knox Cowell moved to approve the minutes with no revisions. Bryan Hanson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

National Register Sites

Carlos Martinez prepared a list of Henderson County sites that are on the National Register of Historic Places (excluding Flat Rock and Hendersonville). He explained the difference between Local Historic Landmarks and the National Register, and he showed why local designation often provides greater protection and gives the Commission a say on how structures develop over time. A commission member asked whether any of the sites on the list were registered with the state. Carlos explained that states do not maintain standalone lists and that each state is responsible for administering its own stock of National Register sites.

Mandy Gibson reported that the Board of Education was open to seeking a Historic Landmark designation for the Johnson Farm, but they are wondering what the rationale would be for seeking the designation, since they do not receive the tax benefit. The Commission discussed

promotional materials for all the Landmarks, which could bring visitors to the Johnson Farm. Knox Crowell noted that the Singeltary-Reese-Robinson House was built before 1928, as indicated on the printed list. Carlos will reach out if this is the case. Lastly, Michael Arrowood inquired about Glen Arden, seeing that Camp Arrowhead was on the list. Carlos investigated after the meeting and found that both camps are listed in the National Register.

Town of Fletcher – Municipal Study

Carlos Martinez presented the first of three studies on the municipalities covered by the HRC, aimed at designating landmarks in each. This study highlighted the two National Register sites in Fletcher and covered other NCHPO sites. Roberts St, off Hendersonville Road, has several 1930s brick homes, prompting a discussion of historic districts. The Commission has the right to designate historic districts, but there were several questions that Carlos will investigate, including: Does the neighborhood need to vote in favor of becoming a historic district? What is the threshold? What sort of restrictions are placed on historic districts? Are there certain benefits? It was suggested that the City of Hendersonville's regulations be investigated. Michael Arrowood directed the conversation to Veritas and other old educational institutions in the county, expressing that they should be designated. Carlos already mailed a letter, but he suggested additional contact may be necessary. Knox Crowell asked about designating structures for the people who lived in them rather than for the structure itself, and Carlos told him that this is a legitimate reason to give a designation, and it is written in the ordinance. Knox Crowell mentioned that 111 Lake Drive, "Holly Hill", may be a good candidate for such a designation. It was the home of William Alexander Smith, the Founder of Laurel Park; Carlos will contact. Knox also mentioned that there may be a tie to the Warner family, of Warner Bros., that needs further investigation. Chair Kathie Doole asked whether the Feed and Seed building was, in fact, less than 100 years old; Carlos will investigate.

Henderson County History Hub

Carlos Martinez presented a new online tool intended to bring together all of Henderson County's historical resources into one place. Mandy Gibson requested that the Johnson Farm be added, so Carlos will add a "Sites" Category to include it and the Carl Sandburg Home.

UPDATES

Applications

Carlos is anticipating a couple of applications from owners after receiving letters in the mail about the program. He has also begun to contact realtors who are listing qualifying structures.

Town of Mills River – Interlocal Agreement

The Board of Commissioners is the only remaining step for the Town of Mills River to become eligible for Landmark designation under the HRC.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Commission adjourned at 2:41.