

JACKSON COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

MINUTES

Date: June 20, 2023								
Time Begin: 5:16 pm								
Time End: 5:56 pm								
Location: Jackson County Public Library, Conference Room								
Members	Present	Absent		Present	Absent		Present	Absent
Susan Leveille	X		Jane Eastman	X		Beth Parris	X	
Bill Crawford	X		Luther Jones	X		Michael Moore	X	
Brandon Core	X		Pam Meister	X				
Celeste Pratt		X	Carl Iobst		X			

Staff Present:

Michael Poston, Planning Director
 Anna Harkins, Planner I
 Allison Kelley, Administrative Assistant III

Call to Order and Quorum Check

Chair Susan Leveille called the meeting to order at 5:16 p.m. and a quorum was present.

Approval of the Agenda

Jane Eastman made a motion to approve the agenda as written. Michael Moore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes

Pam Meister made a motion to approve the minutes from April 18, 2023. Brandon Core seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment (3 minutes per speaker)

There were no public comments.

New Business

a) Historic Preservation Month Update

Ms. Harkins stated the month of May is National Historic Preservation month. The Commission asked staff to campaign the National Register Sites within Jackson County on the Commission’s Facebook page. Ms. Harkins stated these site posts performed great and they have reached 2,187 people within the month of May. In addition, she stated there was 567 people that liked, commented, or clicked on our shared posts, and 17 new followers. The most popular post was Judaculla Rock with 1,353 views, 16 reactions, and 14 shares. The Town of Webster and Sylva Chamber of Commerce also shared our posts, and we had at least two posts a week. However, they did not get to the entire National Register landmark sites in the County and she received great information later about High Hampton historic district that they could use as a future post. Ms. Harkins asked the Commission if they had any ideas about future Facebook posts to let staff know, as it was very helpful to reach out to patrons of these historic sites to obtain more information. In addition, she stated they had two public library displays in Sylva and Cashiers to promote National Historic Preservation

Month and provided coloring pages of the historic sites. Ms. Harkins stated she also provided both libraries PDF versions to allow them to continue printing off the coloring pages in the future. Ms. Harkins stated overall the displays and weekly posts gained 30 new Facebook followers, and she hopes to continue outreach again next year.

b) Mountain Heritage Day

Ms. Harkins stated Mountain Heritage Day is quickly approaching on September 30th. The Commission this past year had a great amount of engagement with the Jackson County Architectural Survey Update of Historic Resources from 1945-1975. In addition, they also had coloring pages for some the National Register sites, and an interactive board of Jackson County that asked the community where their favorite historic sites are located. Ms. Harkins stated there were 50 people that interacted with the board, and they gave out at least 100 coloring pages during this festival. Staff has been brainstorming in-house of some ideas that the Commission could do for this upcoming festival. Ms. Harkins stated they had received feedback at the past few festivals that the community was engaged about the National Register landmarks, but they did not know where these sites were located. Staff stated they were considering creating a National Register “road trip” map trifold pamphlet that could be distributed and uploaded on the Historic Preservation Commission website. The Commission asked staff to move forward on producing the National Register “road trip” map to bring back at the next meeting.

c) Staff Updates

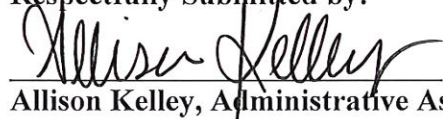
Ms. Harkins stated she met with the new president of the board of the Appalachian Women’s Museum Rebecca Watkins. She stated they are trying to do more programming, and is interested in collaboration with this Commission. In addition, she stated they are looking for more programs that include story time and/or crafting on the porch. Ms. Harkins asked the Commission to reach out to her if they have any interest volunteering.

Ms. Harkins updated the Commission that she met with Dr. Swigger from the history department at WCU that provided student volunteers at the past festival, and they are willing to do that again this year for Mountain Heritage Day. In addition, she stated they are going to be having an intern for Historic Preservation that will be starting during the fall semester to create a story map of the historic parts of WCU Campus.

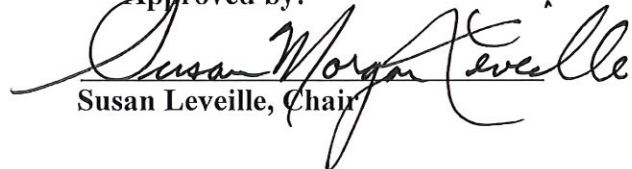
Adjournment:

With no further business, Luther Jones made a motion to adjourn at 5:56 p.m. Michael Moore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by:


Allison Kelley, Administrative Assistant

Approved by:


Susan Leveille, Chair