

JACKSON COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

MINUTES

Date: June 18th, 2019								
Time Begin: 5:09 pm								
Time End: 5:30 pm								
Location: Jackson County Public Library, Conference Room								
Members	Present	Absent		Present	Absent		Present	Absent
Daniel Peoples	X		Jane Eastman	X		Carl Iobst	X	
Susan Leveille	X		Joe Rhinehart		X	Beth Parris		X
Connie Haire		X	Luther Jones	X				
Bill Crawford	X		Pam Meister	X				

Others Present:

Caroline LaFrienier, Planner II
Allison Kelley, Administrative Assistant

Call to Order and Quorum Check

Chairman Susan Leveille called the meeting to order at 5:09 p.m. and a quorum was present.

Public Comment (3 minutes per speaker)

There were no public comments.

Approval of the Agenda

Daniel Peoples made a motion to approve the agenda as written. Luther Jones seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes

Luther Jones made a motion to approve the minutes from May 21st, 2019. Daniel Peoples seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Informal Discussion

Luther Jones stated there is a suspension bridge (bridge number 352) on Barkers Creek that is maintained by the state of NC. He found a document that was an inspection from 1994 that stated the bridge was built in 1964. However, Mr. Jones knows people in their 80s that remember the bridge when they were children, and it could have been rebuilt. He stated the swinging pedestrian bridge that is approximately 300 feet in length and can hold four people at a time.

New Business

a) Discussion of eligible sites for National Register of Historic Places

Caroline LaFrienier presented the Commission a list of eligible sites for the National Register of Historic Places within Jackson County. She asked the Commissioners to help start gathering information of those on the list they were interested in including on the National Register. Ms. LaFrienier stated the Dr. Brinkley House located in Tuckasegee should be considered to be included due to the NCDOT road improvements being made on Highway 107. Chairman Susan Leveille inquired from staff how the list was created. Ms. LaFrienier stated the NC Historic Preservation

Office has a mapping tool that has a list of sites that had been surveyed, determined eligible, and that are listed in the National Register.

Ms. Leveille stated The National Guard Building is over 50 years old, and the architecture is from that period. Luther Jones stated the building was still being used for its purpose unlike others throughout the state that have been converted into other uses such as a community building.

Ms. LaFrienier stated the Jewel J. Revis Memorial Bridge (bridge number 63) is an iron truss bridge located on Barkers Creek Road and is eligible for National Register. She informed the Commission that she discovered a "Before and After" article from the Sylva Herald that stated the Revis Bridge was built after the Flood of 1940. However, in the Library of Congress, there is a Historic American Engineering Record document of the Revis Bridge that the date of construction was Pre-1920 by The Owego Bridge Company of Wilmington, Ohio. She asked the Commission for additional information of when the Revis Bridge was built. Luther Jones stated he was informed by local people that the bridges were all washed away from the Flood in 1940 and were rebuilt. Daniel Peoples inquired from his understanding, the Revis Bridge was washed downstream but was moved back to its original location.

Luther Jones stated the Commissioners should include the Suspension Bridge (bridge number 352) along with the Revis Bridge on The National Register. In addition, Mr. Jones inquired from staff if the Commission could receive grants to maintain the bridge. Ms. LaFrienier stated they would need to be a Certified Local Government to receive grants. She stated the Revis Bridge is currently being used for a "stream gaging station" by the United States Geological Survey (USGS), so it is still in use. Ms. LaFrienier stated, Annie McDonald (Preservation Specialist for the NC State Historic Preservation Office) will be visiting July 15, 2019 for site visits and would include the Revis Bridge. She informed the Commission she would have an updated report at the July meeting of the site visits.

Updates

Ms. LaFrienier updated the Commission Ms. McDonald would visit the Chaffin property and Silver Run Subdivision property in Cashiers, Suspension Bridge and Revis Bridge in Barkers Creek, and the River View Baptist Church.

The County Commissioners are still interested in the River View Baptist Church property, and she has a meeting with the County Manager and Reverend Robert Williams and Charles Lee of the Waynesville Missionary Baptist Association that owns the property to discuss the future of the church. Ms. LaFrienier stated she had a memo of the history of the River View Baptist Church and would email it out to the Commission.

Ms. LaFrienier informed the Commission the County Commissioners included within the budget \$25,000 for an updated Architectural Survey. In addition, she attended the Cherokee Fish Weir Workshop on June 17, 2019 put on by the Watershed Association of the Tuckasee River. She took pictures of the fish trap and spoke with Roger Clapp and Ken Brown about potentially maintaining the fish trap. She stated they had ideas of how to restore the fish trap to be maintained and make it practical for those using the river that are unfamiliar with the fish trap.

Ms. LaFrienier invited the Commission to attend the site visits with Ms. McDonald, they would start at 11:00 am on July 15th, 2019 from the Planning Department Office. In addition, she stated she would bring ideas for Greening up The Mountains at the next meeting.

Adjournment:

With no further business, Carl Iobst made a motion to adjourn. Daniel Peoples seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:


Allison Kelley, Administrative Assistant

Approved by:


Susan Leveille, Chair