

Historic Resources Task Force
Meeting Minutes (approved)
December 5, 2006
609 E. Market Street Suite 114
12:00 Noon

Members present were: Mark Beliles, Chair, Mary Hill Caperton, Helena Devereux, Ingrid Smyer-Kelly, and Douglas Day. Staff present: Mary Joy Scala

Ingrid and her husband Brian were guest speakers at the Fairfax County Historical Society's 2nd annual conference. She said it was a great eye-opener touting the community and history with a dinner and vendor sales, and many speakers.

Mark noted that a conference is something we could consider.

Douglas noted there is an organization of state historical societies.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Mark suggested forgoing the minutes until next month because they are too lengthy to read right now.

Helena proposed a list of projects for the 2007 Annual Plan:

1. Ongoing historic markers and historic district neighborhood markers (establish priorities);
2. Ongoing educational displays or exhibits (displays in Transit Center similar to Amtrak train station, or on buses) (ACHS and HRC);
3. Annual cooperative gathering;
4. Special educational event (this year relating to Jamestown?);
5. Planning for specific projects (old jail);
6. Digitize City's landmark survey;
7. In general, developing web page, make it a better resource – better information and communication.

Mary Hill suggested that the Transit Center could have a display on past celebrations downtown.

Helena suggested that we create committees to work on these topics.

Mark re-read the list.

Mary Hill suggested that we have an event when the Visitor's Center opens.

Douglas asked if we should contact Mark Shore and ask him to plan that?

Mary Hill suggested a historical display or rotating video display.

Douglas noted that Steven Meeks is now on our (ACHS) board.

Mary Hill reminded everyone that the County's Country Store display is all ready.

Douglas said he has no idea what is planned in Transit Center for kiosks or other displays.

Mary Hill asked if we should we plan an event there if he will let us?

Mark said that the work is putting an exhibit together. Mark Shore could easily put the event together.

Douglas said that at the back exit of CVS store on the mall there are photos from an exhibit done with the Downtown Visitors Association. They cost \$75 each, but were not hard to do. Existing exhibits are: Baseball in Charlottesville, the Pippin Apple, and the Woolen Mills neighborhood. If we could get glass display cases we could come up with displays.

He said the Chattanooga visitors center is always empty even though it is beautiful. We need to ask Mr. Shore what is planned.

Mark suggested that we take these 7 items. Some are ongoing: markers and displays. Some are long term: jail, landmark survey. Some are for the next year: event, preservation group gathering. If we are generally agreed we like all 7, do we agree?

Mark suggested that everyone should volunteer to serve on a committee for 2 items.

Mary Hill suggested that we draw outside people in.

Mary Joy noted that we had talked about using the annual plan to attract new members.

Mark suggested a brochure to identify new projects.

Douglas suggested that we list the 7 items on our website with a note: "Are you interested? Contact us."

Douglas asked if the City could apply for grants? ACHS is maxed out.

Mary Joy said that Preservation Piedmont could apply for a grant.

Douglas is interested in the digitizing and web committees.

Mary Hill is interested in educational displays and special educational events (Jamestown and archaeological project – who lived here) Also talk to Mark Shore and work with ACHS.

Ingrid volunteered for special events (City school curriculum) and the cooperative gathering.

Helena volunteered for educational displays, a little on historical markers, and maybe a member of the committee to develop a proposal for the future of the old jail.

Mark is also interested in planning a proposal for the old jail, and special educational events, and acting as a representative on the committee on the annual cooperative gathering.

Mark said we also talked about having a public service exhibit on the public buses.

Douglas said that Coy Barefoot is interested in the Old Jail.

Mary Hill asked who here is on the Preservation Piedmont Board who could coordinate applying for a grant for digitizing surveys. Gennie Keller and Helena Devereaux are on the board.

Mary Joy should email the preservation group invitation to the February 15 event to Mark Beliles. She should also email Gennie and send a letter to Winston to determine their interest on committees. [Also put the intern Neil Curry in touch with Douglas regarding the HRC web site.]

Mark asked if Chairs should be chosen for the committees?

Helena requested that Mary Joy send a email with the names of committee members. [Sent December 5, 2006.]

Gennie will be back by the weekend – she can sign up then. Think in terms of who can call the meeting. Do we need the whole group's approval for committee members?

It was discussed that we do not need the entire committee's approval of who can serve on a subcommittee.

Mark said we should be asking people to be a part of this committee.

Mark asked for other business.

Ingrid said she would like to hear about the Cloverfields meeting that she had to miss.

Mark asked if there was anything definite yet for the ACHS Spring meeting?

Douglas said nothing is set in stone yet for Spring. In February the 1st Baptist Church on Main Street in Vinegar Hill will be the topic.

Mark suggested Monasukapanough in the Spring. Ben Ford, Jeff Hantman or William Kelso would be suggested speakers.

Douglas said everyone in the state wants Kelso as a speaker.

Helena asked if we got our appropriation in this years' budget. (Yes).

Douglas suggested holding onto the money as a match for a grant. He said City Council did approve a match for a Frances Brand grant. ACHS could use part of the grant to buy scanning equipment for exhibits.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.