

**Historic Resource Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
September 4, 2007  
609 E. Market Street Suite 114  
12:00 Noon**

Members present: Mark Beliles, Mary Hill Caperton, Douglas Day  
Staff present: Mary Joy Scala, Melissa Celii

Members began by reading through August 7 minutes. Still need absent members to vote on motions in order to achieve a quorum. Motion to approve the minutes approved unanimously with Mary Joy to get other members to concur for a quorum.

Discussion about recent problems achieving a quorum. Question was raised regarding member status of Winston. He is still a member, but may not be able to make many meetings. Members discussed other people who might be able to serve on the committee. Mary Hill asked Douglas if there were people on the Historic Society Board who may be interested. Mark Bell was mentioned as a possibility; Douglas will ask if he is interested. The quorum is defined by the people on the membership list, but a lot of those members are inactive. There are only seven regulars counting Winston. A suggestion was made that some members be made ex-officio members who are not part of the quorum such as Winston and Ingrid. Other members need to be asked to see if they support this idea. Virginia Daugherty and Nancy O'Brien were also mentioned as possible new members. Mark suggested that current members start contacting people and asking them to join. He also suggested that the City write a more formal letter inviting people to join. Mary Joy asked if the mayor needs to endorse new members. Mark said he believed so and also maybe City Council. Mary Joy suggested it might be wise to have potential members attend a few meetings before officially joining.

Mark called for discussion of Committee Leader Reports. The annual gathering of the Piedmont Area Preservation Association (PAPA) at Blenheim was first discussed. Mary Joy said the event is to be September 13<sup>th</sup> and about 100 people are expected to attend. Help will be needed with set up. Mary Hill said Genevieve would be willing to represent the committee at the event, but this needs to be confirmed. Mark suggested a single page handout of information on the HRC to give out at the event. Melissa will create the handout and will use a historic image of some kind to make it look nicer. Mark asked if there were other comments on Special Events. Douglas mentioned that the municipal band has the music and will perform it before the Spirit Walk. He said the Historic Society paid for the music, and Mary Joy said the Committee will reimburse.

The members next discussed Public Commemoration. Mark found the source about the Pen Park William Penn/Quaker connection. Douglas wanted to know who 'oral history' was and believed the source may not be very accurate. Discussion about the origin of the name Pen Park followed. Members agreed there is no question the Lynch family named the property Pen Park, just confusion as to why. Later, Douglas received a phone call from a researcher that resulted in doubts as to whether the Lynch family named the

property. The marker text was rewritten to not mention the origin of the name and members agreed the text was acceptable and to send it to the state for approval. The McGuffey text is 104 words which is close enough to the 100 word maximum. That text will also be sent to the state for approval. Mary Joy asked who pays for the markers. Mary Hill said each marker costs approximately \$2,000. Mary Joy said that would use most of the committee's budget. Mary Hill said that the money needs to be spent on something, so it might as well be the markers.

Members next discussed the Transit Center exhibit. Helena put the current exhibit back up after the glass was replaced. Douglas suggested that the Historic Society could get the exhibits rescanned and reprinted to make them look newer and nicer. Also suggested the next exhibit use a bunch of prints from the 1940s.

The digitizing of the Landmark Survey was next discussed. Douglas said it seems like an overwhelming task. He said one option is scanning every page and putting them on-line as is. Another option is redoing the entire survey; however, that would cost a lot of money and require a lot of time and power. Douglas said he could get some of his University interns to scan each page and create a PDF to be placed on the different websites. The surveys could be organized by neighborhoods.

Members discussed the need for the committee's website to include a list of relevant links like the ones on Historic Society or PAPA's websites. It was also suggested that at the Blenheim event, all groups present submit their web URL to be added to the list of links.

Mark asked if there was any other business that needed to be discussed. Mary Joy said that Jim Tolbert wants to get oral histories of the neighborhoods. Not sure what is involved or when the project is expected to be organized. The process would be very labor intensive as people would need to be interviewed and then the interviews would need to be transcribed. Mark mentioned that in early meetings, members discussed inviting members from each neighborhood to join the committee and maybe create neighborhood markers. Mary Joy said she will send out invitations to all the neighborhood associations.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10.