

**Boone Historic Preservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2017**

Historic Preservation Commission Members in Attendance: Eric Plaag-Chairman, Teresa Pearman-Vice Chairperson, Loretta Clawson, Rennie Brantz, and Chuck Watkins

Town Staff in Attendance: Jane Shook-Director of Planning & Inspections, Christy Turner-Senior Planner, John Ward-Town Manager, and Brenda Henson-Board Secretary

Call to Order

Chairman Plaag called the meeting of the Boone Historic Preservation Commission, held in the Planning & Inspections upstairs conference room located at 680 West King Street, to order at 3:02 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda

Chairman Plaag suggested adding a discussion of the Watauga County Jail to the agenda. Commission Member Brantz made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Commission Member Clawson.

VOTE: Aye – All
 Nay – None

The motion passed.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chairman Plaag wished to make a correction on page 2 of the minutes to indicate that Frank Linney was the son of Romulus Z. Linney instead of the father of Romulus Linney. Commission Member Clawson made a motion to approve the April 11, 2017 meeting minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairperson Pearman.

VOTE: Aye – All
 Nay – None

The motion passed.

Watauga County Jail

Chairman Plaag stated he had spoken with Sam Furgieuele and Sam has expressed an interest in going forward with a local landmark designation for the former Watauga County Jail building located on Water Street. Chairman Plaag read an email from Mr. Furgieuele giving his

permission for the designation as well as expressing his dissatisfaction with equality within the Municipal Service District.

Chairman Plaag noted that he was gathering information on the Watauga County Jail for the National Registry and offered to prepare the local landmark designation as well.

Commission Member Watkins felt that a tasteful plaque more in scale with properties such as the former Watauga County Jail should be designed to place on designated properties. Chairman Plaag asked Commission Member Watkins to gather examples/photos of plaques that the group could discuss at the next meeting.

Chairman Plaag estimated the timeline for completing the former Watauga County Jail designation would be late summer or early fall.

Old Business

Boone Cemetery

Chairman Plaag stated that the most recent cemetery survey retraining went well and everyone now has row assignments.

Mr. Ward stated that the tree work has not been completed due to some equipment ASU has staged along the property line. Tree work will resume once the equipment is relocated. Mr. Ward noted that the easement for the retaining wall would be going to the Council of State in June. The Town is currently in the process of getting estimates for the fence.

Mr. Ward provided Commission members with a copy of the geophysical survey prepared by Seramur & Associates and the survey was discussed **(copy on file)**.

Commission Member Brantz made a motion to authorize Chairman Plaag to send a copy of the cemetery report to JHA as well as ask about their fundraising efforts and the timeline for their dedication ceremony. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairperson Pearman.

VOTE: Aye – All
 Nay – None

The motion passed.

Chairman Plaag noted that the Watauga Democrat ran an article in April on the Boone Cemetery.

Rivers Walk & MarketPlace Updates

Mr. Ward stated he had to leave the meeting but wished to talk briefly about the MarketPlace project. He explained that the requested revision would create 3 less bedrooms and the shell of the building would be the same height with just a different configuration inside. Mr. Ward stated that the case has been delayed and will not be heard for another month.

Ms. Shook noted that a resubmittal on the River's Walk project is currently under review.

Mr. Ward left the meeting at 3:46 p.m.

Phase I Survey

Chairman Plaag stated he is still writing the survey reports and is making progress. He noted that Mr. Fuller had accepted a position in Massachusetts and would be leaving at the end of the month.

Linney House Update

Chairman Plaag stated that the Local Landmark Designation Report for the Linney House and Linney Law Office (**copy on file**) had a few insignificant changes to be made. He stated he had sent a copy of the report to Frank Coffey but had not heard back from him. Chairman Plaag stated that the deed for the property did not list the acreage and Ms. Turner volunteered to check with Chris Miller with the Town's GIS Department to see if he could calculate the acreage. Commission members had no changes to the report.

Commission Member Brantz made a motion to send the Local Landmark Designation Report for the Linney House and Linney Law Office, after revisions by Chairman Plaag, to Town Council for their approval to send to the State Historic Preservation Office for review. The motion was seconded by Commission Member Watkins.

VOTE: Aye – All
 Nay – None

The motion passed.

Boone Flood Marker Update

Chairman Plaag noted that the state meets sometime in May and he has not heard anything from them yet.

Rivers Walk & MarketPlace Updates

Discussion ensued regarding the Market Place and Rivers Walk development projects.

Other Matters by Commission Members or Staff

Set agenda for next meeting

- Boone Cemetery
- Phase I Survey Update
- Linney House & Law Office Designation Update
- Boone Flood Marker Update
- Local Landmark Plaques

Adjournment

Commission Member Brantz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commission Member Clawson.

VOTE: Aye – All
 Nay – None

The motion passed.

Eric Plaag, Chairperson

Brenda Henson, Board Secretary