

**Boone Historic Commission
Meeting Minutes
August 15, 2007**

Committee Members in Attendance: Rennie Brantz, Janet Pepin, Bettie Bond, and Bill Dixon,

Others in Attendance: John Spear-Director of Development Services, Ricky Hurley-Planning Supervisor and Christy Turner-Planner

Call to Order

Chair Betty Bond called the meeting of the Boone Historic Commission to order at 3:02 p.m.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Committee Member Brantz made a motion to accept the July 18, 2007 as amended. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Dixon.

Rules of Procedure & By-Laws

The Historic Preservation Committee agreed that the authority of the committee is limited to the authorization specified in the ordinance. The Rules of Procedure do not allow all powers that are found in the *Handbook for Historic Preservation Committees in North Carolina*. The members of the committee agreed that they desired to amend (G) in *An Ordinance Creating the Historic Preservation Commission of Boone* to **Communicate** with property owners instead of **Negotiate**.

Discussion ensued concerning the by-laws and possible collaboration with the county to form a joint historic commission. The committee also requests to limit the membership to town residents.

Council member Pepin also requested that chairman and any other gender-biased titles be eliminated from all future minutes and committee documents.

The committee also discussed conflicts of interest arising as the committee starts to take action on preserving historic sites. The committee members decided to wait and handle any such situations as they arose.

A motion was made by Councilmember Pepin to accept the Rules of Procedure and By-Laws as amended. Councilmember Brantz seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Aye - All

Nay - None

The motion carried unanimously.

Historical Data

Chairperson Bond announced that all historical data that had been found and collected by previous historical groups was available to view at the Watauga County Library. The committee was encouraged to go by the library and look at the historical data that was available.

Mazie Levinson

The committee stressed the importance of interviewing Ms. Levinson, citing her vast knowledge of Boone's history. A motion was made Councilmember Pepin to interview Ms. Levinson. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brantz.

VOTE:

Aye - All

Nay - None

The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Pepin volunteered to verify if funds were available in the town's budget to compensate an intern for interviewing Ms. Levinson and compiling the information for the committee's use. The information obtained will be valuable data for the Town of Boone's historical archives.

The committee also stressed that other elderly citizens in Boone be invited to share their historical knowledge of standing structures regarding their age, time period, former owners and architectural style. All members of the committee reiterated the importance of interviewing these important members of our town before the knowledge is lost.

Chairperson Bond asked all members of the committee to go by the library to look at the archives of historical information.

The meeting adjourned at 3:58 pm.

Bettie Bond, Chairperson

Christy Turner, Planner