

**Historic Preservation Commission of Boone
Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2008**

Commission Members in Attendance: Chairperson Bettie Bond, Vice Chairperson Chuck Watkins, Rennie Brantz, and Janet Pepin

Others in Attendance: Greg Young, Town Manager; Ricky Hurley, Planning Supervisor; Samuel Furguele, Town Attorney; Tuesdae Rice, Executive Director of Downtown Boone Development Association

Call to Order

Chairperson Bond called the meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission to order at 3:00 p.m.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Commission Member Brantz made a motion to accept the October 17, 2007 meeting minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairperson Watkins.

VOTE: **Aye - All**
 Nay - None

The motion carried unanimously.

Election of Officers

Commission Member Pepin made a motion to nominate Bettie Bond to serve a second term as the Chairperson for the Historic Preservation Commission. The motion was seconded by Commission Member Brantz.

VOTE: **Aye - All**
 Nay - None

The motion carried unanimously.

Chairperson Bond made a motion to nominate Chuck Watkins to serve a second term as Vice Chairperson of the Historic Preservation Commission. The motion was seconded by Commission Member Brantz.

VOTE: **Aye - All**
 Nay – None

The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion of Post Office Proposal

Commission Member Pepin updated the Commission regarding the January 28, 2008 meeting regarding the Downtown Post Office.

Ms. Rice updated the Commission with information she had received from Gloria with Asset Management in Colorado. She provided documentation sent from the company to the Commission (see attached). Discussion ensued as to the lease of the mural, the RFP's for the building, and the covenants that were to be applied to the building. The covenants are to be sent to the North Carolina State Preservation Office for review and sent back for approval to Asset Management for the USPS; this process should take around two months.

Discussion ensued regarding communication problems with Asset Management. Commission Member Pepin indicated that Mayor Clawson is going to try and contact Asset Management in an official capacity.

Discussion ensued regarding the lease of the mural and the implications of the conditions contained within the lease.

Commission Member Pepin mentioned that the Chamber of Commerce was going to be putting in a proposal for purchase for the Downtown Post Office. It was unknown whether the Chamber of Commerce is considering keeping the post office within their proposal.

Vice Chairperson Watkins updated the Commission of his conversation with David Goist, former Chief Conservator of the North Carolina Museum of Art, regarding the restorative work for the mural. For a reduced fee (\$400 plus travel expenses) Mr. Goist, has offered to evaluate the mural and present a treatment proposal.

Commission Member Brantz made a motion that the Historic Preservation Commission endorse the Downtown Business Development Associations intent to have the mural inspected by David Goist within the next sixty days. This motion was seconded by Commission Member Pepin.

VOTE: **Aye - All**
 Nay – None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commission Member Pepin made a motion that if the Downtown Boone Development Association cannot afford to have the inspection performed that the Historic Preservation Commission request funding from the Town of Boone. Commission Member Brantz seconded the motion.

VOTE: **Aye - All**
 Nay – None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commission Member Pepin asked the Historic Preservation Commission if the Commission is interested in submitting a proposal on behalf of the Town of Boone or from another entity or provide support to another entity once the RFP is issued. Commission Member Brantz expressed concern that many of the other local entities were interested and that everyone would essentially be competing with each other and asked if there was a way of developing a joint proposal that could be submitted on behalf of all the entities that might carry more weight. Discussion ensued as to the legalities of the situation. Further discussion occurred regarding the submission of a proposal. Town Council will be discussing the issue during closed session at the February Town Council meeting.

Commission Member Pepin asked if it was known whether the Post Office System in the last five years has ever transferred a property to a local government for other than fair market value. Discussion ensued regarding this issue and options for a proposal.

The next meeting was set for February 27, 2008 at 2:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned.

Bettie Bond, Chairperson

Ricky Hurley, Planning Supervisor