

**Boone Historic Commission
Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2007**

Committee Members in Attendance: Rennie Brantz, Chuck Watkins, 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 3:03 p.m.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Committee Chair Bond made a motion to accept the August 15, 2007 meeting minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Watkins.

Review of Existing Material

Committee Member Bond reported that she had been able to extensively review historical material concerning the Town of Boone which is available at the Watauga County Library. An important fact Ms. Bond discovered by reading through the material is that no buildings existed in Downtown Boone before the Civil War. Chairperson Bond also informed the committee that the Bryan House as well as other significant historic structures had been burned down for practice by the town's fire department. Staff was asked to determine if the Lovill House was listed on the state's historical structures list. The committee was informed that Mr. Frank Coffey wants to explore the possibility of placing the Linney House on a Historic Registry. The committee also agreed that the Historic Preservation Commission should assist the owners of the Blair House place their home on a Historic Registry. Several members on the committee would like to attempt to find the old Appalachian Theatre Sign and the Boone Trail Restaurant sign. There was also interest concerning Margaret Agle's House on Bear Trail as to whether it was a log cabin at one point. Staff will inquire about this information.

Mazie Levinson Interviews

Council Member Brantz informed the committee that Town Council had approved the money for Whitney Coe, an intern, to interview Ms. Levinson. Chairperson Bond inquired if the interviews with Ms. Levinson were being recorded by some type of electronic means. Council Member Brantz will contact Ms. Coe to inquire as to whether the interview will be filmed or taped. The committee also inquired if Ms. Coe could search for old photos of ASU.

Town of Boone Historical Publications/Information

Chairperson Bond would like the Historical Preservation Committee to write a pamphlet for people to take a walking tour of historic sites in downtown Boone. Council Member Brantz said the pamphlet would inform people concerning historical monuments and Committee Member Watkins suggested that the brochure would help educate people on the importance of saving historical monuments. Members of the Historical Preservation Commission want to indentify an ideal site where the brochures could be distributed. Council Member Brantz and Chairperson Bond expressed their hope that the Downtown Post Office could be the Visitor's Center. Committee members suggested that some type of marker be designed to place on the sidewalk in front of historical sites in Downtown Boone. Council Member Brantz recommended that the committee could develop a one (1) hour walking tour of historic sites. Chairperson Bond suggested that an overlay map could be developed to show how the Town of Boone was progressed over the years. The committee members asked for photos of historic sites that staff has preliminarily identified.

The committee members decided to meet again in January due to holiday conflicts.

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm.

Bettie Bond, Chairperson

Christy Turner, Planner