MINUTES - SPECIAL MEETING
BOONE TOWN COUNCIL JULY
19, 2006

A special meeting of the Boone Town Council was called to order at 3:05 p.m., Wednesday, July 19, 2006, in the Watauga County Public Library Meeting Room, 140 Queen Street. Mayor Loretta Clawson presided. Council members present were Bunk Spann, Dempsey Wilcox, and Rennie Brantz. Deputy Town Clerk Kimberly Tester was also present.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the status of the Appalachian Cultural Museum.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Clawson asked all in attendance to introduce themselves and explain their stake in the future of the museum (see attached list of persons in attendance.)

LEGAL COMMENTS CONCERNING HORN IN THE WEST PROPERTY

Sam Furgiuele, Town Attorney, stated he has briefly reviewed the original deed for the Horn in the West property. Mr. Furgiuele indicated that the property was donated to the Town of Boone with several restrictions. He stated that he needs to examine the document further. Mr. Furgiuele pointed out that the Town has a current five-year lease for the property with the Southern Appalachian Historical Society (SAHA); therefore, cooperation and permission from the group will be needed. Furthermore, he stated that SAHA has sublease agreements with several tenants for the Farmer's Market.

BRIEF REPORT FROM CHUCK WATKINS

Mr. Chuck Watkins, director of the cultural museum, announced his vision of the new world-class museum as a museum that can also meet the needs of other organizations. Mr. Watkins invited those interested to a meeting on Tuesday, July 25th, in Room 226 of I. G. Greer Hall on the ASU campus. Mr. Alexander Sandy Howell, a renowned architect from Boston, Massachusetts, will be spending several hours in town walking the Horn in the West property so that he can offer his professional opinion on the feasibility of locating a museum on the site.

Ms. Bettie Bond stated a steering committee should be formed to discuss in detail several issues pertaining to a new museum, such as:

- Identify other stakeholders who need to be involved.
- Discuss museum projects undertaken by other towns.
- Understand expectations for the new museum.
- Discuss the timetable for the fruition of the project.

OTHER DISCUSSION

Discussion ensued concerning the following issues:

- The mission of the museum
- The history of the Horn in the West property
- Funding issues: grants, private/public partnerships
- Educational direction opportunities
- Establishing a timetable for the project.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other items for consideration, Mayor Clawson thanked all in attendance for their contribution to the discussion and adjourned the meeting at 4:33 p.m.

Deputy Town Clerk		Mayor