



MINUTES FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2024

ATTENDEES: Voting Members: Cindy Tuttle, Nancy Pew, Ammie Weymer, Clara Carter, David Twiggs, Billy Shand (Quorum present)

At Large Members: None

Guests: Steven Orr, City Manager; Nettie Sweet, John Wilkinson, Glenn Franklin, Mary & Mike Reeves, Bruce Jayne, Summer Flynn

WELCOME: Meeting called to order at 2:04 PM

MINUTES: Nancy moved the minutes be adopted. David Twiggs seconded. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Cindy presented the finance report. Current balance is \$15,418.89. Expenditures include checks of \$100 to Saluda Baptist Church and \$200 to Saluda Historic Depot.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Oral History/Vlogs** – Tabled
- **Step back in History Series**
 1. A series of workshops called “Preserving Saluda” will launch tomorrow. The first presentation, titled “Historic Presentation 101” will be presented by Jack Thompson – Preservation NC at the library at 10:00 am. It will include a listening session and will cover questions like what is basic historic preservation? What is the role of the community? It will also help to form the basis for some concrete steps to help Saluda create a plan for preservation. Ideas will be requested from the audience to determine future workshops.

During this discussion, Clara expressed concern over a few historic homes that are in bad shape. Discussion ensued over possible historic districts emerging in the future and how homes in a district might qualify for tax credits. Cindy recommended Columbia Heights and Henderson as potential districts. Steve Orr reported that there is an abandoned structure ordinance. Those who did not take care of their property lower the property value of those who do. The city is supposed to protect everyone. He indicated they are trying to work with Dori Ray who recently inherited the Kinnard house. There was a severe sewer problem. He also noted the John Pace house on Louisiana will be bulldozed in October.
 2. **Glenn Franklin, Saluda Planning Board**– As related to the Preserving Saluda series, Glenn presented and recommended a written plan titled “Action Plan for the

Consideration of Saluda's Historic Properties: Phase 1." See attached plan. She stated the crisis at Crystal Springs brought this need. Nancy mentioned how this proposal encompasses the work the HSC is already doing. Billy recommended support for the plan. Cindy stated the plan is not inclusive of the HSC thoughts and skips ahead of the plan behind the Preserving Saluda Series. Cindy asked for more time to consider the document since she had not seen the plan prior to this meeting. Billy then read the Mission Statement of the city and made a motion to approve the written plan as presented. Ammie seconded. Motion passed.

- **2026 Historic Saluda Home Tour.** Last meeting, we committed to doing it again.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Pace Park Mural (Bruce Jayne)** – Bruce presented the dialogue for the sign. He, Martin Anderson and Nancy Pew have been working behind the scenes to finalize the sign. There was one issue about Phoebe's birth date. It was agreed to use her published birth date. The plan is that Martin will present it at the Council Meeting on behalf of the HSC. Bruce will ask the City to pay for the sign. Nancy will contact Pam to have Martin listed on the Board of Commissioners agenda for Oct 14th. David made the motion to approve the sign and Ammie seconded it. The motion passed.
- **Phase One, Architectural Survey** – Cindy reported a very positive experience working with the staff of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) as they work to complete Phase 1 of the Polk County Architectural Survey. Cindy spent the day with them on August 19th showing them historic properties within the city limits. SHPO staff returned this week to continue their work. Phase 1 will provide a start to identifying the significant historical properties in Saluda, which will be a helpful tool toward a comprehensive historic preservation plan.
- **Historical Marker** – Billy reported Sean Mintz has agreed to help. Per Steve Orr there would need to be a drawing submitted to Scott Cardais. We would need approval of commissioners and the McCreery Park Organization.
- **Committee Terms and Officer Election** – Ammie and Laretta have turned in their applications. Steve reported they have been approved. Since Laretta is not present, electing officers was tabled.
- **Saluda Grade Trail** – Per Steve Orr, the local group has not met yet. Maybe they will meet next month.
- **Black History: Reclamation Park, Convict Labor on the Saluda Grade** – No updates provided.
- **HSC Website** - Tabled
- **Historic Homes on the Market and/or of Concern** – It was noted, this topic came up earlier in the agenda. As a reminder, after the Preserving Saluda workshop tomorrow, attendees are invited to 4403 Shand Street. Cindy stated she has invited Amy Wood with

Looking Glass Real Estate to show a historic home at the second Preserving Saluda workshop. She has not received a response to date.

- **HSC Merchandise** – Cindy reported merchants can buy our books outright for wholesale and get up to 50% off. Cindy will contact an Arcadia Publishing Company representative to discuss how to increase sales locally. It was recommended that the HSC notify business owners of the legitimacy of the book sales.
- **Non-Profit Discussion** – Tabled

NEW BUSINESS: None

CITY REPORT – None

ADJOURN - The meeting was adjourned at 3:18

Next Meeting Date: Friday, October 11, 2024, 2:00 p.m. at the Saluda Public Library.

General Sharing: You are invited to stay after the meeting to share in “historical conversation”.

Respectfully submitted by:

Nancy Pew

Secretary, Vice Chair