

**Minutes  
Union County Historic Preservation Commission  
4 March 2011**

The Union County Historic Preservation Commission met at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 3, 2011, in the Heritage Room at the historic Union County Courthouse, Monroe, North Carolina.

Present: Dr. Jerry Surratt, Dale Loberger, Brad Hudson, Jane Ellickson,  
Sis Dillon, John Dickerson, Crystal Crump  
Absent: Danny Stegall, Charles Williams  
Also Present: Mary Lou Gamble, Virginia Bjorlin

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Jerry Surratt, Chairman.

**Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Surratt asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the January meeting. There being none, Mr. Loberger moved that the minutes be approved. Mrs. Dillon seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**Financial Report**

The financial report was reviewed and approved. Mrs. Gamble noted that the budget request for the Commission for 2011-2012 was submitted to the City of Monroe on January 31, 2011; requested was \$14,500. The request for \$13,200 was made to Union County and submitted on February 9, 2011.

**Report of Committees**

Dr. Surratt welcomed new members, Crystal Crump and John Dickerson. The floor was then opened for nominations for the offices of Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Mr. Loberger volunteered to serve as Vice President, Brad Hudson as Secretary, and John Dickerson as Treasurer. Mr. Dickerson moved to close the nominations and elect the slate by acclamation. Mrs. Crump seconded and the vote was unanimous.

**Unfinished Business**

Dr. Surratt reported that he has not received any more information about the request for a monument for the Confederate Pensioners of Color Monument. He gave a brief summary of the events that have occurred. He said that Mr. Tony Way was not pleased with the decision by the Union County Manager and the Union County Board of Commissioners to deny the request to place the monument on the historic Courthouse grounds.

He added that his interview with Adam Bell, a reporter with the *Charlotte Observer*, went well and that the article written by Mr. Bell on February 16, 2011, was well-balanced. He said that the next day he received a call from a reporter with the Associated Press; there was a lengthy conversation, but no one has seen other publications about the marker. He also received a call from Mr. Michael Chapman, retired Commander of the Union County Chapter of Sons of Confederate Veterans. Mr. Chapman assured Mr. Surratt that the "Chapter" does not support Mr. Way's request and added that Mr. Way is not a member of the local chapter. Mr. Chapman did mention another project that might be feasible – establish a "Confederate Trail" – perhaps placing a marker in Hillcrest Cemetery. Mrs. Gamble added that Mr. Chapman had come to the Heritage Room on February 16 and he and Mrs. Bjorlin had a long conversation about the events that have preceded the publication of the interview with Dr. Surratt. Dr. Surratt added that the commission had already discussed that once a museum is established, an exhibit remembering all the Confederate Veterans including the Pensioners can be on display.

Dr. Surratt asked Mrs. Bjorlin to report on the designation of the Charles Iceman House, 900 W. Franklin Street, circa 1911. Sidney Halma, Architectural Historian, came on Tuesday, March 1, to visit the Iceman House and will send us the Architectural Description and pictures. The Survey and Research Report will then be sent to Archives for review and comments.

Mrs. Bjorlin added that she and Mr. Halma also went to see a bale of cotton dating back to the 1950's that has been offered to the Historical Society by Mr. Reid Helms. Mr. Helms has a sign on the bale giving the history.

### **Consideration of Applications**

Dr. Surratt said that he had written a letter to Unionville Baptist Church requesting the possibility of removing the vinyl siding on the Unionville Methodist Church, circa 1905, and to restore the original siding. The church responded saying that removing the siding was too expensive, but did not respond as to why they wanted the building designated. They are currently renting the building to the Unionville Baptist Mission. Dr. Surratt said he was still curious as to the rationale behind the request for designation. Mr. Loberger mentioned that there were other designated buildings in the area that had been altered. Mrs. Gamble suggested that we order an updated manual from the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. Mr. Dickerson made the motion to postpone this application until further information is received concerning updated guidelines and a response is received giving the reason for the designation request. Mrs. Hudson seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Dr. Surratt said that he will write another letter to ask the reason for filing the Application for Designation.

### **New Business**

Mrs. Gamble reported that the County provided two new bookcases and a new cabinet for the card index file for the new area. Hopefully we will be moving soon.

Dr. Surratt noted that the Town of Waxhaw has formed its own Historic Preservation Commission and is no longer under our jurisdiction. Therefore, Waxhaw has no

representation on the Union County Historic Preservation Commission. A letter has been sent to the Union County Legal Department to ask about the procedure for appointment of another member, possibly from the City of Monroe, to the Union County Historic Preservation Commission.

Dr. Surratt asked for discussion about changing the meeting time to the first Thursday of the month at 1:30 for the next few months. Mrs. Hudson made the motion to change the meeting time as suggested and Mrs. Dillon seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be April 7, 2011 at 1:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Jerry Surratt, Chairman