

**Minutes**  
**Union County Historic Preservation Commission**  
**February 3, 2009**

The Union County Historic Preservation Commission met at 3:30 on Tuesday, February 3, 2009, in the Heritage Room at the historic Union County Courthouse, Monroe, North Carolina.

Present: Virginia Bjorlin, Chairman; Al Diehl, Vice Chairman; John Dickerson, Treasurer; Emmy Lou Haywood, Secretary; Carolyn Funderburk, Danny Stegall, Dr. Jerry Surratt, Charles Williams

Absent: Margaret Bivens, Brad Hudson

Also Present: Mary Lou Gamble

**Approval of Minutes**

Mrs. Bjorlin asked if there were any changes or questions concerning the December minutes. Mr. Stegall made the motion to approve the December minutes. Mr. Williams seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously by the commission.

**Financial Report**

The financial report was presented and there were no questions regarding the report. Mrs. Gamble noted that appropriations for the second quarter had been received from the County and the City. Mrs. Gamble passed a copy of the budget request for the City of Monroe to the Commission members for review. The request was delivered February 1.

**Unfinished Business**

Mrs. Bjorlin said that the Survey and Research Reports for the **Edward Crow House**, 1906 Weddington Road, Monroe, NC, and the **Hamilton-Marsh House**, 1113 Highway 205, Marshville, NC, were mailed to Archives on January 21. She stated that it was uncertain how long the review will take. Mrs. Bjorlin added that at some point, the Preservation Commission may ask the owner applying for designation for some financial assistance in preparing the architectural description for his property.

Mrs. Bjorlin said that at this time there are no other requests for designation. Mr. Dickerson said that he was approached by Don Kerr concerning designating the Neese Apartments located on Windsor Street. Mrs. Bjorlin mentioned that the property has to be at least fifty years and the property would need to be researched.

Mrs. Bjorlin reported that she had attended the Charlotte Consortium meeting in Charlotte on December 11. She commented that the meeting was interesting and that the properties that were represented at the meeting are all in this region. Revisions of the brochures was discussed.

The restoration of the Old Armory is still in progress. Mrs. Bjorlin mentioned that there is limited meeting space, but a community room with nice amenities is available and would be available for having a future Historic Preservation meeting. Mr. Dickerson commented on the tremendous restoration work being done, and made the motion that the commission should write a letter to the City of Monroe commending them for the project and its importance to the community. Mr. Diehl seconded the motion.

The building that housed Allen Overall (formerly the Monroe Hardware Wholesale) has been condemned. Mrs. Bjorlin said that several people had approached the owner regarding purchasing the building, but the asking price is too high. She said that she and Paul Fomberg visited the building during his trip to Monroe in August, 2008.

### **Consideration of Applications**

Mrs. Bjorlin referred to a copy of the Application of Certificate of Appropriateness that is used by the City of Wilmington, NC, and cited the requirements of the homeowner when applying. This form contains more detailed specifications than the one we currently use. For instance, the applicant is charged a fee based on the cost of the restoration and is required to submit addressed, stamped envelopes to all adjacent property owners to notify them of a public hearing. She asked commission members to review the copy that they were given before the next meeting.

### **New Business**

In response to an e-mail received from Raleigh concerning procedures that the commission had followed for revocation of designation of a property, Mrs. Bjorlin explained the process that the Commission used for the Revocation of Designation for the Colonel William W. Walkup House. .

Mrs. Bjorlin read an email stating that the Senate Appropriations Committee approved \$50 million for State Historic Preservation Offices. In order to be eligible for grants in this program, projects should be "shovel ready". Dr. Surratt asked if the restoration of The Old Armory would fall under this category.

Mrs. Bjorlin said that the new local commission contact for the Historic Preservation Office at Archives is Alta Cassidy.

Mrs. Bjorlin noted that terms for three commission members will expire this year.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be March 3 at 3:30 possibly at the Armory.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Bjorlin  
Chairman