

WAYNESBORO HISTORICAL COMMISSION (WHC)

**Meeting Minutes**

May 21, 2019

**Attendees:** Judy Walden (president), Kelly Sheely, Tom Carlsson (secretary), Duane Hill, David Geiger **Absent:** Jerry Layman, Judy Price Smith **Guests:** none

1. President Judy Walden called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, after a quorum of attendees was reached. Judy provided an Agenda which is attached and made part of these minutes.
2. Tom provided an overview of the April 2019 minutes. The minutes were approved as presented.
3. Old Business: Judy noted we had a new candidate interested in joining the Commission, we would consider this later in the agenda.
4. Crouse House: Tom presented several objects and artifacts found at the Crouse House site and along the South River. These were found as house renovations and nearby riverbank work continued at this location. He would take photos of the objects to better document them and store them inside the secured Crouse House owned by Mark Bales. Items found were an old medicine patent bottle, a railroad spike, a flat foundation stone of the summer kitchen, and various metal machine parts, bottles and dish fragments.
5. Brick from Arch Avenue: David advised about 40 old bricks had been collected from the South River complex, along the new sidewalk area. However, they were not wanted for use at the Plumb House at this time.
6. Founders Day Lecture: the last Tuesday of September was the time reserved at the Wayne Theater for our Founders Day lecture. Judy and Duane were planning out possible content, including topics such as: Governor Spotswood, Fontaine's Diary, Beverly Patent, Teas Tavern, Estill Portrait, etc. Duane would soon email us a first draft, and we would send him related images. Judy would ask Bill Alexander if he would present the lecture.
7. Old Presbyterian Cemetery Gate: Judy had photos of the original cemetery gate. We could use this to design a replacement gate on New Hope Road to go with the new fencing. David had talked to a blacksmith at the Virginia Blacksmith Institute named Dale. He had seen the photo and said it would require good scrollwork proficiency,
8. Nobility in the Valley: Judy along with Julia Bortle had completed a formatted pamphlet of her account on the Archibald Stuart family of Walnut Grove entitled "Nobility in the Valley". She circulated a copy of the pamphlet. We would include Jerry Layman's name on the Commission despite his recent passing.
9. Red Brick House: Judy advised the law firm of Sands Anderson was handling the tax foreclosure for the Red Brick House, but it was not on the May docket for auction.

10. New Business: As a follow-up, Judy would send website corrections to the City Tourism Office c/o Stephanie. There were still some errors in the Town History section.

(see next page)

11. Jerry Layman Memorial: We agreed to dedicate the upcoming Founders Day Program to Jerry Layman. Over the many years of his life, Jerry had provided a great amount of inspiration and knowledge to our local historians.
12. Chandra McGuffin/Applicant: We agreed to welcome Chandra to the Commission upon her appointment by City Council.
13. Digitalization Project: Judy and Kelly announced the Heritage Museum had received a \$3,000 grant from the Community Foundation of the Blue Ridge. The project would digitalize our collection of objects and artifacts for viewing and research by historians.

Judy adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Tom Carlsson

**NEXT MEETING: June 18th, 2019**