

The Historic Greenfield Preservation Council of Botetourt County

Minutes for Tuesday, August 15, 2023

Greenfield Education Center, Room 229 at 3:00 pm

Call to order – Council Chair Jim Johnston called the meeting to order at 3:04 and welcomed everyone present. Members in attendance were Keith McMurry, Danny Kyle, Beth Pappas, Curtis Brown, Edward Preston, Ann Morgan, Wendy Warren, Lynne Bolton, Roblyn Brand, and Cheryl Sullivan-Willis.

Members attending via MS Teams: Will Dibling

Members unable to attend: Supervisor Steve Clinton.

County staff in attendance were Jon Lanford, Assistant County Administrator and Tiffany Bradbury, Director of Communications/Media Relations.

Guest: Khari Ryder, Botetourt Chamber of Commerce.

Minutes: A draft of the July 18th meeting minutes was emailed in advance for review. Lynne Bolton made a motion to accept the minutes as written and Curtis Brown made the second. All approved by voice vote consensus.

Wendy is unable to attend the September 19 meeting, so Beth Pappas volunteered to take the minutes.

There was no Supervisor’s report.

Staff Update: Jon Lanford said there was no quorum at last month’s meeting to approve the AECOM proposal. Jim Johnston also noted there was a typo in the fee. Here is the correct proposal:

AECOM will hire Douglass Reed, Historic Structures Consultant, to assess the log structures and submit the results. Here is the breakdown of the costs:

Summer Kitchen	\$ 8,830
Quarters	\$ 5,240
Farm Manager’s House	\$ 5,240
Expenses	<u>\$ 535</u>
Subtotal	\$19,845

A separate fee of \$8,080 is quoted for the assessment of the Brian McDonald, Sr. house. A review of the services, fees, etc. was previously sent out to the Advisory Committee. The above quotes include the fee for AECOM.

When will the assessment start? That is currently unknown. Once the proposal is passed John Wissinger will coordinate with Doug Reed on when to start.

Keith McMurry made a motion to approve the AECOM proposal as presented. Lynne Bolton made the second. All approved by voice vote consensus.

Welcome of Guest: Jim welcomed Khari Ryder, director of the Botetourt County Chamber of Commerce. Khari thanked Jim and Steve for inviting him to attend. He would like to take a tour of Historic Greenfield, and Jim said he and Danny would set one up soon.

Jim has information about a new 501 (c) 3 foundation that the Chamber will be starting up. Wendy said she would send information out to everyone by email.

Greenfield Booklet: Danny Kyle brought a sample booklet to the meeting for all to see and it has a listing of 41 names provided by Cheryl Sullivan Willis of the first enslaved people owned by the family of Col. William Preston in the 18th century.

Jim thanked Danny and Elaine Kyle and Tiffany Bradbury for all the good work they put into writing it.

200 copies will cost \$1,800.00, and it will be ready to go to press next week. Each member of the Council will get a free booklet, those who donated pictures/content will get a free copy, and the Colonial Dames who sponsored the cost of printing the booklets will also get a copy.

The cost of the booklet will be \$10 each. It was also recommended that Council apply for copyright protection of the booklet.

Brick Pavers: Beth Pappas reported that approx. 52 bricks have been ordered. Jon said they would find a safe place to store them when they arrive.

Beth reminded everyone of the \$1,500 donation made by Edward and Marlene Preston to provide a plaque that will display the 41 names of the original enslaved people who lived at Greenfield in the late 18th century.

Upcoming Events: Jim Johnston asked the Council if they would like to collaborate with the Botetourt County History Museum on a special event during Black History Month in February 2024. Cheryl and Beth said they would help Lynsey plan this event.

On August 23 at 5:00 PM the Mainstreet Fincastle historic marker will be dedicated.

On Sept. 23 is the Fincastle Festival. Volunteers will be needed. Wendy said she could help.

Roblyn raised awareness of a webinar on August 24 at 3:00 pm hosted by the New England Historical Society called "10 Million Names." It will provide information about a database that will help African Americans find the ancestors.

The Botetourt Co. Chamber of Commerce will host a golf tournament to benefit its new foundation on Sept. 29.

Attic Productions will provide special music on Sept. 23 at 7:00 pm. The concert will feature a glass harmonica, crystal violin, Celtic folk music and bluegrass music.

Wendy will forward a flyer about the Great Road Encampment in Elliston on October 21 and 22.

Old Business: Beth said Council should fill vacant board positions and establish term limits. Wendy has a current roster and will send it to Jim for his review in time for the September meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday September 19 at 3:00 PM at the Greenfield Training Center.

Respectfully submitted by,

Wendy Warren, secretary