



The Darden House
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Members:

Carol Schuler
President

Phyllis Baxter
Vice President

Ellen Spears
Secretary

J. Logan Smith
Treasurer

Dr. David Turner

The regular meeting of the Elkins Historic Landmarks Commission was called to order at 7:05 p.m. on Wednesday, March 17, 2010.

Members of the commission in attendance were Carol Schuler, Phyllis Baxter, Logan Smith, Ellen Spears and David Turner. Megan Grisolano and Jessica Serrao, Americorps, and Karen Jacobson, RCHA, were in attendance.

Minutes from the February meeting, distributed by Phyllis via email prior to the meeting, were approved unanimously.

The treasurer's report was presented by Logan Smith and approved unanimously.

Public Comment: Karen Jacobson, Executive Director of Randolph County Housing Authority (RCHA), gave an overview of projects that she and her staff oversee. There is some overlap and interest by EHLC because RCHA is currently working on several projects in the Elkins downtown historic district. The most visible project is the façade restoration on the Delmonte Hotel.

Megan Grisolano gave an update on her work to assemble the preservation resource center. She gave us a copy of the book wish list that she has compiled and told us of her progress on the EHLC book inventory. She has compiled an up-to-date list of all magazines and books that we have at the Darden House that includes information showing that the publication can be found in either the Randolph County Public Library or Booth Library on D&E Campus.

Discussion followed regarding staffing of the resource center and budgeting for supplies. We will have to prioritize the items on the wish list since grant money is much less than requested.

Commissioners stated that they would work this issue at a work session that was scheduled for Tuesday, March 30, 2010 at 12:00 at the Darden house.

Jessica Serrao discussed her work on the walking tour project –she continues to work on editing and shortening the text of the current multi-page brochure that was prepared several years ago by Ed Griesel. Printing money is still not identified. Ellen will look to see if the walking tour falls under one of the four committees of ON TRAC. EHLC should approach other potential partners such as Downtown Merchants, Welcome Center, or ON-TRAC for collaboration on this project. Historic plaques identifying historic buildings need to be discussed.

Correspondence: EHLC voted to renew membership in the Chamber of Commerce.

EHLC voted to pay six months in advance for website hosting.

Current bills were discussed and voted on.

Work has started again, after the long winter, on the porch project. Michael Mills was in Elkins on Monday (March 15th) and elected to change the roofing material to one that will not need to be painted.

EHL Commissioners agreed that we need to advertise for a maintenance worker to shovel snow, maintain the gardens in the growing season, change light bulbs, etc.

Friends of Blackwater are looking for an office to rent. Is EHLC interested? After a brief discussion, it was determined that Darden House spaces should be reserved for preservation groups.

Wees Lighting project: Have not yet heard on grant applications. Congresswoman Shelley Moore Capito followed the Republican Leadership and did not submit any appropriations requests for her constituents, including EHLC and the Kump House.

Carriage House: Toni Kyle, owner/operator of Back in Times Carriage Rides, is selling his carriage, horse and tackle. Unfortunately, this ends the hope that he would use the Carriage House as his business home. EHLC needs to find a time to clean up the Carriage House to prepare it for another tenant.

Carol told us that a database of the historic district is being put together by Linda McCauley who is working for Americorps.

First Ward School is now the property of C-Hope. Carol will write a grant support letter from EHLC for the acquisition of a new roof on the historic school.

May is Preservation Month. It was agreed that we would put descriptions the work being done on four of our historic buildings in Elkins in the Inter-Mountain, one for each week in May.

The EHLC spelling bee team, Carol, David and Ellen, will enter the Kump House fundraiser for a fee of \$45.00.

The meeting was adjourned a 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Spears
Secretary, EHLC