

STAFFORD COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MINUTES
November 2, 2023

The meeting of the Stafford County Historical Commission of Thursday, November 2, 2023, was called to order at 3:02 PM by James Tully in the Activities Room of the George L. Gordon, Jr., Government Center.

MEMBERS PRESENT: James Tully, Martha Newton, Gordon Silver and Anita Dodd

MEMBERS ABSENT: Richard Chichester Jane Conner, James Powell

STAFF PRESENT: Nancy Kotting, Crissy Kendall

GUESTS PRESENT:

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Tully called the meeting to order at 3:02.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Ms. Newton called roll and stated there was a quorum.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. 106 Review for Communications Tower/Aquia Church

Ms. Kotting has requested the County be a consultant on the project but has not gotten a response at this time. Mr. Silver is particularly interested in the height of the tower. Ms. Kotting will share information when she gets updates from the Army Corp of Engineers.

2. Sponsored Interpretive Sign Request commemorating 22nd Regiment of NJ in Civil War Park

Parks and Recreation forwarded a letter from the Strength and Honor Motorcycle Club. They would like to sponsor a sign at the Civil War Park to pay tribute to Company K, 22nd Regiment of New Jersey. Ms. Kotting can find no evidence of the regiment having been in the Aquia Creek area. Ms. Dodd made a motion that the Commission doesn't recommend the sign on the grounds that there is no documentation of them being there. Mr. Tully made an amended motion to add if Strength and Honor can provide documentation of the regiment having been in the Aquia Creek area the Commission would be interested in reviewing it. Ms. Dodd seconded the amended motion. Motion passed 4-0. Ms. Kotting will prepare a response letter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Proffers / Ivy Project at Oakenwold / Update on Memorandum of Agreement

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Ms. Kotting has met with Dominion Traditional Builders concerning the salvage of the Aquia stone at Oakenwold. They have agreed to salvage and store the stone at their own expense (approximately \$3,000-5,000). The stone will be available for repair work. The company will provide a chain of custody letter and as part of the memorandum of agreement the County will report to the Department of Historic Resources what has been salvaged.

The Historical Society still has interest in salvaging architectural elements from the house. Ms. Kotting will schedule a time for this to happen. Ms. Kotting has requested a chain of custody letter for the elements that are salvaged.

A Phase 2 study still needs to be done on the property and Ms. Dodd has requested an opportunity to review the report.

2. Austin Ridge Logistics Center Update: Section 106 Review Complete

Ms. Dodd mailed a letter requesting permission to do an onsite visit. She has not received a response. Ms. Kotting will try to provide additional contact information.

3. Counting House Update: Request for Proposals Status: In final review

Still waiting on the RFP to be finalized.

4. Little Falls NRHP Eligibility Determination Update: Photo session completed

The photo session is complete. Based on the information Ms. Kotting has collected she will be submitting the application citing the architectural significance based on the local work done by the architect of the building. Ms. Kotting needs to fill out the application and write the narrative.

5. Buzzards Roost Final Installation Update: Installed October 18, 2023; Interpretive Signage Review

Ms. Kotting presented 2 possible options for the interpretive signage at Buzzards Roost. After much discussion Mr. Tully made a motion to go with a third version of the sign that has three columns, no background picture and the danger warning in bright red, larger type. An attribution would be added that states "Inscription Research Provided by Al Connor and The National Park Service". Ms. Newton seconded the motion. The motion carried, 4-0. Ms. Kotting will forward the third version to the Commission for review.

The work will begin on the fence in late November, early December.

6. Review of By-Laws

No update. The by-laws are still with the County Attorney.

7. Elementary School Archeological Agreement and Data Recovery Plan Underway

No update. The archeological agreement is still with the County Attorney.

ADDITIONAL PRESENTATIONS BY THE PUBLIC

None

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CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

None

REPORTS BY COMMISSION MEMBERS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Dodd made a motion to approve the amended minutes from October 5, 2023.

Ms. Newton seconded the motion.

The motion passed 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Tully adjourned the meeting at 3:35