

Waynesboro Historical Commission (WHC)

Meeting Minutes – April 18, 2023

Attendees: Judy Walden, Leanne Cotton (Guest), Tom Carlsson, Chanda McGuffin, Erica Smith

Absent: David Geiger (chairman), Kelly Sheely

1. David Geiger was unable to attend meeting due to traffic backups. He spoke with Tom Carlsson on the phone and asked him to run the meeting, which began at 5:30 pm.
2. Minutes: no minutes were available; David Geiger had been keeping detailed notes at previous meetings.
3. Old Business:
 - School Booklet / Outreach Program: On the phone, David advised that it was unlikely we would be able to finish all the writeups and publish the School Booklet in time for this year's high school graduates. Notes from our last meeting identified the schools to be profiled. They would include: Westwood ES, Berkeley Glenn ES, William Perry ES, Wenonah ES, Kate Collins MS, and Waynesboro High School. We might also include background for the Wayne Hills Center (Pre-K/Head Start Programs).
 - Booklet Reprints: Judy inquired about the status of the two booklets to be reprinted soon. The two booklets were: Swannanoa and Basic City. We would check with David at our next meeting on this project.
4. New Business:
 - Jim Clark Inquiry: Judy advised she had followed up with Jim Clark, who publishes a local history article in the newsletter at Summit Square. Jim had requested information related to the naming of Rosser Avenue. Both Judy and Tom had emailed him various background material on Thomas Rosser. We will request a newsletter copy when the article is published.
 - Stephanie Belk Inquiry: Chanda advised a Stephanie Belk had requested information about the "Goins Restaurant" that once was in business at or near 212 Port Republic Road. Judy had done some research on this business in the old phone books, Tom advised that Goins family name was common one in the Fairview Cemetery. Chanda would follow up with Stephanie once more research was done.
 - Crouse House Clean-up. We discussed scheduling the clean-up in May. Owners Mark and Janice Bales would work alongside volunteers to declutter the interior of the Crouse House. Kevin Tanner of the Waynesboro Library told Judy he would be willing to help. We had about four other volunteers and would need flashlights since the house lacked power.
 - Port Republic Road Historic Neighborhood – Chanda advised she and other neighborhood organizers were trying to obtain a commitment from Virginia

Tech Women's basketball coach Kenny Brooks to participate in a Port Republic Road neighborhood celebration. This potential event would need more follow-up. Also, we noted that the Port Republic Road Community Action Plan had been posted on the City website, neighborhood meetings were ongoing, and entrance signage was still being discussed.

- Next Meeting May 15th, 2023

The meeting was closed at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Tom Carlsson (Secretary)