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**TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY JOINT HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (JHPC)  
MINUTES**

**April 9, 2019, 4:00 PM**

**I. Call to Order, Chair Marcy Thompson:**

Marcy Thompson called the meeting to order. Members attending were Chair Marcy Thompson, Vice-Chair Morris Davis, Aaron Bland, Ellen Pratt Harris, John Huggins, Jeff Mills, Melanie Spreen and Rebecca Suddeth, along with staff member Joy Fields. Commission member Betty Runion (excused), was absent.

**II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes:**

John Huggins moved to approve the April 9, 2019, agenda as presented. Rebecca Suddeth seconded the motion, which carried. Rebecca Suddeth moved to approve the previous meeting minutes (March 12, 2019) as presented. Aaron Bland seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**III. Old Business:**

**A. Greystone Inn Local Landmark Application Discussion:**

- The property owners have decided to put their application for local historic landmark designation on hold.
- Future assistance with local landmark designations – JHPC Discussed whether Staff or Board members should assist directly with research and preparation of the application, or to nominate structures without Owner approval – JHPC determined this will be discussed on case by case basis since staff resources are limited and Owners are receiving a tax benefit.

**B. CLG Grant – Discussion:**

- Next week the CLG Subcommittee will meet with the Contractor to review the draft bibliography, and plan a couple of events to kick-off the survey of African American heritage-related resources in Transylvania County.
- The kick-off meetings may be before the next regularly scheduled JHPC meeting so members should expect an email invitation to attend and JHPC members are encouraged to attend the kick-off meetings to remain engaged with this project.

**C. History Related Websites:**

- The Our History website has been updated to highlight all of the history related groups that are active in Transylvania County (<http://www.transylvaniacounty.org/index.php/our-history>).
- The Main Street National Historic District website has been updated to include additional information on all of the buildings highlighted in the Historic Downtown Walking Tour Guide (<http://www.transylvaniacounty.org/departments/planning-and-community-development/history>).

- The JHPC advisory board website (<http://www.transylvaniacounty.org/departments/planning-and-community-development/joint-historic-preservation-committee>) has been updated with resources that JHPC members can use when people have questions or need resources.

IV. JHPC agreed that the websites, especially the Our History Page looked good. **New Business**

A. Non-profit Applications – Marcy Thompson let JHPC members know that she and Ellen Pratt Harris would be recusing themselves from taking action related to the Transylvania County Historical Society's application because they are on the TCHS board. She also shared that she and Rebecca Suddeth would be recusing themselves from taking action related to the Transylvania Heritage Museum application since they are on that board. Review of the applications resulted in the following:

- Veterans History Museum of the Carolinas applied for funding to support operations and continued display of history related material. JHPC members discussed:
  - The project did not clearly reference the Transylvania County Strategic Plan;
  - The project is focused on North and South Carolina without a specific focus on local history;
  - The museum should have known the requirements and would have if they had attended the information meeting held by the county;
  - Providing the Veterans History Museum of the Carolinas with \$1,000 in funding to develop and house exhibits that increase access to military history support the access and participation in history related educational programs by schoolchildren, residents and visitors.
  - Aaron Bland moved to approve the funding request of \$1,000 on the condition that the Museum is provided with the information that future requests for funding will be denied unless the project is clearly defined, locally focused, and correlated to the Transylvania County's Strategic Plan. Ellen Pratt Harris seconded the motion, which carried.
- Transylvania Heritage Museum applied for funding to support the development of an exhibit and teaching trunks that focus on the roles of women in the development and growth of Transylvania County. JHPC discussed that:
  - The application is a stellar example of a non-profit funding application
  - The application clearly shows how the project supports the Transylvania County Strategic Plan;
  - The project is focused and locally relevant;
  - The Heritage Museum provides the public space for this local exhibit.
  - Morris moved to approve the funding request of \$4,500 to develop and house an exhibit and teaching trunks focused on the roles of women in Transylvania County's history and to support the access and participation in history related educational programs by schoolchildren, residents and visitors.
  - Ellen Pratt Harris seconded the motion.
  - Discussion followed about increasing the amount of funding to use the funding that JHPC has to allocate to support the Heritage Museum in providing the public space and staffing to support education for all ages regarding Transylvania County's history.

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- The motion carried.
  - Transylvania County Historical Society applied for funding to support the development of safe ADA compliant access to the Allison-Deaver House. JHPC discussed:
    - The project supports the Transylvania County Strategic Plan;
    - The project is focused and locally relevant;
    - The project will require a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) from JHPC;
    - Due to the fees associated with the COA and other costs for following the Secretary of Interior guidelines, the project will likely cost more than anticipated;
  - JHPC asked if there is the ability to reserve funds for future years with the guarantee that they would be available for History -related non-profits rather than relinquishing back to general funds. Staff will check on this.
  - Aaron Bland moved to approve the request for \$2,500 in funding for the development of a historically appropriate, ADA compliant, walkway and ramp. Rebecca Suddeth seconded the motion and it carried.
  - Ellen Pratt Harris moved to allocate the additional funds available for history related non-profits between the Transylvania Heritage Museum and the Transylvania County Historical Society for the projects identified in the applications at \$1,000 each. Jeff Mills Seconded the motion, which carried.
  - Therefore, JHPC ultimately approved funding the Transylvania Heritage Museum at \$5,500 and the Transylvania County Historical Society at \$3,500.
- B. Other – None.

**V. Public and Commission Member Comments**

None

- VI. Adjourn:** Rebecca Suddeth moved to adjourn. Ellen Pratt Harris seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned around 5:00pm. The next meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2019.

MINUTES APPROVED

Marcy Thompson 6/3/19  
Marcy Thompson, Chair Date

Jeff Mills 6-3-19  
Staff Date