

HISTORIC RESOURCES TASK FORCE
September 8, 1999 – 3:30 P.M.
MICHIE ANNEX CONFERENCE ROOM

1. **Election of Chair**
2. **Approval of Minutes**
3. **Status Reports**
4. **Possible Future Goals and Objectives**
Please review the attached list
5. **New Marker Locations**
6. **Other Business**

NOTE: You can park in the Market Street Parking Garage. Bring your ticket into the Office with you to be stamped for two hours free.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR 3:30 INSTEAD OF 4:00.

HISTORIC RESOURCE TASK FORCE
AUGUST 11, 1999

MINUTES

Present:

Bobbye Cochran
Jim Wootton
Ingred Smyer Kelley
Winston Churchill Gooding
Fred Hebllich
Florence Bryant

Also Present:

Satyendra Singh Huja

The meeting began at 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Huja distributed the list of possible activities and projects for future discussion see attached. Mr. Huja also informed the group that the selection committee interviewed four consultants. The top consultant was PMA Planners & Architects. We are negotiating a contract with them and hope to have that finalized in September.

Mr. Wootton indicated that presentation of the consultants were very enlightening. Mr. Huja indicated that Mr. Coy Barefoot has informed him that the state has approved two state historic markers for Three Notched Road and Stone Tavern / Central Hotel. He also stated that Mr. Eley is still preparing the exhibits, Mr. Wootton will follow up with him.

Mr. Hebllich indicated that he has heard from The Michie Company about their support for the publication of The Historical Tour Guide for Charlottesville. They like the idea and the committee is going to meet on the 14th of August to decide on their level of committee for this project. The Historical Society is working on the text. He hopes that they will be finished by the fall so that the book can be published by Christmas.

Mrs. Bryant indicated that she had sent the script for the marker for First Baptist Church to Mr. Beliles.

Mr. Hebllich hoped that we could support the protection of the old jail, which is presently being used for storage. He thought that volunteers could clean it up. Mr. Hebllich felt that he would talk to Judge Helvin to see if he can refer some community service people to the jail for clean up. Mr. Gooding thought it could be used for a museum.

Ms. Cochran indicated that they are exploring the possibility of a satellite visitor center on the downtown mall.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00. The next meeting will be September 8, 1999.

POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS
FOR DISCUSSION AT FEBRUARY 11, 1998 MEETING

- Getting honorary Co-Chairman designated
- Identification of Original Plat of Charlottesville
- Historical Markers
- Archaeology Program
- Downtown Visitors' Center
- Educational Program about Local History
- Documentary Production
- Unified Tourist Pass
- Historic Charlottesville Brochure
- Identification of Visitors Center on Directional Signs
- History of Old Roads and Bridges
- Identification of Exhibit Space Locations
- Visit Historical Charlottesville Advertisement Campaign
- Oral History Program Promotion
- Awards Program for Historic Preservation
- Historical Neighborhood Markers on Signs

TO: Mr. Huja

FROM: Coy Barefoot

RE: Notes from February 11, 1998 meeting of Task Force on Historic Resources

The purpose of this, our second meeting, was to discuss a list of possible activities and projects we intend to pursue during our charge. Members of the Task Force also volunteered for individual committees to begin work on each project.

The project committees were agreed upon as follows:

1. **Getting Lionel Key and Rebecca McGinness designated as honorary co-chairs-** A brief biography of each to be included in the final report to City Council. Coy Barefoot to contact Mrs. McGinness, Mary Hill Caperton to contact Mr. Key.
2. **Identification of Original Plat of Charlottesville-** Dan Bluestone to prepare report and purpose of this project.
3. **Historical Marker Program-** It was agreed that the task force would pursue a tri-partite program as far as markers are concerned: involvement with the state-sponsored marker program that recognizes sites of state or national significance, a local effort to improve the identification of locally significant sites and events, as well as neighborhood markers that identify and welcome residents to historic City neighborhoods. Coy Barefoot will investigate and prepare the report on these programs.
4. **Archaeology Program-** the Task Force agreed to investigate the possibility of establishing a public archaeology program in the City. UVA archaeology graduate student Drake will look into this project and prepare a report regarding site selection, educational opportunities, and funding options.
5. **Downtown Visitors Center/Unified Tourist Pass/Identification of Exhibit Space Locations/ "Visit Historic Charlottesville" Advertising Campaign-** a report addressing various tourist and museum issues will be included in the final report to Council. Since some initiatives along this line are currently underway in the community, the Task Force agreed to act as a "clearing house" of ideas and projects already begun, and to investigate ways that Council might facilitate those initiatives. Committee members: Lynne Ely, Jim Wooten, Bobby Cochran

- 6. Local History Education program-** members discussed options at the elementary, secondary, and college levels. It was noted that the Historical Society's walking tours for grade-schoolers has been and continues to be enormously successful. Regarding secondary education, it was suggested that our local history might be used as a "window" to teaching state and early national history. Members also made a point concerning increasing education about local African-American history in our schools. And it was also suggested that the Task Force investigate ways to better involve incoming college and university students with the larger City community. Committee members: Jim Wooten, Florence Bryant, ~~Jim Wooten~~ Coy Barefoot
- 7. Documentary Production-** members of the Task Force decided to investigate avenues that might lead to historic documentary production in the area. Coy Barefoot to look into this possibility.
- 8. Historic Charlottesville Brochure/Identifying Old Roads and Bridges-** After much discussion about existing historic brochures of Charlottesville, members decided that there is room for improvement, and opted to establish a committee to suggest how a new brochure might look- emphasis was placed on a good map, "reader friendly" text, and the possibility of involving other areas besides downtown (like the University and historic neighborhoods). The option of drafting a more detailed and lengthy historic Charlottesville handbook in the future was also suggested, though the scope of the committee involves only the brochure. Committee members: Fred Heblich, Mary Hill Caperton, Dan Bluestone, Ingrid Smyer-Kelly
- 9. Identification of Visitors Center on Directional Signs-** Bobbye Cochran to prepare information for Mr. Huja
- 10. Oral History Program-** the Task Force agreed that the personal memories and recollections of the City's older residents were an invaluable and important resource. Though the Historical Society has an oral history program in place, Task Force members decided that there was room for more promotion and facilitation. Lynn Ely and Coy Barefoot will look into ways we might suggest improving this program.
- 11. Awards Program for Historic Preservation-** Jim Wooten volunteered to meet with the City's Public Information Officer to investigate ways we might better promote the APVA awards. It was also suggested that there be a local awards program for historic preservation.

12. Governor Jefferson's Thanksgiving Festival- Task Force member Mark Beliles, who has been unable to attend the first two meetings, was charged by phone with preparing a report on the plans and status of the Thanksgiving festival, and its relation to the promotion of local history.

Before the meeting concluded, Dan Bluestone suggested we might consider an historic Charlottesville web page, with links to the Historical Society, Tourism Bureau, Monticello, UVA, etc. It was tacitly agreed that we would consider this project at our next meeting.

At the next meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, March 11 at 4pm, the Task Force committees will have an opportunity to present progress reports on their work, get feedback from the group, consider the possibility of other projects, as well as take a look at our long term calendar.

Report prepared by: Coy Barefoot (971-6745, barefoot@cstone.net)