

Edenton Historical Commission
Executive Committee Meeting
May 17, 2012
Minutes

The Executive Committee of the Edenton Historical Commission met Tuesday, May 17th, 2012, at 5:00 p.m. in the Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library, Edenton, NC. Those attending included Chairman Jerry Climer, Vice-Chairman Libby Pope, Treasurer Frank Palm, Secretary Ben Speller, Commissioners Chris Bean, Norman Brinkley, John Dowd, Frances Inglis, Bob Quinn, Cy Rich, Jim Robison, Earl Willis and Benbury Wood, Jr.; Barker House Manager Anne Rowe and Commission Executive Director Gregg Nathan.

Chairman Climer reported that the NC Legislature's Joint Regulatory Reform Committee has proposed, in draft legislation, the elimination of the Edenton Historical Commission. As a result of this, the Commission was asked by the Department of Cultural Resources to respond with talking points by Monday, May 21st.

After discussion on key issues, Chairman Climer, with a quorum of the Executive Committee established, made a motion **"To submit talking points as follows:**

- 1. Edenton Historical Commission does not receive State funding, Commissioners do NOT receive reimbursement for travel or compensation of any kind. Thus, an alternative in keeping with the objectives of the legislation is to remove the Edenton Historical Commission from this draft legislation and continue the current relationship with the state.**
- 2. In 2011 the Commission raised in excess of \$200,000, which was spent on its programs including the restoration of the nationally famous Barker House, the preservation of historic Martinique and the acquisition of furnishings for the Roanoke River Lighthouse, all without State funding.**
- 3. The Commission is especially important for the coming year during which Edenton will celebrate the 300th anniversary of its founding and the 300th Anniversary of the appointment of North Carolina's first colonial governor, Governor Charles Eden.**

Bob Quinn seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Chairman Climer and other Commissioners expressed willingness to travel to Raleigh to meet with Legislators to discuss these talking points.

Chairman Climer then opened discussion concerning the protection of Commission assets stating that a quorum of the full Commission would be required to act. Chris Bean made a motion **"To call a special meeting of the Commission as soon as the Bylaws allow"**; Earl Willis seconded the motion, which was adopted by majority vote.

There being no further business, Earl Willis made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Jim Robison and adopted unanimously. The Executive Committee adjourned at 6:05 pm.

The Quarterly Commission Meeting is Thursday, May 31st, 4:00 pm, at the 1767 Chowan County Courthouse.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is Tuesday, June 19th, 8:00 am, at the Barker House, Edenton, NC.

Follow-up notes: The Bylaws require 15 days notice for a special meeting, which means the previously scheduled meeting on the 31st will occur before such a meeting could be scheduled. Therefore, there will be no special meeting unless requested at the meeting on the 31st.

Feedback from highly placed legislators indicated that the Commission will be excluded from the draft legislation before it is introduced and commissioners were asked NOT to travel to Raleigh to discuss the matter.