

Edenton Historical Commission
Quarterly Commission Meeting
February 24, 2011
Minutes

The full Commission of the Edenton Historical Commission met Thursday, February 24th, at 4:00 pm at the 1767 Chowan County Courthouse, Edenton, NC. Those attending included Chairman Jerry Climer, Vice-Chairman Libby Pope, Treasurer Frank Palm, Secretary Anne Rowe, Commissioners Chris Bean, Norman Brinkley Jr., Susan Creighton, Bill Culpepper, Sambo Dixon, John Dowd, Frances Inglis, Donna McLees, Ann Perry, Bob Quinn, Gary Stanley, Earl Willis, Nancy Winslow, Benbury Wood, Linda Eure (Secretary Linda Carlisle's representative on the Commission) and Executive Director Gregg Nathan.

Chairman Climer called the meeting to order and welcomed new Commissioner Donna McLees, who was appointed by the Speaker of the House to fill the position previously held by Lou Sykes who did not seek reappointment.

Secretary Anne Rowe took the roll by observation. With a quorum established, Chairman Climer convened the meeting and called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the October 28, 2010 Commission meeting. Bob Quinn made a Motion "to adopt the Minutes as presented"; Nancy Winslow seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Chairman Climer explained that a few years ago, the Commission created the Elizabeth Vann Moore Fund Committee. Last year, the Audit Committee recommended that this structure be changed. Chairman Climer asked Sambo Dixon to report on his steps taken to transfer the Elizabeth Vann Moore Fund to its own nonprofit corporation. After hearing Mr. Dixon's report, Bill Culpepper made a motion: "Once assured of the legal establishment of the EVM Fund, a nonprofit corporation, and its pending application to the IRS for recognition as a 501 (c)(3) organization and being in receipt of a letter from Carter Rowe communicating views of the late Elizabeth Vann Moore's family, the Edenton Historical Commission directs the Chairman and Treasurer to execute such contracts, agreements and financial instruments as may be required to transfer ownership of all Elizabeth Vann Moore Fund Committee assets and the assets and liabilities related to Martinique and to contact grant makers who made contributions in support of the preservation of Martinique to secure their agreement for the transfer of the proceeds of their grants and to then make such transfers upon written receipt of their agreement." The motion was seconded by Bob Quinn and adopted unanimously.

The Commission has been contacted by the Edenton Town Manager and asked to express its views on the New Bern Demolition statute concerning demolition of houses within a recognized historic district. Mr. Climer asked Bob Quinn, both a member of the Commission and a member of the Town Council, to brief the Commission on this legislation. The New Bern Bill as adopted in 2007 "Allow(s) the City of New Bern to Require a Permit Prior to Demolition of a Contributing Structure within a Locally Designated Historic District". After hearing Mr. Quinn's report and further discussion, Frances Inglis made a motion to "Endorse the Town of Edenton asking the State Legislature to enact a bill similar to the New Bern Authorization for governing local demolition within a historic district." Her motion was seconded by Sambo Dixon. Earl Willis offered an amendment to the motion: "That the Commission recommend to the Town Council that they encourage the adoption of the New Bern authority but that before the

Town Council develops a local ordinance that the Council put special emphasis on consideration of individual property rights as a part of their implementation and enforcement of that authority.” Libby Pope seconded the amendment, which was voted on by voice vote and declared to have been passed by the Chairman. Ann Perry challenged the voice vote and asked for a vote by hands. Chairman Climer, noting the request was highly appropriate and not debatable, called for a vote on the amendment by show of hands, which failed by a vote of 5 in favor of the amendment and 9 against the amendment. Chairman Climer then called for a vote on the motion, without the amendment, which failed by a vote of 5 in favor and 9 against.

Libby Pope announced that Regan Coxe and Stephanie Bergeron have agreed to co-chair *Taste of Edenton*.

There being no further business, Bill Culpepper made a Motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Bob Quinn and adopted unanimously. The Commission adjourned at 5:45 pm.