



The Barker House

circa 1782

**Edenton Historical Commission
Quarterly Commission Meeting
August 21st, 2014
Minutes**

The Edenton Historical Commission met Thursday, August 21st, at 4:00 pm at Edenton's Town Council Chamber. Secretary Ben Speller reported a quorum was present due to the attendance of Chairman Sally Francis Kehayes, Treasurer Jerry Climer, Secretary Ben Speller, and Commissioners Chris Bean, Norman Brinkley, Bill Chesson, Tom Credle, Sambo Dixon, John Dowd, Vann Lassiter, Donna McLees, Tom Newbern, Ann Perry, Cy Rich, Jim Robison, Dickie Tyler, Earl Willis, and Tommy Wood. Guests included Anne-Marie Knighton (Edenton Town Manager), Karen Ipock (Historic Edenton Site Manager), Betsy Johnstone (Cupola House Association), Nancy Nicholls (Chowan County Tourism Development Authority) and Commission Executive Director Gregg Nathan.

Chairman Kehayes called the meeting to order and welcomed Anne-Marie Knighton and Earl Willis who announced the Town of Edenton's proclamation naming October 2015 "Penelope Barker and Edenton Tea Party Month". Ms. Knighton conveyed the gratitude of the Edenton Town Council for all of the great work that is done by the Edenton Historical Commission on behalf of the Town of Edenton and Chowan County to protect and preserve its historic assets. Earl Willis read the proclamation dated 12th day of August 2014:

PROCLAMATION

DECLARING OCTOBER AS PENELOPE BARKER & EDENTON TEA PARTY MONTH

WHEREAS, Penelope Barker and the women of the Albemarle told the King of England "NO" as a protest to the unfair practices in the Colonies; and

WHEREAS, this historic event took place in Edenton during October of 1774; and

WHEREAS, this historic event is recognized as the first organized political activity by women in the New World; and

WHEREAS, over the years this protest became known as the "Edenton Tea Party".

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Edenton Town Council do hereby declare the month of October as the 240th anniversary celebration of the Edenton Tea Party, Penelope Barker and the 51 courageous women who signed the proclamation of protest; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Town Council do hereby call upon all citizens to observe the month of October as "Penelope Barker and Edenton Tea Party" month and reflect upon the women who took a stand those 240 years ago in Edenton; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this proclamation be spread upon the official minute books of the Edenton Town Council as a lasting testament of the pride and admiration the Town has for the Edenton Tea Party Women.

Chairman Kehayes welcomed Betsy Harrell Johnstone as the newly elected President of the Cupola House Association. Chairman Kehayes and Mrs. Johnstone expressed the desire to work together to further the mission of both the Edenton Historical Commission and the Cupola House Association.

Chairman Kehayes called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the April 24th, 2014 Quarterly Commission Meeting. Jerry Climer made a motion: “**To adopt the Minutes as presented**”; Sambo Dixon seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Chris Bean praised the determination and hard work of Commission members; the efforts of Executive Director Gregg Nathan and the successful partnerships with other Edenton organizations creating the brightest days in the history of the Edenton Historical Commission.

With no further business to consider, Chris Bean made a **Motion to Adjourn**, which was seconded by Tom Newbern and adopted unanimously. The Commission adjourned at 5:25 pm.

The Annual Commission Meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, October 16th, 4:00 pm**, at Edenton’s Town Council Chamber, 504 S. Broad Street.