

**ALAMANCE COUNTY HISTORIC PROPERTIES COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday April 16, 2013

6:00 p.m., Board of County Commissioners Room

Members Present

Pat Bailey
John Braxton
Rodney Cheek
Jimmy Ray Cobb Jr.
Bryan Dalton
Marti Friddle, *Chair*
Gale Pettiford
Jennifer Talley

Members Absent

Eric Richardson
Ida Stephens
Heather Wallace

Staff Present

Jessica Hill, *Planner*

Guests Present

None

I. Call to Order

Chair Marti Friddle called the April 16, 2013 meeting of the Alamance County Historic Properties Commission to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Cheek noted that Ruth Dismuke's name is spelled with an "i" rather than an "e." There were no additional changes and the minutes were approved unanimously.

III. New Business

Request for assistance/knowledge for Cedarock Mill History: Ms. Hill introduced Brian Baker, the Alamance County Trail and Open Space Coordinator. Mr. Baker passed out the National Register information sheet for Cedarock Park to provide some background, and noted that the Recreation & Parks department has had some interest for a number of years to rebuild the mill at Cedarock Park, of which only the foundation remains. Mr. Baker added that recently it came to his attention that another mill in the county, Stafford Mill, will soon be demolished as part of an NC Department of Transportation bridge replacement. The owner of Stafford Mill contacted Mr. Baker for assistance, and while there is not a lot that he can do to prevent the demolition, he is working with the owner to salvage some of the materials from Stafford Mill and plans to use those materials to reconstruct the mill at Cedarock Park. Mr. Baker stated he believes the mill at Cedarock Park was constructed in the 1850's, which is a similar time frame as Stafford Mill, and in many cases the mills in that part of the county were built by the same person. Stafford Mill is significant in that it appears that some of the materials in it came from the Alamance Cotton Mill, which was torn down shortly before Stafford Mill was constructed. Recreation & Parks has an interest in rebuilding the Cedarock mill, but does not have experience in this type of project. Mr. Baker requested historical information from the Commission about this particular mill, as well as any ideas for developing a plan to rebuild the mill. Chair Friddle recommended that they study Dixon Mill on Snowcamp Road, which is still standing. Ms. Hill added that the County's Historic Properties Inventory does not have any

photos of the Cedarock Mill, and suggested that if any Commission members knew about any photos, that they talk with Mr. Baker. In addition, if they were interested in working on this, Mr. Baker said he would be glad to take volunteers and would like to get a working group together as the project moves forward.

Eli Whitney Cotton Gin History: Chair Friddle introduced the item and Ms. Hill provided some background information, stating that there was already a historic marker recognizing the Eli Whitney Quilting Party in front of the Eli Whitney Community Center, but the Commission had also discussed putting up a sign recognizing the Eli Whitney Community, and the cotton gin was part of that discussion. Chair Friddle asked where it was located. Mr. Cheek stated that the Cotton Gin was originally located right on the Saxapahaw/Eli Whitney Line between Claude Cheek and the Lloyd place. Mr. Cheek said he talked with several people, and it seemed that the gin was located in the Lloyd barn but was moved to a different location at a later date. Mr. Cheek suggested that if they want to take official action on recognizing Eli Whitney, that the Commission put together a list of questions and he is willing to interview people and get those questions answered. Ms. Friddle asked if the cotton gin would be listed on the 1893 Spooner Map. Ms. Hill offered to look into it. The Commission discussed the possible locations of written history about the cotton gin.

Eli Whitney Resolution:

Ms. Bailey stated that the Historic Properties Commission had already made a resolution to put up a local marker for Uncle Eli Whitney's Quilting Party. Ms. Bailey stated that at this point in time she would like the HPC to put forth a resolution recognizing that one of their first projects, the Uncle Eli Whitney's Quilting Party marker, has now been recognized on Wikipedia. Ms. Hill clarified that a resolution is an official document stating the opinion of the board. Chair Friddle asked if a resolution would be the appropriate way to recognize this. Ms. Hill added that the County Commissioners have adopted a resolution recognizing the annual quilting party. Mr. Cheek stated he felt it would be more appropriate to gather facts on the Eli Whitney Cotton Gin and come back to the Commission and look at a resolution for recognizing the unincorporated Eli Whitney community.

Motion: A motion was made to conduct research around the history of the unincorporated community of Eli Whitney and to come back to the Commission at a later date with a recommendation for formal recognition; it was seconded.

Vote: Unanimously approved.

IV. **Announcements**

Ms. Talley expressed her disappointment with the County Commissioners for tearing down the Graham Graded School.

Ms. Hill announced that the Preservation Workshop was a success, with about 100 attendees from all over the state. She added that she has all of the presentations available in her office if the Commissioners want to review any of them.

Ms. Hill reminded the board that the local landmark nomination for the Freeman-Boggs-Woody House will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners on May 6th at 9:00 a.m., and she encouraged the commissioners to attend if possible.

V. Adjournment

With no further matters to discuss, the ACHPC meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Aspen Price".

Aspen Price
Clerk to Alamance County Historic Properties Commission