

**There will be no December meeting . Our next meeting will be held January 13, 3:00 at the Depot. We will be voting on our by-laws and Articles of Incorporation. Please make every effort to attend.**

**Have a great December. See you Next year!**

**Old Fort Mountain Heritage Alliance**

**Minutes November 18, 2009, 3:00**

**Members Present:** Dru Heldman, Terry Wilson, Susie Painter, Wilma Allison, Brigitte Walters, Terrell Findley, Andy Bunch, David Quinn, Carol Price, Debbie Smith

**Business:**

**By-laws/Constitution approval**

The proposed By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation were presented for discussion. There were several points discussed and several clarifications /changes made to the proposed documents. The amended documents will be sent out to all members with highlights of items changed and deleted. The amended By-Laws and Articles will be reviewed by Wilma Allison's son who has graciously volunteered to proof read both documents. The By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation will be finalized at the January 13 general membership meeting. Any person who wishes to make further amendments need to contact the secretary before **December 18** so the amendments can be incorporated before the final documents are reproduced for our January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- **board of Directors**

The organizing members of the OFMHA will become the Establishing Board of Directors according to the by-laws we are drafting. Members who were active in the forming years of the Alliance have been contacted to see if they are willing to serve on the Establishing Board. A slate of members willing to serve as a Board of Director will be presented to the membership at the next meeting. Anyone willing to serve on the establishing board of directors may contact the Alliance through the secretary, Debbie Smith.

- **identify directors (9) and ex-officio directors (3)**

Once a slate of candidates is published, Elections will be held at the next regular membership meeting. Information regarding the candidates and the offices they are seeking will be sent out to the membership before the next meeting.

- **elect officers**

When the directors have been elected, officers will be elected.

- **Begin work on 501(c)(3) filing for Non-Profit Status**

Once the By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation are approved, we can apply for Incorporation with the state of NC. Then when we have that approved, we will be able to continue the Non-Profit application process.

- **RFP for creekwalk has been sent, due Dec. 1.**

We have found out that our deadline for the Grant Funding we want to use towards the creek walk is the end of March instead of Dec. 31. We have more time to look at what we want and can give the contractors a little more time to present their proposals. The Creek Walk committee will meet Tuesday, Dec. 1 at 1:00 at the depot. Carol, Debbie, Susie, Wilma will be working on this committee. Anyone else who is interested may join the meeting. The time line for presenting the proposals will occur after the new year begins.

## **Standing Committees:**

- **Economic Development**

Dean Kanipe wasn't able to attend to present the data learned through our recent surveys.

- **Heritage and Preservation**

We need to go forward on our application for establishing a Historical District in the town. David Quinn will contact Dru in January in finding assistance on what we need to apply.

- **Promotion**

- **Proposal that the Alliance put together a gallery/studio crawl / tour.**

This is a project that will be planned for spring time. There are many artisans in the area and this could be a large draw for our town.

- **Assist Davidson's Fort with their Thanksgiving reenactment.**

The organizers at Davidson's Fort are working on reenacting the Return of Rutherford's Trace. All are invited to the event to be held the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

- **Possible Fund Raising events**

We need to begin thinking of ways to generate funding. All members are encouraged to brainstorm ideas of ways we can raise money to improve our town and raise awareness of our organization.

There will be another Railroad Day in May. Committees need to begin planning in March.

Ellen Furman was in the area photographing advertising for Woolrich. We need to encourage more of this type of advertising in our area.

- **Design and Beautification**

Susie Painter has spoken with Jennifer Brown of Green Meadows landscaping. Jennifer will look at Bradley Park and make a plan to renovate and improve the park. Jennifer does not recommend that we use trees in planters, but put them directly in the ground for our street beautification project. The Town has allotted funds for town beautification.

Jennifer is willing to meet with us and talk on how to landscape in the Spring.

- **Our next meeting will be Wednesday, JANUARY 13.** December is such a busy time for everyone, the group decided that we would meet one week earlier in January. At that meeting we will finalize our By-Laws and present nominations for our Establishing Board of Directors and Officers.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Smith, Secretary OFMHA

Debbie