

Historic Preservation Commission

Town of Greenville, Indiana

Town Hall

October 17th @ 6:00pm

ATTENDEES: Matt Uhl
Andy Lemon
Brittnie Courtney
Mark Keeley
Amy Wells
Kenny Wells

GUESTS: Greg Sekula, Director, Indiana Landmarks Southern Regional Office
Laura Renwick, Community Preservation Specialist, Indiana Landmarks
Jeremy Krieger, "Pulled In" host, NTPA driver/announcer/crew member

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – Minutes from the July meeting were approved.
2. **Indiana Landmarks Discussion of Jesse Smith House** – Guests Greg Sekula and Laura Renwick presented information regarding the available sale of 9569 US 150, a structure listed as Notable via the DNR SHAARD database for historic impact. Director Sekula walked through different financing options, and presented similar structures Indiana Landmarks has assisted with in acquiring for local historic preservation. Mr. Sekula and Ms. Renwick also discussed the potential for both the Jesse Smith House and the Station Building as future National Register sites, with appropriate care and protection. Challenges in both timing and capital were discussed, as well as opportunities for working with state and local entities in going about acquiring the property. Chairman Uhl thanked both Mr. Sekula and Ms. Renwick for their presentation, and the committee decided to weigh the options and explore interested parties in partnering for the future use of the house as a community asset.
3. **Discussion of HPC Historical Marker Program/Thunder Valley project** – Guest Jeremy Krieger, on behalf of former participants of the Thunder Valley truck and tractor pulls hosted in Greenville in the 1970's and 1980's, presented the idea of recognizing the former event and facility located adjacent to and utilizing much of the current Greenville Park area. Mr. Krieger gave a history of the event and its local and regional impact, including many local personalities of the NTPA that got their start in Greenville. Chairman Uhl mentioned the potential of a new local historic marker program, and offered to the group the ability to work with Floyd County Parks to place the marker in 2020 provided funds were provided by the contacts Mr. Krieger was able to coordinate within the professional circuit. Preliminary discussions also involved hosting an event sometime in summer 2020 to unveil the marker, with former participants and local enthusiasts invited to discuss and celebrate the former site in Greenville.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Chairman Uhl highlighted the successes of the 2019 priorities for the Commission, and gave a preview of the 2020 planning priorities, including introducing the local historical marker program, potential future parade possibilities, and further fundraising ideas.
5. Financial Report – Treasurer Brittnie Courtney reported fundraising totals from the Couvert event, as well as proceeds from the sale of Town flags, shirts, etc.
6. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. **Fundraising update on Couvert HPC night**-Discussed in detail during earlier financial report.
 - b. **Marker Submissions through IHB update**-Chairman Uhl discussed IHB decline of both Norman Colman Marker and Sherman Minton Marker (Georgetown) applications, and opportunities to begin new local marker program. Intent of both HPC and Town of Georgetown is to apply again in 2020 for Sherman Minton marker with adjusted citations and resources per IHB feedback.
 - c. **Thunder Valley project review/Greenville Park**-As highlighted by presentation by Mr. Krieger, HPC offered to work in concert with truck/tractor pulling community to feed all available information, media, and documents to help in celebrating Thunder Valley site and facilitate raising awareness of impact of the historic event.
 - d. **2020 Parade Planning Discussion**-General discussion was held leaving options open for 2020, possibly circling around a Norman Colman marker ceremony in May 2020, or in conjunction with efforts for Thunder Valley unveiling event. Amy and Kenny Wells offered support for parade given the success of the 2019 parade, Andy Lemon and Mark Keeley agreed provided additional support was available for planning.
 - e. **First Families recap from September**-Chairman Uhl discussed the SIGS event in September that Kim attended on behalf of the HPC, and highlighted the visibility for the HPC with other related local history organizations, including the Floyd County Historical Society.
 - f. **Floyd County Bicentennial wrapup**-The group discussed the impacts of the HPC on the county's bicentennial, and wrapping up the Floyd History Blog with relevant local topics/figures.
7. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. **Jesse Smith House project review**-The group did not vote on any motions to proceed, but general support was given to pursue/identify the potential of the project, given little financial risk was taken on by the HPC and future local impacts could be made in possibly leveraging use of the Jesse Smith House.
 - b. **HPC Historical Marker Program**-Chairman Uhl presented quotes given by Sewah Studios to produce a similar local historical marker to those produced by the IHB. Per the IHB, a local historical marker program (at a quote cost to produce of \$2,655 plus shipping) would be at low cost to the HPC and interested parties, and would offer a way to provide locally-relevant topics recognition. The HPC identified both Norman Colman via Greenville Elementary and the Thunder Valley site via Greenville Park as noteworthy topics to pursue for initial local historical markers.
 - c. **Fundraising for 2020** – A brief discussion ensued discussing t-shirts for the Thunder Valley program, tabling for events and also a 2020 parade as targets for fundraising and future community outreach. The Greenville Town Welcome sign is also going through engineering/permitting, and is scheduled to be installed in the near future along US 150 entering from the East near Schuler Road.

d. Other

-Meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm

NEXT MEETING-Jan 16, 2020