REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE:

April 18, 2012

SUBJECT:

Historic Resources Commission Annual Report

PRESENTER:

Susan Sneeringer

ATTACHMENTS:

Yes

1. Report

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

The annual report for the Historic Resources Commission has been received by the Board of Commissioners.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

No specific Board action is requested. This item is for informational purposes only.

Suggested Motion:

No motion suggested.

TO: Henderson County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Henderson County Historic Resources Commission

SUBJECT: Annual Report

We want to first welcome the recently elected commissioners to the Board of Commissioners. We would like to familiarize you with our current activities and seek your help to continue fulfilling our responsibilities as charged in the ordinance.

Although the HRC ordinance was signed in 2005, we did not start formally meeting until January 24, 2007. Our first task was to inventory all historic structures within Henderson County, potentially 6,400 over 50 years old. In order to make the task less daunting we elected to review only structures 100 years and older. This narrowed the task to approximately 500. We have now narrowed our selections down to about 18 that could be designated landmark status.

With an all-volunteer commission, many hours and resources were necessary to survey the properties and our members remain dedicated to our task, most times working without benefit of a full compliment of commissioners.

In order to get to this point we have also had to create design guidelines. Design guidelines must be written and approved prior to designation as a Certified Local Government. In order to receive grants from the N.C. State Historic Preservation Commission we must be a CLG. We must have that designation with the state before moving on. We feel that with the budgetary constraints facing the county, grants would be an alternative monetary resource. On of our commissioners has extensive grant experience while working with the National Park Service. All of the commissioners have a wide base of experience to contribute.

We completed the guidelines in June, 2011 and submitted them to the BOC for approval in July. We are awaiting this approval from you all before we can take the next step in the process. We are asking that you somehow fit this review and approval into your already busy agenda in the near future.

Thank you for taking your time to hear our concerns.

Susan S. Sneeringer

Chair, Henderson County Historic Resources Commission