

Walker County Historic Preservation Commission

Lafayette-Walker County Public Library

February 18, 2025

6 pm

The meeting was called to order at 6:06pm.

Public Notice of the meeting was emailed (2/11/25) to the Walker County Facebook page, the Walker County Messenger, and posted at Lafayette-Walker County Library.

Commissioners present: Chairman John Culpepper, Vice Chairman Alan Slaven, Secretary Renee Griffin, Commissioners Randall Pittman, Theresa Dorsey. Commissioners Frances Cobb and Eddie Upshaw were absent. A quorum was established, and introductions were made to the guests.

Guests present were Evitt Parrish and Adlee Parrish of the Gordon Lee Key Club, Beverly Foster of the Walker County African American History Museum and Multi-Culture Center, and Joy Slaven.

Commissioner Pittman moved to accept the agenda and Commissioner Dorsey seconded. The motion carried, and the agenda was accepted.

Vice chairman Slaven moved to accept the minutes of January 21, 2025, meeting and, Commissioner Pittman seconded. The motion carried, and the minutes were approved as presented.

Chairman Culpepper presented the financial report:

Balance as of 1/21/2025 3134.74

Ending Balance 2/18/2025 3134.74

Note: 237.00 of funds are for the Oakhill School Project

Old Business:

10. Installation of Commission Wayside Markers- Chairman Culpepper sent a letter on January 22, 2025, to Josh Aldridge to request clearance from Georgia Department of Natural Resources to place the Estelle Mine wayside marker on the Pigeon Mountain Wildlife Area. He is currently awaiting a response.

11. Coulter School/Oakhill Academy Stabilization Project- Chairman Culpepper will check back with DNR about the certifications the contractor needs to have to complete the plan of work.

12. Status Report, Phase 1, Walker County Updated Historic Resources Survey- Currently covering the west Armuchee Valley area. The survey started on February 5. Identified 159 parcels over 40 yrs old. 25% must be completed by March 10th.

13. Cherokee Chief John McLemore War of 1812 Monument Relocation- Beth Dykes of the DAR is looking at moving it to a new location in the McLemore Cove.

14. Native American Chieftain Trail- Enough money was raised to cover the different points in Walker County. Chairman Culpepper reviewed the brochure text, and everything has been forwarded to the brochure editors.

15. Display of the Replica of the Vietnam War Monument, Rossville—This scale model replica of the Vietnam Wall was created by Operation Outreach from Walker County Corrections. This free event will be open to the public Friday, February 21st from 2pm-7pm and Saturday, February 22nd from 10am to 3pm at the Rossville Gymnasium. The Gordon Lee Key Club will be volunteering at this event to assist patrons. The WCHPC will collect donations to support the Oak Hill/Coulter School stabilization project.

16. Phase 11, Updated Walker County Historic Resources, Grant Application- Phase two grant application was submitted on January 27, 2024 to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for a \$25,000 grant for phase two of the county updated historic resource survey. Phase two will start at Armuchee Road and come west.

17. Revised Commission Logo- No update currently.

18. Request to develop WCHPC Facebook Page- Chairman Culpepper wrote a letter to Chairwoman Teems of the Walker Board of Commissioners requesting permission to develop a Facebook page. Chairwoman Teems emailed back about a meeting to discuss it, some one from her staff will contact the Chairman with some available dates.

19. Missing Civil War Wayside Marker located at Davis Crossroads- Georgia Civil War Heritage Trails advised by mail that a replacement sign had been ordered.

20. Proposed Walker County Civil War Reenactment- The Atlanta Campaign is proposing another re-enactment in 2026. A letter sent to Chairman Teems of the Walker County Board of Commissioners and Mayor Arnold of the City of Lafayette requesting a meeting to discuss the event. Commissioner Pittman moved for the Walker County Historical Preservation Commission to formally support the proposed 2026 reenactment at the Walker County Industrial Park, and Secretary Griffin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

21. None

22. Opportunity for Commissioners to bring any business before Commission- None

23. The next meeting will be 3/17/25 at the Lafayette-Walker County library at 6pm.

24. Commissioner Pittman moved to adjourn, and Vice-Chairman Slaven seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7pm.