

Walker County Historic Preservation Commission

Lafayette-Walker County Public Library

March 18, 2025

6 pm

The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm.

Public Notice of the meeting was emailed (3/11/25) to the Walker County Facebook page, the Walker County Messenger and posted at the Lafayette-Walker County Library.

Commissioners present: Chairman John Culpepper, Vice Chairman Alan Slaven, Secretary Renee Griffin, Commissioners Randall Pittman, Frances Cobb and Eddie Upshaw. Commissioner Theresa Dorsey was absent. A quorum was established. There were no introductions or guests.

Secretary Griffin moved to accept the agenda and Commissioner Upshaw seconded. The motion carried, and the agenda was accepted.

Vice-chairman Slaven moved to accept the minutes of February 18, 2025, meeting and, Commissioner Pittman seconded. The motion carried, and the minutes were approved as read.

Chairman Culpepper presented the financial report:

|                                                              |                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Balance as of 2/18/2025                                      | \$3134.74       |
| Donations received from Vietnam Memorial Replica fundraiser  | \$247.00        |
| Ending Balance 3/18/2025                                     | \$3381.74       |
| <b>Note: Funds restricted for the Oakhill School Project</b> | <b>\$484.00</b> |

Old Business:

10. Installation of Commission Wayside Markers- Chairman Culpepper has communicated with Josh Aldridge to request clearance from Georgia Department of Natural Resources to place the Estelle Mine wayside marker on the Pigeon Mountain Wildlife Management Area. There have been some scheduling conflicts that are hoped to be resolved soon. Commissioner Pittman to check to with Walker County Sign Dept. about installing markers.

11. Coulter School/Oakhill Academy Stabilization Project- Chairman Culpepper contacted company recommended by Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

Architectural Collaborative, submitted a proposal of \$15,300 for a restoration design for the project. Brainstorming how to get the funds. Chairman Culpepper will reach out about grant funding and for guidance and response. WCHPC will take this proposal to the Cedar Grove Community center in the April meeting. Bring a covered dish.

12. Status Report, Phase 1, Walker County Updated Historic Resources Survey- Currently covering the west Armuchee Valley area. Latest update from Ardurra. 25% upload complete. Land permission is needed to finish this and move forward. Need 5 to 6 days in the field to complete survey, scheduled for last week in March and first of April. Next deadline is June 25th.

13. Cherokee Chief John McLemore War of 1812 Monument Relocation- Ms. Mary Beth Dykes of the Daughters of the American Revolution is putting in a lot of effort into verifying everything needed so the commission can remove and relocate the monument.

14. Request to develop WCHPC Facebook Page – Chairwoman Teems will reach out about it with her staff about how to set this up.

15. Proposed Walker County Civil War Reenactment - Industrial Park does not appear to be available for the 2026 reenactment. Possibly work with the Department of Natural Resources to utilize the same area of the Crockford-Pigeon WMA as the 145th reenactment. Commissioner Pittman will contact Representative Cameron about setting up a meeting with the Commissioner of DNR to discuss the reenactment in early summer.

#### New Business:

16. Oak Grove School Project – Commissioner Pittman spoke to the Warden of Walker Correctional Institute about clearing out underbrush so school can be viewed from Oak Grove Road. Chairman Culpepper and Commissioner Pittman hope to meet with her soon about the project.

17. Kick Off meeting, Chattanooga Valley Historical Society, Tuesday March 2025 at 6:30 pm, Flintstone Chapel (Former Flintstone United Methodist Church)

Commissioner Pittman will be speaking. Everyone is encouraged to attend and support this new organization

18. Commission letter of support, Walker County African American Historical and Alumni Association grant application for the proposed Walker County African American Memorial Park, Lafayette – Chairman Culpepper wrote a letter of support of grant on behalf of the commission.

19. Change of date, WCPC monthly meetings - Meeting on Tuesday in April

20. Opportunity for Commissioners to bring any business before the Commission:

Chairman Culpepper had been given postcards and historic documents for Lafayette donated to commission. Secretary Griffin will hold these items until they can be placed in the history room of the library. Chairman Culpepper stated the Georgia Civil War Commission has allocated 12,000 to restore the slave quarters at the Gordon Lee Mansion, Chairman Culpepper will manage the restoration project for the City of Chickamauga. Secretary Griffin has the program to create the Walker County History Time Travel Passport. The recipes and activities are from the U.S. Center for Home Economics Radio Broadcast from 1927-1935.

21. The next meeting will be April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at the LaFayette-Walker County Library at 6pm.

22. Commissioner Pittman moved to adjourn, and Vice-Chairman Slaven seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.

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