

Approved 05/02/19

**Union County Historic Preservation Commission
Special Meeting
March 11, 2019**

The Union County Historic Preservation Commission held a special meeting on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 2:00 pm in the Heritage Room located in the historic Union County Courthouse, Monroe, North Carolina.

Present: Richard Ali, John Dickerson, Crystal Gilliard, Barbara Moore and Jerry Surratt
Absent: Mary Lou Gamble and Steven Long
Also Present: Marian Morgan, staff; Tony Wentz

The special meeting was called to order by Barbara Moore, Chairman.

New Business

A Certificate of Appropriateness for Phase I of the Restoration on the old Union County Historic Courthouse was received on February 7, 2019 from Brian A. Wentz (Tony). Tony works with the Union County Facilities Department and is overseeing the project. The items included in Phase I are:

1. Tighten existing tower structural connections
2. Repair existing gutter at building perimeter and replace existing outriggers
3. Strengthen existing purlins supporting slate roof
4. Strengthen existing courtroom ceiling "hip" beam
5. Replace clock tower slate roof and copper flashing in-kind and other slate roof sections
6. Install historically accurate copper ridge detail
7. Replace wood decking as required at all exposed locations
8. Strip sheet metal sheathing to bare metal, repair as required and repaint (clock hoods)
9. Slate shall match existing slate stored in basement
10. Replace box gutter in lead-coated copper
11. Strip sheet metal cornice, frieze, dentils to bare metal, repair and paint same color
12. Replace existing light fixtures on four existing exterior light poles

Mrs. Moore began the meeting stating that she and Ms. Morgan had reviewed the items and felt that most should be considered normal and minor work. The replacement of the roof would be considered as major work. Normal work does not require a Certificate of Appropriateness. Minor work requires that a COA be submitted and can be approved at staff level. Major work requires a COA and has to be approved by the Union County Historical Preservation Commission. Items 5 and 9 pertaining to the replacement of the roof are considered major work.

Dr. Surratt asked if copper could be used instead of the sheet metal. Mr. Dickerson explained that copper would change the appearance of the building. He explained the intent is to use like materials that will match the existing building and not alter its appearance.

The change of lighting fixtures, item 12, was not part of the original application for restoration. The subject of outside lighting was addressed as a need to update and improve the appearance of the grounds at the historic courthouse at night. A picture of the light fixture similar to the existing ones was shown. It was suggested that this item be removed to allow the Commission to vote on the original

application. Mr. Wentz agreed with its removal stating that it was not part of Phase I Renovation Project.

The replacement of the slate roof was addressed. It was explained that our guidelines currently do not include the replacement of roofing as an item requiring a Certificate of Appropriateness application. Amber Stimpson, Local Preservation Commissions/CLG Coordinator, in Raleigh, NC said that the replacement of roofing is considered as major work. Dr. Surratt made a motion to add replacement of roofing to the guidelines as major work. Mr. Ali seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Mr. Dickerson to approve all items in Phase I except for the lighting fixtures. Dr. Surratt seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Mr. Dickerson made a motion that the County hire a lighting consultant to improve the lighting on the grounds of the Courthouse. It was noted that the grounds are included in the designation of the building. Mrs. Gilliard seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Moore asked if there was motion to adjourn. Mr. Dickerson made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Ali seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Moore declared the meeting adjourned and announced the next regular meeting is scheduled for May 2, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Crystal Gilliard, Secretary