

# *Walkertown Historical Society*

## *Agenda*

### *August 23, 2007*

Meeting called to order.

#### 1. Roll Call – Committee Members

Chairman Enos Jumper called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. In attendance were Mr. Jumper, Jane Morris, Wayne Biby, Wayne Mabe, Harold Warner, and Clerk Lynn. Also attending was Councilwoman Sarah Welch.

#### 2. Old Business

- Approval of minutes from August 9, 2007

On a motion by Wayne Biby and seconded by Jane Morris, the minutes from August 9, 2007, were approved unanimously.

- Review of Lewisville and Stokes County Bylaws as they apply to Walkertown Historical Society

Mr. Jumper started the meeting on the review of the Lewisville and Stokes County Bylaws. Mr. Warner said that the documents were very legal-oriented and that he felt Walkertown would need an attorney sooner than later. He said that it used to be that a CPA could do the legal aspects of the documents that we need to do to formalize our society but that laws had changed and now CPA's were not permitted to do those - only attorneys could. He also said he felt we were getting ahead of ourselves by listing the house on Sullivantown Road as the Historical Society "house". We need to get Town of Walkertown authority before putting that information in our bylaws. He said we need membership before completing bylaws. Mr. Jumper and Ms. Morris agreed that we should wait for membership before putting much in the bylaws.

Acceptance of artifacts came into play with most members thinking we did not have the right conditions to accept anything at this time. There is no place to store such artifacts; no insurance to cover loss or damage, actually – no one to receipt artifacts in and keep track of them – too many unanswered questions on how to protect ourselves as well as artifacts, either donated or lent. Mr. Jumper questioned the house being used totally for the Historical Society and Ms. Welch answered that it was not to be used strictly for the Historical Society – that it was intended to be used for different purposes. Mr. Warner was troubled by the fact that this issue is getting too political. This society should be

community oriented rather than politically oriented and hopefully would be endorsed by all political groups.

Mr. Biby felt that we, as a Historical Society, don't really know what we have to work with – there's been no final authority as to whether we would have the whole house or just one room, or two rooms. Are we a Steering Committee? Advisory group? Actual Board of Directors?

Ms. Welch said the council did not designate anything – the group should just discuss what is historical first and then go forward with the other information. She proposed adding this topic to the town council meeting agenda for tonight's meeting and discuss. Mr. Jumper said it was not fair to ask the town council to tie the whole house up – other groups could use it for their meetings. Mr. Mabe felt we should go directly to the town council and get more specific answers to our questions. Is the house entirely the Historical Society's? Are we relegated to a certain area, time?? He felt there is too much confusion as to what our role is or should be.

A good idea was proposed by Mr. Warner --- to ask for a work session between the town council and the Historical Society. He questioned whether or not we should proceed with the Articles of Incorporation and the bylaws, and Mr. Wabe responded that he felt we should definitely wait until we received further instructions.

Mr. Mabe and Mr. Biby requested that Ms. Welch ask the council::

- What is the overall scope of the Historical Society?
- Is this working group a Board of Directors also?
- What should the group be actually working on at this time?
- What should be done about the house on Sullivantown Road?
- Should the group pursue organizing and actively amassing members?

Mr. Mabe did feel that we are the Society and that we should return to the Town Council with some type of plan..... He said we were assigned to form a Historical society – and to report back to the Town council for approval. He felt the Town Council and this group would be the actual Historical Society.

Mr. Jumper said we need to know what they expect from us – what they want us to do and he agreed with Mr. Warner – it needs to be non-political. The entire group felt that there is just too much confusion – too much unknowns -- to continue as we are doing. At this point, we are just spinning our wheels. We have too many different conceptions of what the scope and purpose of this group is and we need to find out from the Town Council exactly what they have charged this committee with doing. Clarification is needed on several issues:

- Purpose of the group
- Money for attorney
- Money for filing Articles of Incorporation and 501(c)(3)
- Are we the Board of Directors?
- Is this a Committee?
- Is this a Board?
- Are we the Historical Society?
- How will we "receive" donations?

- Where will we store them?
- How will they be insured?
- How will we run the Society?
- Who is in charge of the Sullivantown Road house?
- Many, many more questions.....

Hopefully, the Town Council can advise us as to what the real purpose of this group is and define what it is we should be working towards accomplishing. The group will be represented at the Town Council meeting tonight by Councilwoman Sarah Welch, who has assured us she will find out and report back to us her findings.

### 3. New Business

Nothing presented.

### 4. Goals for next meeting:

Find out the actual scope and role of the Historical Society. Ms. Welch will request information from the Town Council meeting of Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup> and report back to the Society at the meeting of September 13<sup>th</sup>.

### 5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned by consensus of opinion at approximately 4:15 p.m. with members confused as to the purpose of what this group is actually supposed to accomplish.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn McKinnie