

Alamance County Historic Properties Commission

Tuesday, September 9, 2025, 6 p.m.

Commissioners' Meeting Room
124 W. Elm Street, Graham, NC 27253

Present:

Brian Ward
Chris Wells
Emily White
Rodney Cheek
John Greeson
Katherine Hadley
Laurie Smith

Absent:

Gale Pettiford
Megan Privett
Aric Geda
Arnetta Girardeau (resigned)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Cheek called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm

II. OATH OF OFFICE

Mr. Cheek took the oath prior to the meeting.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. July 8, 2025

Motion by Mr. Greeson; second by Emily White to approve the minutes. Approved unanimously.

Mr. Cheek noted that Mr. Geda was not present yet and asked if there was any interest in amending the agenda to allow for the presentation on America 250 to commence first. That motion was made by Mrs. White, seconded by Mr. Ward and approved unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

1. John Braxton and Pat Bailey Proclamations

Mr. Geda was absent for the meeting and unable to present the plaques. This item will be moved to the October meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. America 250 Plans/Discussion (guest, Grace VandeVisser)

Mrs. VandeVisser spoke about the county's role in tourism generally. She then spoke about the America 250 program and that she is the person administering it for the county. Other grants were awarded to the Alamance Battle Ground and the Snow Camp Theater. She mentioned that there is an American 250 tab on the Visit Alamance website. This site has event info and links to other organizations. Immigration,

Women and Families, American Indian Experience, Westward Expansion, Reconstruction, Civil Rights, Common Ground, Agriculture, State Parks, Naturalization, Voting Rights, and more. She also mentioned the NC County flag competition for 4th graders; for students to learn more about their county and what they feel their county represents. She encouraged the board members to visit their website, www.VisitAlamance.com and click the America 250 tab for more information. The board members thanked Mrs. VandeVisser for sharing the information.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Central High School Historic Marker

Mr. Hoagland let the board know that Planning Department staff had been informed that someone else had already contacted a local sign company about replacing the historic marker. So, for now, the issue seems to be resolving itself. However, there are still Planning Department funds available if they need to use them to replace the sign.

2. Board member vacancy/discussion

Mr. Cheek informed the Board that Mrs. Arnetta Girardeau had resigned in August. Mr. Hoagland informed the board that they technically had two applications on file. He placed both applications on the recent Commission agenda and they appointed Mr. Dewey Braxton as a result. However, it was later discovered that Mr. Braxton had recently passed away. He then discussed the issue with Mr. Cheek and Mr. Cheek recommended we discuss this before the HPC Board tonight. After some discussion, the board asked if they could be given the opportunity to review applications and make a recommendation before they go to the Commissioners in the future. Mr. Hoagland said that change is in fact possible but it may require amending the regulations. He thought that the best course of action would be for the HPC to officially request that he draft the amendment and that the Planning Board consider this amendment as they are working on other changes to the UDO.

Motion: Ward, Second: Greeson. Approved unanimously.

The members then discussed possible additional applicants for the current vacancy. Mr. Hoagland informed them that anyone interested in applying would need to do so by September 24th since the deadline to submit that info to the Commissioners is the 25th. The members agreed to reach out to anyone who may be interested within the community and encourage them to apply. Mr. Hoagland agreed to share the website link via email with the Board so that they could pass it along to applicants.

Finally, Mr. Ward asked that the board members receive a text message if a meeting is cancelled a day or two in advance. Any cancellation prior to that can simply be via email. But that a text is better for any last minute changes. Mr. Hoagland agreed that was a good idea and said he will do his best to implement that moving forward.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Emily White, second John Greeson. Unanimous.