

December 26, 2009

Walkertown Area Historical Society

Summary of Suggestions and Ideas for Development of the Walkertown Area Historical Society Center and Museum, 3058 Church Street, Walkertown, NC 27051

I. General Purpose and Use

- Non-smoking environment, non-partisan, non-denominational facility
- Research, acquire, preserve and communicate town and area history
- Bi-monthly tours of facility coupled with short programs for small groups (scouts, school classes, civic groups, etc.)
- Social programs and gatherings to enrich Society members (e.g. genealogy, annual picnics and winter party)
- Base station to capture/record interviews of area citizens
- Acquire, repair, preserve and maintain physical artifacts relating to town's history
- Acquire, repair, digitize, preserve, reproduce photos and documents relating to town's history.
- Grounds to showcase outdoor history: Victory gardens, flower gardens, early outdoor toys and games, sustainability technologies, early clothes washing and cooking techniques, early hand tools, carpentry techniques, farm practices and market protocol to sell goods. Demonstration of early businesses, manufacturing (box fabrication, tobacco, chairs), mills, railroad, farming. Benches and walkways.

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- Fund-raising facility to help WAHS Museum to be self sufficient with expenses.

II. House

a. Foyer – main entrance

- Entrance with period furnishings
- Resource pamphlets: where to find more information about historical topics & societies
- Fund-raising materials: cookbooks, history books, CDs and DVDs produced by WAHS
- Donation center: points of contact, tax deduction info, list of materials / artifacts needed.
- Video on demand chronicling local history with narration.
- Log book for members and guests using museum.

b. Archives Rooms – upstairs

- Desktop PC, 19 inch color monitor, flatbed scanner, inkjet printer, table, lamp and chair for archiving photos and documents.
- Archive Room will be used to store master archives safely under controlled environment. Will need file cabinets to store masters under lock and key.

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- Archive Room is repair center for damaged master documents. Archive Committee to build or purchase kit with tools and materials for document repair.
- Archive Room will be dark to prevent sunlight from damaging master documents on display (walls) and in shelves.
- Active electronics to monitor room environment and security. HEPA room air filters with continuous run to remove dust and odors from room.

c. Library – downstairs

- Resource room with donated books, materials for the education and entertainment of Society members.
- History materials describing Walkertown, Forsyth County and NC State.
- Comfortable chairs and tables
- Wall displays of local and state history
- Provisions to display art, photography and writings of Society members and local citizens.
- Recording studio to capture stories about Walkertown society, civic and government history.

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d. Vintage Room – downstairs parlor

- Walls to display old pictures & frames of early Walkertown citizens and buildings and events.
- Period furniture, scatter rug to grace room set in early 1900s. Maybe adult manikins on display in period costume.
- Listing on display of all furnished items with descriptions and contributors.

e. Meeting Room – downstairs next to kitchen

- Multifunction meeting room with work tables, chairs, lights to service Board meetings and committee meetings as needed.
- Walls display of reproductions showing Walkertown's history.
- Wall display of historical and current maps
- WAHS charter with noted contributions from Town of Walkertown.
- Phone for emergency calls and local use by members. Answering machine
- TV with VCR/DVD play capability to view recorded WAHS programs
- Capability for Wi-Fi hookup

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f. Porch – front and side

- Comfortable chairs and tables to beckon members and guests for conversation outside
- Point of contact, sponsors, emergency contacts, mailbox, info pamphlet WAHS, etc.

g. Kitchen

- Appliances and tables and chairs for food preparation and clean-up and storage.
- Plates, cups and glasses, cooking dishes and serving utensils – all inventoried
- Log book for kitchen access and instructions and inventory.
- Provisions to test, demonstrate early cooking / canning procedures & tools

iii. Outbuilding – behind garage

- Power tools and equipment for antique restoration and construction. Members can use equipment primarily to serve WAHS needs.
- Storage of float materials and marketing banners, etc.
- Storage of yard tools and equipment.
- Preservation and display of antique farm tools and equipment.

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iv. Outbuilding – two car garage

Town of Walkertown to store maintenance equipment, mowers, etc.