



Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects, P.C.

Memorandum:

To: Advisory Committee Members and Interested Citizens
CC: Randy Williams and Dawn Kupferer
From: Jim Klein
Date: 1/30/12
Subject: Walton Road Scenic Byway: DRAFT Advisory Committee Meeting Summary (1-26-12) -

The Walton Road Scenic Byway Advisory Committee convened its first corridor management planning meeting on January 26, 2012 at the Crossville Depot. Representatives from Roane, Cumberland, Putnam and Smith counties were in attendance.

The Honorable Mayor J.H. Graham, III of Crossville opened the meeting by welcoming the group to the Crossville Depot.

Randy Williams, Director of Cultural Resources for the Upper Cumberland Development District (UCDD) introduced the planning team hired by UCDD and noted the importance of the Advisory Committee in helping to shape the plan.

Pam Monjar, Statewide Program Coordinator Adopt-A-Highway / Tennessee Scenic Byways at the Tennessee Department of Transportation noted that Tennessee's scenic byway program, while slow at the start, has grown from 3 byways to 15 and that two byways in the Upper Cumberland Plateau will be working on corridor management plans. Pam also said that she currently working on a website which will promote all of Tennessee's byways.

Jim Klein, Project Manager for the planning team, has developed plans for 24 scenic byways. Jim introduced planning team members Carolyn Brackett and Phil Thomason. Carolyn Brackett has worked with Lardner/Klein on a number of byways and heritage area projects. Carolyn works out of Nashville as part of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Heritage Tourism Program. Prior to joining the National Trust, Carolyn worked at the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development, on Tennessee's bicentennial and at The Hermitage.

Phil Thomason brings an extensive amount of Historic Preservation experience to the team - including work on identification, designation, and preservation of historic roads and roadside architecture - including Route 66 and the Trail of Tears.

Jim Klein introduced the concepts of a scenic byway and what a corridor management plan could accomplish through a presentation that included three examples of other byways:

- Maryland's Historic National Road – part of a six-state coordinated effort to preserve, enhance and interpret the first federally funded highway in the United States. The Corridor Partnership Plan developed in 2001 led to its designation as an All-American Road in 2002. Through this effort, exhibits were installed at nearby Welcome Centers on Interstate 70 and marketing materials were produced to increase awareness of the travel route and its significance; fifty-nine interpretive wayside markers were installed throughout the 170-mile Maryland section to tell the story; several historic bridges were preserved or reconstructed to retain the character defining features of those bridges; guidelines were

- developed to ensure that future modifications to the route were done in a manner that retained the historic qualities of the road; mileposts were mapped preserved and/or reconstructed. Many of the communities along the National Road have begun to clean up their aging commercial corridors, such as LaVale where there is one of the original 1800s toll houses but it is surrounded by less than compatible land uses.
- Journey Through Hallowed Ground – a four-state National Heritage Area where the byway formed the main spine to help organize the travel experience. The byway, which goes from Monticello near Charlottesville, VA to Gettysburg, PA, was designated as a National Scenic Byway in 2009. They are organized around 3 primary themes: leadership, conflict and resolution, and natural beauty. Jim played a short video that explained the leadership theme. As part of the corridor planning process, sites were organized around their readiness for visitors including full service, limited service and self guided sites, and themes were correlated to each site for future coordination of the interpretive message at each site. Since the designation, the JTHG Partnership has developed a certified tourism ambassador program and trained more than 700 front-line hospitality staff about the history of the area and the opportunities for visitors; they have developed an exciting educational program aimed at middle schoolers called “Extreme Journey”; they have sponsored bicycle touring events, and built upon the interest in the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War in Virginia by sponsoring events with the producers of Gods and Generals.
 - A third example is a smaller community along the Delaware River in Pennsylvania. They are a state designated byway but currently do not have the capacity to support more heritage tourism. Instead they are using their significance along the Delaware River and using their relationship with the nearby Delaware and Lehigh Canal Heritage Corridor and the Delaware Water Gap State Park to increase awareness of the community and its opportunities, while building their capacity for heritage tourism more slowly. They have a group of farmers who are very interested in the local food market and have begun to tie their produce, wines, dairy and meat products to local restaurants that promote locally produced food on their menus. They are also looking for ways to promote local bed and breakfasts and restaurants as a way to build up their capacity and improve the appeal and comfort level of visitors who might want to support their businesses. They are also developing a local trail system that will connect the sites and places in the community that help to tell their stories.

Dawn Kupferer noted how the byway planning effort could build upon the many current projects that each community is already doing and it could help to move those projects forward or serve as a catalyst.

To help facilitate discussion about the byway planning effort, Jim Klein asked committee members to jot down on color coded cards the following three items. The items listed and discussed at the meeting follow:

GREEN CARD: List three places that you would highly recommend to a friend as a place to go along the route (or nearby) to help them understand the significance of the Walton Road

- Standing Stone American Cultural Center - √√√
- Depot Museums
- The Bluffs
- Monterey Depot Museum √
- Bee Rock area – Monterey √√√
- Homesteads – Crossville √

- Ozone Falls ✓
- Roosevelt Mountain ✓
- Downtown Cookeville
- Black Mountain – Geological
- Homestead Museum
- Ozone Falls – historic hunting ground site/capture/clean/preserve
- Largest Tree House in America /local ingenuity ✓
- Fort Southwest Point / Kingston ✓✓✓
- Historic Roane County Courthouse/Museum ✓
- TJ Hwy Patrol Museum (Rockwood)
- Downtown Rockwood
- Historical Route for Andrew Jackson to travel to Washington
- Route for the Tennessee Central Railroad
- Crossville Depot – where Alvin C York Departed for World War I
- Crab Orchard Stone
- Largent? Hardwood Forest
- Depot Museum - Cookeville
- History Museum – Cookeville
- Waterfalls, Caves (Cummins?, Ozone, Fall Creek, Burgess, etc.)
- Site where Old Walton Inn once was (Mayland)
- Cumberland Mountain State Park ✓
- Cumberland County Military Museum ✓
- Crab Orchard Stone Museum, Crossville
- Geologic Features (or historical) that shaped the route of the road
- Cumberland County Playhouse ✓✓
- Coke ovens at Waldensia (<http://roaneviews.com/?q=node/4642>)
- Iron Ore (Rockwood)
- Wineries ✓
- Route 127 Yard Sale ☺
- Monterey – start of the bike trail
- Mayland Street
- US 70 W. Putnam County
- Buck Mountain Road, Putnam County
- Walton Grave, Carthage ✓✓✓
- Rock House, (<http://www.tn.gov/environment/hist/stateown/spartaro.shtml>)
- Veterans Hall, Cookeville
- John's Place (*Cookeville cultural institution – restaurant*) – now listed on the *National Register or applying?*)
- Doll Museum (*Crossville?*)
- Smith County Heritage Museum ✓
- Historic Granville Museum and Celebration
- Historic Smith County Courthouse ✓✓✓✓ (being revitalized)
- Battery Hill Civil War Site ✓✓
- Dixona (*home of Tilman Dixon, Dixon Springs, site of the first Smith County court meeting*)

YELLOW CARD: List three activities that you would highly recommend to that same friend if they were looking for something to do to encourage them to stay longer

- The Bluffs
- SSAICC
- Festivals

- Dragging Canoe / Doublehead
- Lakes and Fishing – Dale Hollow, Center Hill
- Hiking and Trails – Pickett, Cumberland Parks ✓
- Waterfalls, Wilderness Areas
- Rock Climbing
- Sightseeing
- Roane County Park/Swim/Kayak
- Water Recreation: fishing, boating on Watts Bar Lake ✓
- Bluegrass Music Show
- Antique stores and unique shopping:
 - Downtown Rockwood
 - Rocky Top General Store, *Harriman*
- Camping and Recreation at Roane County Park and Caney Creek RV Resort (Disc Golf, Splash Pad, trails, rent RV, primitive camping, canoeing) ✓
- Roane State Expo Center (Horse Shows)
- Ozone Falls
- Civil War Trail historic signs
- Buildings *and* National Historic Districts (*National Register of Historic Places*)
- Headwaters of the Caney Fork River and a number of watersheds in community
- POW Camps – World War II
- Blue Highways
- Hiking
- Dale Hollow Lake
- Delmonico Winery
- Theater/Symphony (Cookeville)
- Cumberland County Playhouse ✓
- Downtown Crossville
- Golf / One of the many Golf Courses in Cumberland County ✓✓
- Visit Ozone Falls Natural Area
- Depot Days Festival in Crossville
- Cumberland Homesteads Tower and Museum
- Bicycling along the byway ... it is or at least marked as a “BIKE ROUTE”
- Motorcycling opportunities along the route
- Hike – nature trails
- See great plays
- Heritage
- Natural Beauty – parks, trails, etc.
- Museums (Cookeville)
- Depot (Monterey)
- Fort Southwest Point (Kingston)
- Crossville’s Alvin York
- Walton Road Golf Trail – Play Golf
- Hike Cumberland Mountain State Park
- Camp at Defeated
- Tour museum
- Fish/Kayak down the Caney Fork River ✓✓
- Christmas at Courthouse Square
- Rendezvous on the Square event in October (~~crossed out?~~)
- Granville Heritage Days
- Camp, Cabin, Boat at Defeated Creek Campground – Smith County
- Secluded Bed and Breakfast in the foothills of Smith County

BLUE CARD: List a few words or phrases that best capture the character or identity of the Walton Byway – if for example you were going to create a post card or to get someone’s attention on a web site

- Trade route
- Cherokee Lands
- Dragging Canoe / Doublehead
- Passage to the Future (or “the Walton Rd”) Migration Routes thru the Cumberlands
- Pioneer Paths thru the Cumberlands
- Across the Cumberlands – Routes and Cultures of the Pioneers
- Experience – the Edge!
- Cross the Edge
- Take Your Trip to the Edge
- Only Pioneer–era Fort reconstructed on its original foundation
- Scenic Watts Bar Lake, one of the largest in South, 39,000 acres of water to enjoy all types of recreation
- Small towns and big events
- Ride History
- “Mt. Scenery
Frontier Life –
Small Town Hospitality”
- Bluegrass Music
- The Walton Road is engrained in the culture of our community. A simple wagon trip to Crossville, or Andrew Jackson traveling to Washington DC
This major **???**ing? across our community and Region signifies the heartbeat of our people
- Gateway West (frontier)
- “Compacted” history of US
from settlers to Civil War to industrialization to Modern Day
- Walton Road Scenic Byway – visit the past, present and future
- Walton Road Scenic Byway – travel back in time
- Walton Road – the way it was
- Small town feeling
- Ride through history – let your bike-car-van be your time machine
- Scenic
- Historical
- Hospitality – hospitable
- Old Walton Road -
The trail to a better place
A place for weary travelers
- Pioneering into the future
- Scenic – rivers, plateau
- Historic – Indians, settlement
- Grandeur –
- Rural color –
- Parks/lakes
- Hike the Cumberland Trail along the stagecoach of Walton Road
- See the pristine beauty as the Indians and First Settlers along Walton Trail
- View Downtown Crossville Then and Now
- Walton Historic Trail
Road to the Frontier
- *Trail of Pioneer Dreams
- Pioneer Trail
- Settlement Trail

- Foothills – “Footloose in the Foothills”, Fancy our Foothills”
- Water channels that provided transportation into our area
- Civil War – encampments along the route
- Foothill, Frontiers and Festivals
- Last Frontier of Tennessee

Other Ideas suggested at the meeting:

- Festivals – could create a touring festival along Walton Road
- The stands – use sites to help interpret the story of the Walton Road
- Rodeos and horse shows
- Use decals to help promote the road
- Bob Eldridge mentioned a Motorcycle Rally that will be converging in June and it would be a good opportunity to showcase the history of Walton Road –if something would be available by then as a sample itinerary it might have benefit
- The regions industrial heritage could also be highlighted focusing on Crab Orchard Stone, Iron Ore in Rockwood, and Timber
- With increased lodging capacity, particularly in Crossville and Cookeville, the region can accommodate meetings which could bring more people to travel the byway.