

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO.: D(1)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: OCTOBER 21, 2008

TITLE: PRESENTATION OF HISTORIC CARRBORO PLAQUE PROGRAM

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING DEPARTMENT	PUBLIC HEARING: YES ___ No <u>X</u>
ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution B. Historic Plaque Program Information	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: TOM WILTBERGER, 968-6169 JAMES THOMAS, 918-7335

PURPOSE

Tom Wiltberger, member of Appearance Commission will present an overview of the program and its purpose. If the Historic Carrboro Plaque Program is approved, the fee will need to be approved and incorporated into the Towns Miscellaneous Fees and Charges Schedule.

INFORMATION

The Historic Carrboro Plaque Program (HCPP) began as an idea proposed by Tom Wiltberger to the Appearance Commission/Historic Preservation Commission in January 2006. The Appearance Commission agreed to support the project, and a planning committee was formed including two Appearance Commission members (Tom Wiltberger and Catherine DeVine) and community volunteers: Sheryl Forbis and Richard Ellington.

The HCPP planning committee presented to the Board of Aldermen originally in March 2006 to gain support and minimal funding for doing a mailing to historic property owners. Over 70+ property owners were invited to a public meeting, held on May 24th, 2006. Approximately twenty property owners attended and responses to the plaque concept was very positive.

Program development continued after the meeting, but slowed in 2007 due to other personal commitments of the committee members. Serious research, planning, and program development resumed in 2008 including: criteria development, gathering of research resources, writing of the application, online materials, and formation of a plaque application review committee.

A plaque design competition was held in the spring of 2008 among the local art community, and the winning design was awarded in May 2008. The committee is pleased to announce that the Historic Carrboro Plaque Program is now being implemented.

Thus far, two applications have been received, approved, and awarded plaques. The HCPP committee looks forward to the Town's assistance in helping to own and market the program, including the purchase of two plaques for town-owned historic buildings.

STAFF AND FISCAL IMPACT

There will be minimal staff involvement.

The assessed fee to be collected by the town for the plaque program will be \$135.00. The cost of the plaque is \$115.00 with the remaining \$20.00 being retained for future projects of the Historic Carrboro Plaque Program. An additional "line item" will be added to the Town of Carrboro Fee Schedule in order to accept this fee.

RECOMMENDATION

The Town Staff recommends that the Board consider supporting the Historic Carrboro Plaque Program and allow staff to amend the Towns Miscellaneous Fees and Charges Schedule to include the associated fee for the plaque program. If the Board does support the Historic Carrboro Plaque Program, then staff recommends adoption of the attached resolution.