

November 21, 2023

Hello Mrs. Ruffieux and TDA Board Members,

Thank you for considering another modification to our grant application for Haywood Heritage Weekend.

We were informed in a recent planning meeting that the Folkmoot Board of Directors has new concerns about their grant obligations and will not be able to accept TDA grant funds for their part of the project.

Without Folkmoot's commitment to planning and hosting a Sunday morning event, Haywood Heritage Weekend will be reduced to two days. Folkmoot remains committed to lending support and hopeful they will be able to take a more active role in future events.

In the interest of being able to proceed with our initial plans for a 4-part event over three days, we are asking to transfer to the Downtown Waynesville Commission (DWC) the \$6,000 that was awarded to Folkmoot.

As DWC Executive Director, Beth Gilmore is willing to serve as manager of the grant and work with Scot Blair and other restaurants to facilitate a Sunday Appalachian tasting themed event to close out Haywood Heritage Weekend and launch an additional weeklong heritage themed "Restaurant Week".

Thank you for considering our request for another change,

Beth Gilmore, DWC Executive Director
Tonya Harwood, HCAC Executive Director
Alicia Blanton, Folkmoot Operations Manager
Mark Stoffan, Shelton House, Board of Directors Chair
Caleb Tate, HCC Recruiter

