Historic Preservation Commission Roster as of August 12, 2026

Five (5) members

1 Member	VACANT 1st Term Cell: Email: Appointed: 07-09-25 Expires: 06-30-27	Council Member Liaison	Virginia Roseman 125 Cherrybrook Ln. Cell: 828-964-8854 Virginia.roseman@boonenc.gov
2 Member	Romy (Bennie) Gaetano 1st Term 243 Jefferson Rd. Cell: 704-699-4415 Email: romy8lucia@gmail.com Appointed: 07-09-25 Reappointed: 06-10-26 Expires: 06-30-29	P & I Staff	Amy Snider, Commercial Zoning Administrator amy.snider@boonenc.gov Jessica Mitchell, Advanced Planning Specialist jessica.mitchell@boonenc.gov David Pedersen, Board Clerk david.pedersen@boonenc.gov
3 Member	Charles Vardell Smyth, CHAIR 2nd Term 172 Cherrybrook Ln. Cell: 919-418-0201 Email: HPC@cvsmyth.com Appointed: 09-13-23 Reappointed: 06-11-25 Expires: 06-30-28		
4 Member	VACANT 1st Term Cell: Email: Appointed: 07-09-25 Expires: 06-30-27	Town Attorney	Allison Meade PO Box 292 184 N. Water St., Ste. 6 Office: 828-865-5555 ameade@meade-law.com
5 Student Member	Phoebe Howerton 1-year Term 144 Poplar Grove Rd, Apt 525 Cell: 910-596-8418 Email: howertonpk@appstate.edu Appointed: 08-12-26 Expires: 06-30-27		

1. 3-year staggered terms (except for ASU student who serves a 1-year term)
2. Terms expire on June 30
3. Members can serve no more than 3 consecutive terms

Print

Town of Boone Student Board Application - Submission #7969

Date Submitted: 8/27/2026

Name*

Pierce

Email:*

hallps@appstate.edu

Address*

199 Windy Drive, Apt. 7

City*

Boone

State*

NC

Zip Code*

28607

Is this Address Your Preferred Address?*

Yes

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Phone Number*

828-280-8727

Jurisdiction of Residence*

- [x] Town of Boone (Inside Town Limits)
- [ ] Watauga County
- [ ] Other

Please Specify:*

When Is Your Expected Graduation Date?*

May 2027

Are you Familiar with Boone Next - the Town of Boone's Comprehensive Plan?*

Yes

Rate Your Support for Boone Next (1 Being Not Supportive at All and 10 Being Extremely Supportive)*

- [ ] 1
- [ ] 2
- [ ] 3
- [x] 8
- [ ] 4
- [ ] 5
- [ ] 6
- [ ] 7
- [ ] 9
- [ ] 10

Please Explain Your Level of Support for Boone Next*

I believe that the main principles and goals presented in the Boone Next comprehensive plan are both important and necessary to the continued improvement of the town. Affordable housing represents a crucial element in providing a sustainable lifestyle for residents and for providing security to lower and middle income residents who make up the bulk of the work force. Continued improvement of the transportation system is also necessary when considering the overall reduction of vehicles on our roads and again supporting the workforce which relies on it. The devastating effects of Helene also made it clear the need for protecting and increasing green spaces in the town as well as identifying locations that require better drainage and storm water runoff. There seems to be less emphasis on historic preservation in this plan and how the town intends to preserve the character of Boone or support initiatives that put pressure on developers to restore rather than create new development. I am very interested in how this board works in coordination with the town council to fulfill the goals of the Boone Next plan, while also retaining the historic structures that help to make up its character.

Name of Board, Commission, Task Force, Advisory Board, or Committee Appointment Sought*

Historic Preservation Commission

Please Note: Time of Meeting CANNOT be changed. Please take this into account with your school schedule.

Why Do You Wish to Obtain this Appointment?*

I believe that my participation on the Historic Preservation Commission would provide an important perspective from the viewpoint of a history graduate student who also works in the local service industry. Historic preservation accounts for one of my personal interests and I know that I can bring practical knowledge of the field to support the current members of the commission. I also generally enjoy open discussion about the preservation of historic structures and am interested in gaining a better understanding of how a town like Boone addresses this topic and the type of work the commission accomplishes.

What Skills, Education, Training, Experience or Area(s) of Expertise Would You Bring to the Appointment?*

I am currently in my second year of the Public History masters program at Appalachian State University. Through my education here in Boone, I have taken courses in historic preservation and gained not only an understanding of good practices in preservation, but also learned more about the history of the town and its buildings. I recently completed an internship with the North Carolina State Archives at their western branch in Asheville, which gave me insight into the workings of a state entity and allowed me to learn from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). As a non-conventional student (in my 30s), I also can provide the perspective of someone who is a part of the ASU community, but simultaneously understands people outside of the school network who have lived here for many years.

I hereby certify that the foregoing answers are true, and that should I be appointed to the board, commission, task force, advisory body or committee, and should a conflict of interest exist or develop with regard to a specific matter, I will disclose the conflict of interest and recuse myself from the deliberations and action involved. Conflicts of interest include, but are not limited to: a direct or indirect financial interest by myself or a member of my family, and other interest which impairs my ability to participate fairly in the deliberations and actions in question.*

Pierce Hall

Signature

Date*

8/27/2026