

# Blue River Historical Walking Tour

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Our team consists of Annette Rumble, Lisa Collier-Bartley, Ashley Smith, Jessica Seelye, Amy Disney, Brent Swonger, Tom Wertz and Kyle Beaty. Each of us brought a different skill set and experience to the group. This enabled dividing the project by task and assigning the task to the member of the group best suited for completion of the task. We enjoyed working together as we learned how to manage a group consisting of only leaders and the dynamics of collaboration.

The inspiration for this project came together from three points. We decided as a group that our project should have lasting impact on our community, we agreed to hand our completed project over to an existing organization because our team could not commit long term and we all realized how little we know about the history of our community after a challenging game of Shelby County Jeopardy. Those individual points came together as an opportunity for collaboration. Amy contacted the Shelby County Historical Society and Grover Museum, with the intent on learning about “back burner”

ideas, dreams or goals of the Director and Assistant Director, Alex Krach and Sarah Newkirk. They shared a multi-phased idea consisting of a walking tour, highlighting the many historical locations throughout downtown Shelbyville and surrounding areas. Each location will receive a historical plaque, detailing the significance of the spot. The development of the tour on an app called PocketSights will provide users a digital tour guide, complete with directions, historical information and pictures of each location. Alex and Sarah graciously agreed to allow our Leadership Shelby County project team to collaborate with them on the launch of phase one. The team voted and chose this partnership as our project.

We began by researching prices and timing of potential layers for this phase. Each team member focused on a specific area and reported back to the team. Jessica was appointed by the team to oversee all administrative needs of the project (ie: notes, scheduling, communication). Amy and Kyle presented to the LSC board and received approval for the project. Annette and Lisa began researching prices and styles of historical plaques. Ashley priced material and printing for a paper, non-digital map. Brent and Tom familiarized themselves with the PocketSights app, both pricing and development. Jessica met with Alex and Sarah to determine which historical locations to include on the tour. The team met, reviewed findings,

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created a budget and brainstormed fundraising ideas. It soon became clear that with limited time and funds, we would need to direct attention to specific areas of this phase. The team decided our focus would be the map, app and a Trivia Night, fundraising event.

With our new focus in mind, Ashley created and designed our paper map. Brent and Tom started working on the PocketSights tour. With assistance from various team members, Alex and Sarah provided us with an accurate description and pictures of each site gathered from the Historical Society's extensive collection. Lisa contacted Riverfront Taproom and began planning the details of the event. Annette and Lisa started to reach out to local business for donations to be used as prizes and Jessica designed our event flier. Office Hub generously agreed to print the map, our event fliers and they were beyond helpful

when we hit a snag and the fliers needed reprinted. Kyle fielded the public relations side of this project, answering questions and providing necessary communication between the team and other collaborators.

As we finish up the last details of phase one, we are pleased with the work we have accomplished on behalf of the Shelby County Historical Society and Grover Museum. We will be handing over the printed maps, activated PocketSights Tour and all funds raised to help with the continuation and maintenance of this project. We are extremely thankful for all of the resources and expertise Alex and Sarah have provided. We are thankful for this opportunity and all that we have learned in the process.

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