

WESTERN CAROLINA RAILWAY SERVICE

C O R P O R A T I O N

Historic Greer Depot, 300 Randall Street, Suite A, Greer, South Carolina 29651 - 3410

Press Release

January 9, 2020

Greer, South Carolina

Western Carolina Railway Service Corporation subsidiary Letchworth Properties, LLC held a special Dedication and Announcement ceremony at the Historic Greer Depot today.

The event began with a touching dedication by the Hawkins Family of the newly constructed rose garden and patio space located at the west end of the historic building along Trade Street as the...

**Marlene Faye Holdsworth Hawkins
Historic Greer Depot
Memorial Rose Garden**

“Having taken countless roses from my mother’s rose bushes in my seemingly never-ending teenage pursuit of love, it seems only fitting to honor her memory for posterity with a gift of her favorite flower, the rose,” stated Corporation CEO and President Steven C. Hawkins. “May this beautiful space bring joy and happiness to many future generations to come.”

In addition to this special dedication, Hawkins also announced plans for the future of the Historic Greer Depot, represented in this fantastic watercolor vignette by artist Cliff Minor of Boone, NC...



“It is with tremendous excitement that I announce the Depot’s redevelopment as the new...”

**Rudolph M. Hawkins
Historic Greer Depot
Meeting Venue and Event Space**

“While there is no plaque to unveil today, upon completion of this \$1,000,000 restoration and redevelopment, the Event Space will be dedicated to my father’s memory.” declared Hawkins. “...the least I can do (to honor my parents memory).”

About the redevelopment...

The upstairs that is today Suite A, along with the former Depot offices to the east of Suite B, will serve as the future offices of Western Carolina Railway Service Corporation and its subsidiaries, while local favorite wine store LaBouteille has made a long-term commitment to keeping its fine establishment in Suite B.

The new Event Venue and Meeting Space will bring Suites C, D, E, F and G back into a single room of more than 3,500 square feet, with available occupancy of just under 300 persons. The space will feature a ceiling height of nearly 23 feet with period correct lighting that will complement the interior décor and will have modern restrooms and a catering preparation area. The venue’s features and offerings will be more fully outlined at historicgreerdepot.com and a Facebook link on that page will take you to the venue’s complimentary Facebook page. The Facebook page will highlight construction updates as work progresses and then ultimately convert to feature events and offerings of the venue.

The exterior of the building will see its roof stripped down to the original 1913 lumber and custom-milled southern yellow pine will be used for board-by-board replacement of structural members and the sub roof. A brand new like-kind Ludowici terra cotta tile roof will replace the original roof, and new gutters manufactured with a baked enamel finish in the depot’s original brown (some say red) will compliment a return to the original paint color on the entire building’s trim, windows and doors. A final touch around the depot will be additional period correct lighting. You will clearly feel like you’ve stepped back in time when you approach and enter the restored structure.

As Hawkins proclaimed in concluding the ceremony, “Yesterday is coming soon.” The Venue’s target opening date is January 1, 2021.

Western Carolina Railway Service Corporation is a privately held South Carolina corporation organized in 2003 for the purpose of preserving, restoring, and revitalizing rail service in both South and North Carolina. The Corporation is committed to providing freight and transit rail services to the Carolinas through the next century and beyond. To learn more about the services offered by the Corporation through its subsidiaries, please visit wcrscorp.com.