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March 13, 2017

State Historic Preservation Officer
WV Division of Culture and History
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, I write this letter in support of the Jefferson County Parks and Recreation 's application for a grant for their amphitheater project to be built at Sam Michael's Park in Jefferson County. The Jefferson County Chamber has held its Mountain Heritage Arts and Crafts Festival at that location for many years. Our festival has over 200 artists from many different states that demonstrate and sell their product for three days in September. The festival also has Bluegrass bands that perform on Saturday and Sunday.

Jefferson County is unique from the rest of the state due to our close location to Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, DC. Our county is known as a tourism destination which brings in more tourists than the rest of the state. By adding an amphitheater to our county, our local community such as The Old Opera House, Contemporary American Theater, Friends of Music and the Arts Council can use the amphitheater. This will bring in more arts to the county.

The amphitheater would be a huge benefit to our festival and our community. I urge the approval of the grant to the Jefferson County Parks and Recreation for this project.

Sincerely,

Heather M. McIntyre

Heather Morgan McIntyre
Executive Director

The Chamber is a For-Purpose organization that promotes profitable and vital growth for its business members through dedicated collaboration, networking, marketing, membership events, and education.