

St. Mary's County, Maryland
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
December 17, 2015

Present: Linda Reno, Chair
Rob Gibbs, Member
Pete Himmelheber, Member Grace Mary Brady, Absent
Eve Love, Member
Kent Randell, Member
Teresa Wilson, Member

Call to Order: The regularly scheduled meeting of the HPC was called to order at 4 p.m.

Recognition of Guests: Bill Hunt, Deputy Director of Land Use and Growth Management and Sean Wickers, recently assigned committee member were present.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Himmelheber to approve the Agenda, which passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Mr. Gibbs, seconded by Mr. Himmelheber to approve the November 19, 2015 minutes, which passed unanimously.

Reports

- Staff report - none due to absence of Grace Mary Brady – sent to members later electronically.

Old Business:

1) Update on Zoning Ordinance - Bill Hunt, Deputy Director of LUGM

Mr. Hunt reported that he and Ms. Brady had met with Nell Ziehl, Chief, Office of Planning, Education and Outreach, Maryland Historical Trust. They were given a Sample Ordinance from the Maryland Historical Trust who suggested that the counties adopt it as their official version. Mr. Hunt has started reviewing the document and comparing to our ordinance to find differences and areas where we may not be able to comply, such as filling a vacancy within 60 days. One area that will require review by the county attorney is how violations are dealt with to make sure they are consistent. The Maryland Historical Trust has volunteered to come down to review and discuss areas where we feel we may not be able to comply.

2) Update on Hazard Mitigation Grant Application

The County has not been notified as to whether or not it received an award from the Maryland Historical Trust.

3) Cemetery Project Report - Rob Gibbs.

Mr. Gibbs presented a summary, noting that only one cemetery has been added since 2014. Each county library has a copy of the database and it is on the St. Mary's County Library website. A note to its use-it has been downloaded 94 times.

4) HPC Membership Replacement

Mr. Wickers reported that he had just signed and mailed the letter accepting the appointment on December 17, 2015.

New Business:

1) Annual Report for Commissioners of St. Mary's County

Ms. Brady had emailed a draft copy of the report to the members for review. It was noted that there was a numbering error on page 8. A motion was made by Ms. Love to accept the report with the noted correction. Mr. Himmelheber seconded and it passed unanimously as amended.

2) Election of Officers for 2016

The slate of officers for 2016 was Linda Reno for Chair, Teresa Wilson for Vice Chair. The motion was made by Mr. Gibbs to accept the slate as presented, Mr. Randell seconded, and it was approved unanimously.

3) Letter of Support for Mallow Bay

A letter of support to designate Mallovs Bay as a National Marine Sanctuary was emailed by Ms. Brady to the members. Mr. Himmelheber motioned to accept the letter of support for the Mallovs Bay project as written, seconded by Mr. Gibbs and was approved unanimously.

Items from the Floor:

Mr. Gibbs proposed that a presentation be made to the public in the spring. Several topics were proposed: Newtowne Neck Manor House restoration, Regina Hammett's collection with a focus on schools, Dr Julie King's studies on Native American settlements in Southern Maryland. Information will be collected and a decision will be made at the January meeting. Need to inquire as to the procedure to use the Commissioner's Room and is there a recording capability.

Announcements:

Mr. Himmelheber announced that a non local author is writing a book on Benjamin Gwinn Harris of Ellenborough, Leonardtown. Janet Hogard – surname is Haugaard is working on a book about Adele France and Father LaFarge, local educators.

The agenda included a reminder of mandatory HPC training on Thursday, January 28th from 2 p. m. to 5 p. m.

Adjournment: Motion by Ms. Love, seconded by Mr. Himmelheber to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Submitted By:

Signed by:

Eve Love

Linda Reno, Chair

Date: Approved on January 28, 2016