

St. Mary's County, Maryland
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
November 20, 2014

Present: Carol Moody, Chair
Scott Lawrence, Vice-Chair
George Donely, Member
Linda Reno, Member
Dr. Patricia Samford, Member
Michael Smolek, Member
Grace Mary Brady, Staff

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 Frankie Tippett.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Mr. Smolek, second by Mr. Lawrence to approve the Agenda, which passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Mr. Lawrence, second by Dr. Samford to approve the October 23, 2014 Minutes, which passed unanimously.

Staff Report:

- 86 customer service requests (trees).
- 4 demolitions (blight).
- Maryland Big Tree Program – measured trees all day on Friday, November 7th and Saturday, November 8th with MD Big Tree Program representatives.
- Division staff meeting, TEC meeting, HPC meeting, CLG Grant Meetings.
- Continue work and research on Blackistone Book with Dr. Gordon Blackistone Hughes – Chapter 9 – almost finished.
- Worked with Maryland Historical Trust, St. Mary's College and County for Agreement Between the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and St. Mary's College, Maryland scheduled before the County Commissioners on November 18, 2014; prepared green sheet, budget amendments, etc. Hand delivered executed agreement to St. Mary's College.
- Attended the National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference in Savannah, Georgia.
- Met with Alec from Atlantic Heritage (Maps and Historic Sites). He and Ed are in the process of measuring the interior of Newtowne Neck Manor House. Reviewed alternative repairs and ranked what repairs needed to be done first. Atlantic Heritage is a non-profit entity designed to foster documentation and conservation of selected significant built cultural patrimony of the Americas.
- Working with Mr. McCauley on Justice Rolls Down – Index, final lay out so it can be sold with *I'm Goin' Down County* – Christmas Sales.
- Mrs. Wolfe, founder of the Wicomico Valley Foundation of Southern Maryland, invited me to attend the ribbon cutting event to preserve more than 1,600 acres along with Wicomico River. Also took Maryland Big Tree representatives to her properties to measure trees – 1 of her trees is a new State Champion – Corkscrew Willow.

Ms. Brady also passed out a copy of a letter she had received from the Maryland Department of Planning, Maryland Historical Trust, regarding Hangar 111 Replacement, MLCON P-131, Naval Air Station Patuxent River, from J. Rodney Little, Director of SHPO. The Trust wrote that the demolition of Hanger 111 and Building 111A, constitutes an adverse effect on these historic properties as well as one of the historic district as a whole. The Trust recommended further consultation among the Navy, the Advisory

Council on Historic Preservation, the Trust, and other consulting parties citing insufficient justification to support the demolition of this resource. The Historic Preservation Commission discussed the possibility of writing a letter in support of the Maryland Historical Trust's position, but no motion was made or action taken.

Old Business:

1) CLG Archaeology Grant Update

Ms. Brady reported that Ms. Moody hand-delivered the Agreement between the County and the College and a new Attachment C pursuant to the meeting. Ms. Brady stated that as soon as the Agreement was received back from the College, it would immediately be sent to Nell Ziehl at the Maryland Historical Trust.

New Business:

1) Applications for HPC Vacancies.

Ms. Brady stated that 2 people had applied for upcoming vacancies on the Historic Preservation Commission, Teresa Wilson and Pete Himmelheber. Ms. Brady had also spoken with Diane Gleissner in the County Attorney's Office, who is the individual in charge of tracking the Boards and Commissions for the County and learned that other individuals could apply for this position and that it was likely that appointments from the new Board of Commissioners could be made before the next meeting of the HPC. Based on that scenario, a motion was made by Mr. Smolek, seconded by Ms. Reno to recommend the appointment of Ms. Wilson and Mr. Himmelheber to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County. The motion passed unanimously.

2) Update on Newtowne Neck.

Ms. Moody talked about the issues raised at several of the Newtowne Neck meetings. The Open house drew more than 120 participants and that more than 300 citizens had taken the time to do the on-line surveys. The results of the survey had not been compiled yet. She said that there had been a proposal to allow hunting part season (December to February) Bow and Arrow Season and no more duck blinds on the land. She said that they were still working on the Master Plan because they wanted it completed by April, 2015.

HPC members then talked about various meetings that had occurred about Newtowne Manor House. Mr. Smolek reported that some of the manor house restoration committee members had met with Matt Webster with Colonial Williamsburg, Marcia Miller with the Maryland Historical Trust. It was noted that the Dept. of Natural Resources was still working with Dr. King trying to line up some potential projects at Newtowne for the summer of 2015. There was discussion about the roof, and that Mr. John O'Rourke had said previously that he didn't feel the roof was a priority at this time. There was a lot of discussion about ground water problems and the possibility of temporary gutters. Report only – no action taken.

3) HPC Budget Update.

Ms. Brady reviewed each line item of the Historic Preservation Commission with members: Advertising and Legal Notices; Printing and Binding; Books; Supplies and Materials; Staff Development; Other Contract Services; Mileage Reimbursement; Memberships; Awards. The current Historic Preservation Commission Budget is \$3,570. There were a few general questions about membership and staff development. It was recommended that the \$3,750 for the CLG Archaeology Grant be reflected in the current budget.

Items from the Floor:

Mr. Lawrence talked about the locations where the ASM met and said that the members were going to talk about alternating locations to hold the St. Mary's County ASM meetings at St. Mary's College one month and then at St. Francis Xavier the next month. It was recommended that they move the meetings back and forth between these 2 facilities. Mr. Lawrence announced that the December 8th meeting would be held at St. Francis Xavier Parish and that Mike Smolek and Ruth Mitchell would talk about the Archaeology at Newtowne Neck.

Announcements: It was announced that David Howe with the Institute of Maritime History had discovered what they believe to be Lord Dunmore's Fleet which had sank off of St. George's Island a long time ago. Additional information to be furnished at a later date.

Adjournment: Motion by Mr. Smolek, second by Dr. Samford, which passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Submitted By:

Signed by:

Grace Mary Brady

Carol Moody, Chair

Date: Approved on December 18, 2014