

St. Mary's County, Maryland
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the meeting held on
October 28, 2010

Present: Rob Gibbs, Chair
Carol Moody, Vice-Chair
Susan Erichsen, Member
Scott Lawrence, Member
Hal Willard, Member

Grace Mary Brady, Staff

Victor Govier, Resigned
Ruth Mitchell, Absent

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Roll call and confirmation of quorum: Mr. Gibbs called roll and confirmed that a quorum was present.

Commission requirements read for the record: Commission requirements were read for the record by Mr. Gibbs.

Recognition of Guests: Frank Tippet

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Ms. Erichsen, seconded by Mr. Lawrence to accept the Agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Mr. Willard to approve the September 23, 2010 Minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports: Historic Preservation (Grace Mary Brady, Historic Preservation Planner II)

- Handled 27 customer service requests.
- Documented 2 demo requests (burn permits).
- Reviewed TEC comments and wrote memo to Bob Bowles to support Dodson application for a farmer's market reuse of an old HISTORIC SITE.
- Still marketing County Book (I'm Goin Down County, An Architectural Journey through St. Mary's County) Book sales very slow.
- Going Green Expo at Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – set up exhibits for county – Saturday, October 9th.
- Oyster Festival – Carol Moody tried to sell books, but not allowed.
- Scheduled Religious Freedom Scenic Byway stakeholders meetings for Charles County (November 4th) and St. Mary's County (November 18th). Creating comprehensive mailing lists of all the churches in SMC.
- Attended Tri-County War of 1812 Committee Meeting at the Calvert Marine Museum to provide input to Dr. Ralph Eshelman 16 page draft.
- Sent comments to state Tourism for War of 1812 – 66 page interpretative plan.
- Conducted Oral History of John Richard Knott of Bowles Grocery Store and post office in Hollywood.
- Attended quarterly meeting of the Southern Maryland Small Museum Association meeting at Calvert Marine Museum.
- Oral History of Mr. Chesley – railroad in St. Mary's County and Charlotte Hall history.
- Meeting with Dr. Julia King and students – future archaeology site excavation.

Mr. Gibbs spoke about Dr. King's request for support from the Historic Preservation Commission in her letter to the Commission dated October 24th. Ms. Erichsen expressed concern about the

Commission raising funds. She felt that it would create a precedent and stated that Historic Preservation Commissions do not raise funds. Staff offered to find out if other Historic Preservation Commissions raised funds for projects. Commission members talked about a public presentation to raise awareness about these projects. No vote was taken.

Staff reported that she had spoken with Mr. Govier and that he had resigned from the Commission. Staff said that the Commission would have to consider a replacement for Mr. Govier at the November meeting in order to meet the December 3rd deadline for boards and commissions to be considered for appointment by the Board of County Commissioners.

Old Business:

1) November 1, 2010 Public Presentation on St. Mary's County Burial Grounds at the Lexington Park Library at 7 p.m.

Mr. Gibbs reported that the Cemetery sub-committee had met and decided on the following process for the public presentation. Mr. Gibbs agreed to be the master of ceremonies. Scott Lawrence would gear his presentation to everything 'above the ground' and Ruth Mitchell would create her presentation on everything 'below the ground'. Carol Moody and staff offered to purchase refreshments and make cookies.

New Business:

1) MHT Event on Friday, November 12, 2010.

The event at the Maryland Historic Trust was actually November 22, 2010. Mr. Gibbs offered to attend on behalf of the Commission. The event at the Maryland Historic Trust on November 12, 2010 was for staff of Historic Preservation Commission. Staff planned on attending.

2) Nomination of 2 properties in St. Mary's County to the National Register of Historic Places: (1) De la Brooke Barn owned by Norton and Nancy Dodge in Mechanicsville; and (2) Bond/Simms Tobacco Barn Complex owned by the State of Maryland, Department of Natural Resources, Greenwell State Park in Hollywood.

Staff noted for the record the following:

- a) Commission members had received a copy of *The Role of Certified Local Governments in Nominating Maryland Properties to the National Register of Historic Places*.
- b) Commission members had received a copy of *The National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form 78 pages plus Associated Property Types, Geographical Data, Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods, Major Bibliographical References*.
- c) Commission members had received a copy of *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for De La Brooke tobacco Barn*.
- d) Commission members had received a copy of *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for Sims Tobacco Barn, a/k/a Sims-Bond Tobacco Barn*.
- e) Pursuant to Local Review procedures, staff indicated that the property owners had been notified of the Commission's intent to consider the nomination on October 4, 2010; said meeting scheduled for October 28, 2010. Staff indicated that she had heard from Mr. and Mrs. Dodge and answered their questions about the process. Staff had no response from Greenwell State Park.
- f) Staff noted for the record that the Trust could expedite the CLG participation in the nomination process, to include the shortening of the 60-day commenting period with the concurrence of both the Commission and the CEO as long as owner notification procedures had been met. Staff indicated that the owner notification procedures had been met.

Commission members talked about the process and mentioned 2 discrepancies. The Sims Tobacco Barn was listed as privately owned, when it is publicly owned and operated as a State Park. The other discrepancy was the name of the nomination. County records show the property as Bond/Simms

Tobacco Barn; the nomination referred to it as Sims Tobacco Barn; under other name it was called Sims-Bond tobacco Barn.
Commission asked that those 2 corrections be made to the nomination.

Motion by Ms. Erichsen, seconded by Mr. Lawrence to accept the De La Brooke Tobacco Barn to the National Register of Historic Places. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Willard, seconded by Ms. Moody to accept the Sims Tobacco Barn to the National Register of Historic Places, with corrections noted above. Motion passed unanimously.

Items from the floor – Ms. Erichsen talked about the difficulty in getting the HPC newsletter distributed. Ms. Erichsen talked about the possibility of a FACE BOOK page for the Commission. Ms. Erichsen, Ms. Moody and staff decided to get together to talk about options the Commission may have in promoting its support of preservation.

Ms. Moody brought up the fact that the old Glebe School, built in 1870, was for sale. Commission members talked about what could possibly happen to the School and that property in the future.

Announcements – Frankie Tippett had some questions about the Bowles Store located in Hollywood and the Commission talked about the challenges posed in moving a structure. Mr. Tippett announced that the best place to purchase stuffed ham was Dent's store in Tall Timbers.

Adjournment – Motion by Mr. Willard, seconded by Mr. Lawrence to adjourn the meeting, which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Submitted By: Grace Mary Brady

Signed by: _____
Robert Gibbs, Chair

Date: December 16, 2010