

St. Mary's County, Maryland
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the meeting held on January 28, 2010

Present: Rob Gibbs, Chair
Carol Moody, Vice-Chair
Susan Erichsen, Member
Scott Lawrence, Member
Ruth Mitchell, Member
Hal Willard, Member
Grace Mary Brady, Staff
Victor Govier, Excused

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4 p.m. Commission requirements were read for the record by Mr. Gibbs.

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.

Recognition of Guests: Frank Tippett and Calvin Strozier (Land Use & Growth Management – GIS)

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

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Ms. Erichsen, second by Ms. Mitchell to approved the Minutes as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

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

- Continue to support the 6-year review of the Comprehensive Plan by way of team and Board of County Commissioner work sessions.
- Work on Zoning Ordinance changes with staff.
- Documented 2 sites slated for demolition.
- Reviewed 7 Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC) submissions, 2 had historic sites.
- Handled 24 customer service requests.
- Revised and Edited I'm Goin Down County **End Notes** for book by Kirk Ranzetta.
- Worked 4 complete days with Carol Moody (8 days total) to return historic photos (hundreds) from Nicole Diehlmann Maryland Historic Trust (MHT) that Kirk Ranzetta used for his book. We had to open more than 890 inventoried sites. (still missing photos)
- Worked with Jerri Hopkins at Words & Pictures – Ranzetta's book.
- Sent out large mailing/invitations to Southern Maryland Barn Summit scheduled for Sunday, January 31st from 1 to 4 p.m. Created flyer for 5 counties, Maryland Historic Trust, Preservation Maryland, etc., to use.
- St. Mary's County War of 1812 stakeholders held its first meeting on January 7, 2010. Susan Wolfe and Carol Moody did the research on sites so that a letter could be drafted to John Maounis, Superintendent of National Park Service. (attended 4 different meetings and St. Mary's County Historical Society (SMCHS).
- Field trip with Comp Plan Division to the City of Rockville and King Farm.
- Worked with Sue Campbell and Beth Collier (IT) – scanning program for Inventory of Historic Sites.
- Made a presentation to the St. Mary's County Historical Society Board of Directors regarding the War of 1812.

New Business:

- 1) Zoning Ordinance Proposals – Mr. Gibb discussed his meeting with Jeff Jackman, Principal Planner, Dave Weiskoff, Deputy County Attorney and expressed his disappointment that there wasn't any support this year for adding funds to the current budget to be used as a Consultant fee on as-needed bases for archaeology exploration. He added that due to the current hiring freeze a new archaeology position would not be considered at this time. He also talked about the possibility of having the Historic Preservation Commission part of the permit process. Ms. Brady said that staff represents historic interest at pre-application meeting, Technical Evaluation Meetings (TEC) and permit applications as it pertains to sites older than fifty (50) years. There was a lot of discussion about the Commission's role and responsibilities. Mr. Willard moved to table any further talk about Zoning Ordinance Proposals, seconded by Ms. Mitchell, which passed unanimously.
- 2) 2010 Historic Preservation Commission Awards – Ms. Brady indicated that a press release had been sent to the Public Information Office and that the Nomination Form had been posted on the Historic Preservation Web site.
- 3) Preservation Maryland Conference in Easton – Discussion among members to determine how many would be attending the Preservation Conference this year. Mr. Gibbs indicated that he would not be attending this year. Ms. Mitchell said that she would be attending, but that Historic St. Mary's City would be paying for her attendance (Ruth is one of the presenters at the Conference). Ms. Brady stated that she would be unable to attend this year due to family commitments. Susan Erichsen, Carol Moody and Hal Willard expressed an interest in attending. Scott Lawrence was going to check his work schedule to see if he would be able to attend. Ms. Brady will check the Historic Preservation Budget to see if there are sufficient funds to pay for four members to attend the conference.
- 4) Cory Kegerise, MHT training – Staff felt that it would be better to wait until after the Maryland General Assembly adjourned and the Preservation conference was over and then call for a date for Mr. Kegerise to come to St. Mary's County.

Items from the floor – Mr. Gibbs talked about forming a Cemetery Committee and Scott Lawrence, Ruth Mitchell and Frank Tippett volunteered. Report to be furnished at next month's meeting.

Mr. Willard brought in a newspaper article entitled, Fulfilling a dream, Adams writes 'Sandlot Sundays'. The article is about baseball in St. Mary's County and Mr. Willard invited members of the Committee to attend a slideshow presentation of "Sandlot Sundays" which was going to be at the Clarion Inn in Waldorf on February 1st at 7 p.m. He also indicated that he was going to nominate Mr. Adams for a preservation service award.

Mr. Calvin Strozier, GIS specialist with Land Use and Growth Management, attended the meeting to talk about how the County needed to receive information in order to add the data to various layers of maps. He was asked questions by Ms. Mitchell and others to clarify how the data was collected and then put into the counties system so that at the time of development or permit process, 'flags' were created advising county development and permit staff that a historical site existed (cemetery, old home, church, mill, etc.) Mr. Gibbs also talked with Mr. Strozier about the compatibility with County software and the proposed GARMIN systems that the Historic Preservation Commission wanted to purchase for HPC members. Everyone thanked him for his time and assistance.

Ms. Erichsen talked about forming an awareness committee to help promote and educate the public about the benefits of historic preservation.

Announcements – Ruth Mitchell talked about a program being held about the "*Written-in-Bone*" tour series featured by the Smithsonian, National Museum of Natural History. *Written in Bone* examines history

through 17th-century bone biographies, including those of colonists teetering on the edge of survival at Jamestown, Virginia, and those living in the wealthy and well-established settlement of St. Mary's City, Maryland. Ruth was giving a presentation to the Office on Aging on April 9th.

Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Submitted By: Grace Mary Brady

Signed by: _____
Robert Gibbs, Chair

Date: _____