

St. Mary's County, Maryland
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the meeting held on
September 23, 2010

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

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 and Jim Gibb (Archaeologist & planning consultant)

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

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Mitchell to approve the July 22, 2010 Minutes as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

*** New Business Item discussed out of order to accommodate schedule of Jim Gibb.**

Members of the Historic Preservation Commission had received a draft 'Archaeological Protection Ordinance' that Mr. Gibb had written for the City of Frederick, Maryland (see 5 page attachment made part of this record).

Mr. Gibb gave an overview of how he was able to garnish support with elected officials for the ordinance that was adopted by the City of Frederick. He made suggestions to the members of the Historic Preservation Commission on how they could effectively lobby for support of an Archaeological Ordinance with the elected officials in St. Mary's County.

He also talked about Archaeological Ordinances that had been passed by the City of Annapolis in its Historic District; Denton, Maryland; Anne Arundel County; Prince George's County and partially in Calvert county.

He shared some of his experience with the Commission talking about the number of sites that were bulldozed every year; how much history was lost because of this destruction; talked about the range per acre being anywhere from \$500 to \$1,500 per acre. He also said that the delay to a developer was nominal; that in fact, it was less time then addressing other agency concerns (e.g. storm-water management or Critical Area).

He also explained 'limits of disturbance' as it pertained to archaeology as being how many shovel pits per acre were dug. He talked about National Register Criteria and offered his assistance to the Commission in pursuing an Archaeological Ordinance in St. Mary's County.

Rob Gibbs, Chair of the HPC, along with other members thanked Mr. Gibb profusely for his presentation and expressed interest in working with him again in the future.

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

- Handled 11 customer service requests.
- Documented three demo requests.
- Reviewed TEC comments and gave to Dave Berry to present in my absence.
- Still marketing County Book (I'm Goin Down County, An Architectural Journey through St. Mary's County) Continue to pursue missing photos.
- Reported that Jennifer Pitts had been hired as the new Religious Freedom By-Way Manager.
- Set up exhibit (St. Mary's County Tobacco Barns) for HPC for St. Mary's County fair and plan on working the county fair several days.
- War of 1812 Committee – letter sent in response to 88 pages Interpretative Byway Plan – read and responded. War of 1812 Committee met on Thursday, September 16th to discuss Interpretative Plan.
- MD Commission on African American History & Culture event at Historic St. Mary's City – all day event. Support the Unified Committee on African American Contributions request for the United States Colored Troops Memorial at Lancaster Park.
- Updated HPC website, Agenda, Minutes and staff meeting. Distributed HPC newsletter to various groups and organizations. Still hearing complaints from various people who experience technical difficulty in opening up the Newsletter (currently created with Microsoft Publisher)

Old Business:

1) Cemetery Committee Report by Robert Gibbs

Combined under new business discussion of public presentation on November 1, 2010.

2) HPC Newsletter update by Susan Erichsen

Ms. Brady spoke in Ms. Erichsen's and Ms. Moody's absence and said that the Newsletter Committee would be scheduling a meeting to discuss the technical difficulties in trying to send out the newsletter in the Microsoft Publisher format. Many recipients complained that they could not open the newsletter.

New Business:

1) St. Mary's Burial Yards Presentation on November 1, 2010

Rob Gibbs reported that he, Scott Lawrence and Ruth Mitchell had met in preparation for the public presentation scheduled for Monday, November 1, 2010 at the Lexington Park library.

Mr. Gibbs provided members with a draft brochure, cemetery data base, information card, introductory letter for the data base and a flyer for the November 1st event. Staff agreed to prepare binders for the county Libraries, Historical Society and Genealogy Society. Staff also agreed to talk to Karen Everett about press releases for the November 1st event.

2) Presentation by Jim Gibb on Zoning Ordinance from Frederick County.

Minutes reflected above.

Items from the floor – None

Announcements – Ms. Mitchell updated the Commission members about the archaeology work being accomplished at Anne Arundel Hall in St. Mary's City.

***Note for the Record:** Construction of Anne Arundel Hall is a component of the Maryland Heritage Project, a joint initiative between St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM) and HSMCC. The replacement of Anne Arundel Hall will provide space for the college and HSMCC to advance

anthropological, cultural, and historical studies, beginning with the original colony. Project to be completed by FY 2015.

Adjournment – Motion by Mr. Willard, seconded by Mr. Scott 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: October 28, 2010