

St. Mary's County, Maryland
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
September 25, 2014

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

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

Recognition of Guests: None.

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

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Mr. Lawrence, second by Ms. Reno to approve the July 24, 2014 Minutes, which passed unanimously.

Staff Report:

- 197 customer service requests (Sheriff's Book).
- 4 demolitions.
- 375th Sheriff's Commissions Booklet – book signing on September – First Friday - with Sheriff Cameron, Carol Moody, Linda Reno, Jeff McLane and Mary Ann Thompson on the Sheriff's History Book – 164 books in 2 hours. Sold an additional 42 books.
- Continue to sell I'm Goin' Down County Books this month – 14 this month.
- Working with Michael McCauley on book entitled “**Justice Rolls Down**” a story about barracks housing for the African American parishioners for the St. Joseph's Parish Housing Project – documented from 1946 to present. This will be the 3rd publication of sites on the Inventory of Historic Sites.
- Division staff meeting, TEC meeting, HPC meeting, CLG Grant Meeting.
- Continue work and research on Blackistone Book with Linda Reno, Carol Moody and Dr. Gordon Blackistone Hughes.
- Wrote a Memorandum of Understanding for CLG Arch Grant for discussion purposes with County Administrator; met with Procurement officer to find out options for bidding process for CLG Archaeology Grant. Wrote CLG archaeology report, which was due September 30, 2014.
- Joseph Plummer from Baltimore – appt. sent to SMCHS – research and inventory of historic sites questions.
- September 12, 2014, ByWay meeting with SHA/TCC/Jennifer Pitts, et al.
- Received a Most Beautiful Person Award from the Calvert County Commissioners.
- Terry Wilson and I went to Charlotte Hall to work on updating some of the sites.
- Staff HPC meetings; write minutes, reports, etc.

Old Business:

1) CLG Archaeology Grant Update & Quarterly Report Submittal
Ms. Brady passed out copies of the Quarterly Report that was due no later than September 30, 2014. She also handed out copies of the DRAFT Memorandum of Understanding between the County and St. Mary's College. She announced that Nell Ziehl would be coming to St. Mary's County to meet with Bill Hunt and herself on Wednesday, October 8 at 9 a.m.

2) Official St. Mary's County Poem

It had been brought to the attention of several Committee members that a few of the many poems written by Ms. Croker contained offensive words and language. Commission members talked at length about the issue and it was recognized that these poems were representative of Mrs. Croker's time and place, and as such, should be viewed with historical context. Commission members felt that Mrs. Croker had penned many poems about places and the people of St. Mary's County; that she was the first poet Laureate in the State of Maryland and the poem *In Old St. Mary's* was an appropriate poem worthy of recognition, but that the committee also understood the sensitivity of the issue. Motion by Mr. Lawrence, second by Ms. Reno to move forward to offer the Board of County Commissioners the opportunity to recognize by Resolution the poem *In Old St. Mary's* written by Maria Briscoe Croker. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

- 1) 81st Eastern States Archaeological Federation's Annual Meeting October 30 through November 2nd – letter of support for Grant for ASM – request by Scott Lawrence.

Motion by Mr. Smolek, second by Dr. Samford to approve the HPC letter of support to the Southern Maryland Heritage Association in support of a mini grant filed for this event. Motion passed unanimously.

- 2) Discussion of Commission Member Credentials.

Ms. Brady passed a copy of the CLG requirements for Qualified Historic Preservation Commission requirements to each member.

- 3) Flood Plain review of historic structures by HPC.

Ms. Brady shared a copy of the e-mail communication received from Nell Ziehl determining that the HPC had the authority to review "historic structures" for the purposes of the flood ordinance.

- 4) MAHCD Training – future.

Commission members asked staff to arrange for training with the MAHCD for some time in January or February, 2015 as two new members would be on board by that time. Dr. Samford recommended that the training be opened up to other Commissions.

Items from the Floor: Ms. Moody brought up the meeting at Dahlgreen about a DOD Joint Use Land Study. She also noted that there would be an open house at Newtowne Neck State Park from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturday, September 27, 2014 and that DNR was inviting input on the development plans for the park master plan.

Announcements: None.

Adjournment: Motion by Mr. Lawrence, second by Mr. Smolek, which passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Submitted By:

Signed by:

Grace Mary Brady

Carol Moody, Chair

Date: Approved on October 23, 2014