

St. Mary's County, Maryland
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the meeting held on
February 24, 2011

Present: Carol Moody, Chair
Scott Lawrence, Vice-Chair
Robert Gibbs, Member
Hal Willard, Member
Grace Mary Brady, Staff, Absent
Ruth Mitchell, Absent
Susan Erichsen, Absent

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

Recognition of Guests: None

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Ms. Moody, seconded by Mr. Lawrence to amend the Agenda under New Business, Item 3, CSM – Share your Stuff Event to Share your **History** Event – Carol Moody. Motion passed unanimously. Motion by Ms. Moody, second by Mr. Lawrence to accept the Agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Mr. Willard, seconded by Mr. Lawrence to approve the October 28, 2010 minutes. Motion passed unanimously. Motion by Mr. Willard, seconded by Ms. Moody to approve the November 18, 2010 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Carol Moody presented Ms. Brady's report in her absence.

- Handled 34 customer service requests.
- Reviewed TEC comments – 3 historic homes & 1 tower under consideration.
- Sheriff Book – 375th Anniversary – meeting on February 11th
- War of 1812 meeting on February 28th
- Religious Freedom Scenic Byway tour on February 9th
- Presentation to Planning Commission on February 17th
- CSM studies meeting on February 11th
- Prepared a nomination to recognize the BOCC, LUGM and Kirk Ranzetta for the publication of *I'm Goin' Down County*. If selected by MHT, recognition and award would occur in May at Preservation Conference.
- Note from staff that Mr. Donely signed his acceptance paperwork and would start attending the HPC meetings.

Old Business:

1) Cemetery sub-committee update by Rob Gibbs
Mr. Gibbs reported that notebooks were out in four different locations (local libraries and historical society); complimented the article that was written by Jason Babcock. Mr. Gibbs stated that no corrections to the cemetery data base or e-mail inquiries had been received. Mr. Gibbs expressed his concerns about individuals who did not upkeep private cemeteries on their property and wanted to know what the HPC could do. Mr. Lawrence recommended that staff talk with property owners who might be violating state statute. Mr. Gibbs talked about the 'Slovak' cemetery located adjacent to a maintenance facility at St. Mary's College. He wondered if tombstones were missing as he only noted 6 stones when he was just recently there. Mr. Gibbs was worried about that cemetery disappearing. He felt that it needed to be fenced to keep the tombstones protected. Mr. Lawrence said that St. Mary's College and the St. Mary's Commission were well aware that this cemetery was there.

Mr. Gibbs said that the sub-committee was planning on meeting the next week. He was also working on getting GPS coordinates for all the cemeteries. Mr. Lawrence talked about the Glen Mary property consisting of more than 600 acres and said that he obtained permission to go out there and couldn't find any cemeteries. Mr. Willard talked about the possibility of a cemetery at Myrtle Point. Mr. Gibbs said that he had seen the Myrtle Point documents and that it related to pre-historic archaeology.

Mr. Gibbs talked about the proposed site for the library and said that it was a civil war site. Ms. Moody talked about the Indian artifacts that had been found on that site.

2) CSM – Share your History Event

Ms. Moody reported on the 'Share your History' event. She reported that more than six churches had responded so far. She talked about the process that would be utilized on March 12th to expedite people bringing their items to be scanned and photographed.

Ms. Moody asked for volunteers. Mr. Gibbs offered to help Gracie with photography.

New Business:

1) 2011 Preservation Awards

a) Staff had left a note reflecting people who had contacted her stating that they were going to prepare a nomination, but she noted that none had been received yet.

St. Mary's County Historical Society for Dr. Guyther
Nomination for Dr. Jamie Boyd
Nomination for John Richard Knott exhibit in hallway and Bowles Store
Nomination for Scott Lawrence for cemetery at PAX (Mr. Lawrence expressed some concern about being honored since he had already received an award.)

2) Date for next public presentation on Cemeteries

Ms. Moody offered to explore the possibility of using the Chesapeake Room for a public presentation in June.

3) Explore possibility of Archaeology Award during April, 2011.

The Commission talked about Archaeology month but couldn't think of any recent projects that might be eligible for an award. Mr. Gibbs suggested that an archaeological chapter be formed in St. Mary's County. Mr. Lawrence talked about ASM (Archaeology Society of Maryland) and stated that it would be a good idea to join that organization. There are chapters for some counties and there is a moribund chapter for Southern Maryland.

4) Preservation Conference on May 19 and 20 in Annapolis.

Ms. Moody stated that the conference would be held in Annapolis this year and that members should think about attending and not requesting a hotel room (effort to save the county money). Mr. Gibbs asked if there was still \$1,500 in the budget. Ms. Moody said yes, that staff had left the CLG grant paperwork with her for this meeting.

Items from the floor – None

Announcements – None

Adjournment – Motion by Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Mr. Gibbs to adjourn the meeting, which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

Submitted By: Grace Mary Brady

Signed by: _____
Carol Moody, Chair

Date: March 24, 2011