

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

### Minutes of the meeting held on January 25, 2007 at the Department of Land Use and Growth Management

**Members Present:** Hal Willard, Chairman  
Jim Grusholt, Vice-Chairman  
Bill Farrar, Member  
Rob Gibbs, Member  
Mary Hayden, Member  
Danny Johnson, Member  
Ruth Mitchell, Member  
Teresa Wilson, LUGM Staff

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

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the December 13, 2006 meeting were approved as submitted.

#### **Scenic Byway Update**

Ms. Wilson informed the HPC that the pre-bid meeting for the request for proposals for the Religious Freedom Scenic Byway grant was held on January 11, 2007. Five potential consultants attended. A representative from the County Procurement Office and the Fiscal Secretary from the Department of Land Use and Growth Management answered questions about the legal and financial aspects of the grant. Members of the Management Committee attending were: Joanne Roland, tourism manager, Charles County, Beth Clark, planner, Charles County, Roz Rancanello, Executive Director, Southern Maryland Heritage Area, and Ms. Wilson. Terry Maxwell, Byway Coordinator from the Maryland State Highway Administration, and Marci Ross, from Maryland State Tourism attended by conference call. Members of the Management Committee answered questions from potential contractors about the technical aspects of the grant. The deadline for proposal submission is February 2. The Management Committee will then review proposals and will select a consultant to begin work on the production of a Corridor Management Plan for the Byway. A member of the HPC may be asked to serve on the Advisory Committee for this grant.

#### **Cemetery Discovery**

A project in the January Technical Review Cycle, Laurel Preserve Section 2, located on Tax Map 19, Parcel 191 on Laurel Grove Road in Morganza contains the ruins of a tenant cabin listed on the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties. Ms. Wilson noted that in her comments to the Technical Evaluation Committee. She then received a call from a community member who informed her that there may also be a cemetery on the property. She visited the site with the caller, but did not find the cemetery. A group of citizens later located one cemetery that may have been associated with a chapel-of-ease for All Faith Church. Citizens did attend the Planning Commission Public hearing January 22<sup>nd</sup> that considered a request to amend the Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan for the property. They added their comments to the public record to reinforce Ms. Wilson's comments, which were submitted to the Planning Commission. The amendment for CWSP for this property was approved. Ms. Wilson told the HPC that her comment to the Technical Evaluation Committee noted that the cemetery and historic site are located on an out parcel that she recommended remain undisturbed as part of the open space requirement for the development. Ms. Mitchell pointed out that there may be more graves on the site that are unmarked. She stated that the Historic Preservation Commission should have more authority make the preservation of historic sites mandatory.

Ms. Wilson added this cemetery to the database the HPC is compiling.

#### **Items from the Floor**

Ms. Wilson reported that she contacted the Public Information Office to arrange a meeting to plan the production of a public service announcement for Channel 95 about the Historic Landmark and District designation process. Mr. Farrar has volunteered to be the spokesperson for the HPC. Ms. Wilson also contacted Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dick, owners of St. Michael's Manor, who agreed to be interviewed about their decision to seek Local Historic Landmark designation for their property. The PIO office sent a draft script that Ms. Wilson distributed. Work on this will begin in the coming weeks.

Ms. Mitchell suggested the HPC work on presenting public programs in the spring. She mentioned that archaeologist Tom Krevling, who works in Prince George's County, may be willing to make a presentation about preservation issues to both to the HPC and the public. Ms. Wilson said she would place this topic on the February meeting agenda.

Mr. Willard reminded the HPC about the State-wide Annual Preservation and Revitalization Conference from May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup> in Chestertown. Ms. Wilson said she would be receiving information on the conference soon and asked the members to consider attending.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_