

St. Mary's County, Maryland
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the meeting held on
July 22, 2010

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

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

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Mr. Willard, seconded by Mr. Scott to approve the June 24, 2010 Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

*** New Business Item discussed out of order to accommodate schedule of Peter Himmelheber.**

Mr. Himmelheber gave a power-point presentation depicting various events that happened in St. Mary's County during the War of 1812. Pete used captain's logs from various war ships which depicted their activities in the Patuxent. Pete used tax records to show the losses to St. Mary's citizens during this war when they applied for a credit on their taxes because their house had been burns, slaves had been stolen or run away and livestock was lost.

Pete discovered that the logs he was looking out were not a reliable way to judge the how and when property was lost. He is looking for logs of provisioning ships to see if he can verify the tax depreciation claimed by citizens.

Commission members asked questions during the presentation. Mr. Himmelheber pointed out the position of 2 large British ships in front of one of the Commission members' home.

Commission members particularly enjoyed a map created by Mr. Himmelheber showing pigs, burnt houses, mills and locations of ships.

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

- Organized Planning Conference with Jeff Jackman, Calvert & Charles County staff. Wrote introductory remarks for Planning Conference presenters; stuffed 100 'goodie bags' for Planning Conference; signage, etc. Went to Historic St. Mary's City for preliminary conference 'detail list' to ensure smooth event on July 14, 2010.
- Handled 32 customer service requests.
- Marketing County Book (I'm Goin Down County, An Architectural Journey through St. Mary's County)

- Reviewed 3 applications for Religious Freedom By-Way Manager position. In the process of scheduling interviews for this position with Roz Racanello So. MD Heritage Area Consortium and Cathy Thompson, Charles County Historic Preservation Planner.
- Worked with a gentleman who was looking for curatorship of historic property. Referred him to John Bruce Alexander, Manager of Curatorships & Cultural Resources, Eastern Region Stewardship Coordinator, Land Acquisition and Planning Unit at Dept. of Natural Resources.
- Staff HPC monthly meeting.
- Working on follow-up tobacco barn summit comments and future plans.

Ms. Brady handed out copies of an e-mail sent by Dr. Julia King talking about an Early Artifact Fendall find on the Wicomico River. Staff and commission members discussed how they might help Dr. King and her students fund this archaeological survey. Staff will talk with the county attorney to see if there are any prohibitions to the Historic Preservation Commission raising funds to support this discovery. Mr. Gibbs talked about Dr. King's invitation to meet with her; most members indicated that they could meet anytime. Mr. Lawrence expressed a preference for evening meetings. Ms. Brady will contact Dr. King to schedule some preliminary dates and times.

Ms. Brady handed out copies of an e-mail sent by Bob Schaller from Katherine Humphries, Museum Internship Program Coordinator & Adjunct Professor of History at the College of Southern Maryland. Ms. Humphries wanted our help in spreading the word about possible internships.

Ms. Brady handed out copies of the 'Advocacy Alert' from Preservation Maryland asking that we contact Congressman Hoyer's office to ask that the provision for full and guaranteed funding of the HPF be included in the final version of the bill that will be finalized on July 23, 2010.

Ms. Brady also shared the DRAFT Adaptive Reuse of Tobacco Barns booklet prepared by Barbie Milling, Historic Preservation Planner Intern for Calvert County. Ms. Brady had already submitted her corrections and complimented the young intern on the excellent job she had done in assimilating this publication.

Old Business:

1) Cemetery Committee Report by Robert Gibbs
No report this month.

2) HPC Newsletter update by Susan Erichsen
Ms. Brady spoke in Ms. Erichsen's absence and said that the Newsletter Committee would be scheduling a meeting to write the next newsletter. It would feature the Awards Ceremony sponsored by the Historic Preservation Commission, the Barn Summit, etc.

New Business:

1) War of 1812 Presentation by Peter Himmelheber.
Item reflected in minutes above.

2) Discussion of Halloween event.
Mr. Gibbs reported that he had booked the Lexington Park Library the night of November 1, 2010 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. to host the HPC Halloween event. Mr. Gibbs also indicated that the cemetery committee would be meeting to discuss the Agenda for this event.

Items from the floor – Ms. Brady reminded the Commission that she would not be able to staff the August meeting, but could make arrangements for another LUGM staff to set up the meeting and turn on a tape recorder. After some discussion, the members decided it was not imperative to have a meeting in August as long as the two subcommittees met. A Motion was made by Mr. Willard, seconded by Mr. Lawrence to cancel the August meeting, which passed unanimously.

Announcements – None

Adjournment – Motion by Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Moody to adjourn the meeting, which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Submitted By: Grace Mary Brady

Signed by: _____
Robert Gibbs, Chair

Date: July 22, 2010