

**Harford County Historic Preservation Commission**  
**Meeting Summary: March 6, 2019**

Members Present: Carol Deibel (chair)  
Richard Sherrill (co-chair)  
Dan Coates  
Christina Presberry  
Jackie Seneschal

Members Absent: Jacob Bensen

Staff: Caitlin Merritt

Guests: None

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**Call to Order**

The regular monthly meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was called to order on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 7:01 PM.

**Welcome & Introduction**

Ms. Deibel welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Review and Approval:** February 6, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Seneschal moved to approve the meeting summary. Mr. Sherrill seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business**

None

**Old Business**

CLG Update

Ms. Merritt shared with the Commission that she met with County Council members last week (February 25 – March 1, 2019), about the proposed changes and updates to Bill No. 19-004 Zoning- Historic Preservation, and answered any questions they had. She also mentioned that it gave her the opportunity to educate new Council members about the Historic Preservation Program.

In addition, Ms. Merritt shared that Bill No. 19-004, was presented to the County Council at a public hearing, Tuesday, March 5, 2019. Ms. Jenny King, Deputy Director of Planning and Zoning and Ms. Meghan Alegi, the attorney for the Department of Planning and Zoning, were also in attendance. The County Council had no questions. Councilman Shrodes thanked us for presenting the Bill, and commended all the work that was put into it.

Ms. Merritt said that the hearing was successful. She noted that Bill No. 19-004 will be voted on at the March 12<sup>th</sup>, County Council meeting. When approved, it will go into effect in early May. Appointments to the HPC will occur after the new staggered terms goes into effect.

#### Historic Preservation Awards

Ms. Merritt had previously shared all the nominations, via Drobox, with the Commission to review on their own time. The Commission went through and discussed each nomination first before making decisions.

#### Preservation Project Award:

- Jericho Road Stone Bank Barn Stabilization/Restoration (Friends of Jerusalem Mill)
  - There was a general discussion that this was a great and unique project. The project follows the Secretary of the Interior's Standards (Standards) and fits all project requirements.
- Local Government Preservation Award:
  - Bel Air Courthouse Window Restoration and Masonry repair (Harford County)
    - Ms. Deibel mentioned that the County originally wanted to replace all the courthouse windows. She continued by saying that the project shows the County's commitment to preservation. In addition the project follows the Standards and fits all category requirements.
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  - Mt. Soma Barn & Corncrib Stabilization Project (Dept. of Parks and Recreation)
    - There was a general discussion that this was another great county project and it again shows the county's commitment to preservation. The project follows the Standards and fits all category requirements.
  - Havre de Grace Opera House Rehabilitation Project (Havre de Grace Arts Collective)
    - There was a general discussion about the project and it was decided to move it Project Award Category because a representative of the Havre de Grace Arts Collective will be accepting the award. The project follows the Standards and fits all category requirements.
- Special Preservation Awards:
  - Communication
    - African American History of Harford County Project (Campaign 42)
      - There was a general discussion that this a wonderful project, but it received an award in 2017 that recognized Campaign 42's efforts for the same project.
    - Harford's Heritage Video Series Funding (Harford Cable Network)

- Ms. Merritt mentioned that Mr. Shagena, who submitted the nomination made it very clear that it was for the funding and airing, not any of the research or editing.
  - Education
    - Harford Ice House Restoration and Exhibit (Harford Glen/Howard Eakes)
      - General discussion about the restoration project in general and its positive impact to education by bringing preservation, history, and science together.
    - Heritage Exhibits & Programming (HCC – Hays-Heighe House)
 

There was a general discussion that the Hays-Heighe House have received awards in the past for their heritage programming. Some of the dates in the nomination narrative were outside the timeframe for the award category. The Commission agreed that the exhibits and lectures submitted were wonderfully put together. Ms. Seneschal asked if we could give an honorable mention recognition to the Hays-Heighe House.

Ms. Seneschal asked if there would be a way to be more specific with exhibits and programming for the next awards. Perhaps providing more details for exhibits and lecture series to be lumped together by theme/subject rather than listing all programming events for a year.

Ms. Merritt made a note to add more information for the next awards.

Ms. Seneschal, also suggested that the category name “Special Preservation” doesn’t necessarily fit with the types of projects or accomplishments under the category. She recommended finding an alternative category name.

The Commission was open to this suggestion. Ms. Merritt made a note to research alternative category names.

- Community Involvement
  - Bulle Rock Historical Society (Alicia Menefee)
    - General discussion about how this is an example of how individuals and small groups can make an impact in their community.
- Grassroots Advocacy
  - The Havre de Grace Colored School Foundation (Pat Cole)

- General discussion about how this was a successful example of how local advocacy efforts can help save an important buildings in a community.
- Preservationist Honor Award
 

There was a general discussion that a few of these nominations may be moved around because only one award may be given.

  - Hosanna Community House/Hosanna School Museum (Iris Barnes)
    - It was discussed to possibly move Hosanna to the Stewardship Award Category. In addition, there was discussion about giving Hosanna an honorable mention, because they do so much.
  - Allan Vought – Aegis Journalist
    - There was a general discussion about Mr. Vought’s contributions to recording the history of Harford County over his long career and that he deserves this award.
  - Friends of Jerusalem Mill
    - Ms. Merritt mentioned that the Friends of Jerusalem Mill received a 2014 Stewardship Award. Ms. Deibel also mentioned that they submitted a project award nomination this year as well.
  - The Liriodendron Foundation, Inc.
    - There was a general discussion and agreement to move the Liriodendron Foundation to the Stewardship category.

Ms. Deibel read back the nominations with the changes made, to the Commission:

**Project Awards** – Jericho Road Stone Bank Barn Stabilization Project & Havre de Grace Opera House Rehabilitation and Adaptive Reuse Project

**Local Government Preservation Awards** – Bel Air Courthouse Window Restoration Project & Mt. Soma Barn and Corn Crib Stabilization Project

**Special Preservation Awards:**

Communication – Harford’s Heritage Video Series

Community Involvement – Bulle Rock Historical Society

Education – Harford Glen Ice House Restoration & Exhibit; Honorable Mention to the programming at the Hays-Heighe House at HCC

Grassroots Advocacy – HdG Colored School Foundation

**Preservationist Honor Award** – Allan Vought; Honorable mention to the Hosanna Museum

**Stewardship Award** – The Liriodendron Foundation, Inc.

Ms. Deibel asked for a motion for the award recipients. Mr. Sherrill motioned to approve the award recipients that Ms. Deibel listed. Ms. Presberry seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Deibel asked if there was anything else. Ms. Seneschal mentioned that she attended the public meeting for the MD Center for the Arts property, and saw the site plan. She said that the site plan has the cemetery identified. She just wanted to make sure that the boundary identified was large enough for when the site plan returns to Planning and Zoning for review.

Ms. Merritt said that she will check with the planners working on the project for when it comes back for review and do a site visit to check its location.

**Adjourn**

Mr. Sherrill moved to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Ms. Presberry. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting ended at 8:10 PM.