

Harford County Historic Preservation Commission
Meeting Summary: Wednesday May 6, 2020

Members Present: Carol Deibel (chair)
Phil McCall
Dan Coates (Co-Chair)
Jacob Bensen
Iris Barnes
Christina Presberry
Jackie Seneschal

Staff: Joel Gallihue

Public: Ameer and Eric Polk by phone as well as five anonymous logins observing the meeting.

Call to Order

The regular monthly meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was called to order at 7:10 PM.

Welcome

Ms. Deibel welcomed everyone to the meeting. The meeting was held online via Microsoft Teams Live because of social distancing measures in place for the state.

Review and Approval:

The February 5, 2019 Meeting Minutes were inadvertently omitted from the packet transmitted to HPC members. They will be considered for review and approval at the next meeting.

John Bailey House HA-923

Proposal by Ameer and Erick Polk to build a free standing garage. The discussion centered around choice of materials and not matching the historic siding of the house.

Mr. McCall moved to approve the Certificate of Approval for the free standing garage. Ms. Seneshal seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

227 Old Quaker Road (Adjacent to HA 1689 Orthodox Friends Meeting House)

Mr. Gallihue provided a brief update showing an illustrative of the proposed evergreen buffer requested by the HPC at the February 5th meeting. No action was required but staff has advised the homebuilder to proceed with installing the buffer. Staff will inspect when work is completed.

Administrative Business

Historic Preservation Planner

Mr. Jacob Bensen has been selected to fill the vacancy in the Department of Planning and Zoning left by Ms. Caitlin Merritt who is now serving Baltimore County. He will start June 1st. His first staff tasks will include facilitating the nomination process for a new Historic Preservation Commission member.

CLG Grant Application Update:

Mr. Gallihue shared with the Commission that he spoke with Nell Ziehl and gained an impression that our application will score well and is likely to gain support. The grant would provide additional funds to hire a consultant to write historic preservation design guidelines. The grant is due February 28, 2020.

404 Pylesville Road (Not on state survey or landmark)

Staff conveyed to an architect that the property is eligible to be a landmark, however, it needs to be on the MIHP or in the process of being recorded in the MIHP to submit a Harford County landmark nomination form. The owner is pursuing the MIHP but staff support will be made available.

7 Holloway Lane HA 1725 (Not a county landmark)

Staff conveyed to a potential buyer that they may submit a Harford County landmark nomination form which could lead to tax credit on county portion of taxes. Aberdeen planner was notified. A brochure was sent.

National Historic Preservation Month

The link to the preservation society webpage was shared where local pictures could be posted. A write up about the Harford CLG is underway with MHT social media.

MHAA Covid 19 Grants

Staff noted that Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway assisted some local applicants associated with historic properties.

2416 Creswell Road Fire

HA – 1067 - Fair Meadows or Clement Dietrich Estate is on the National Register. The property was used by Eastern Christian College from 1959-2006. It was later used by Arrow School until 2018. It was designated because it is built in Second Empire style and was the residence of Clement Dietrich an entrepreneur who expanded Harford Furnace Iron Works. Mr. Gallihue has been reaching out to the owner with information about the county landmark program.

Public Comments – none.

HPC Comments/Announcements – none.

Adjourn

Mr. McCall moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Seneshal seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting ended at 8:20 PM.