

MINUTES

TALBOT COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

7 June 2010

I. ROLL CALL

The regular monthly meeting of the Talbot County Historic Preservation Commission was called to order at 9:35 AM on Monday, 7 June 2010. Those members in attendance were Mr. Steven K. Hack, Chairperson, Mr. Ward Bucher and Mr. Robert Arnouts. Ms. Peggy Pickall, Mr. Earl Segal and Mr. Eric Lowery were absent. Representing the County was Ms. Florence Ball.

II. CURRENT BUSINESS

- A. REVIEW MINUTES OF 3 MAY MEETING – The minutes of the 3 May TCHPC meeting were read. Since there were no corrections or additions, *Mr. Robert Arnouts moved to approve the minutes as read. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ward Bucher and it was carried.*
- B. RESCHEDULED MEETING WITH THE COUNTY COUNCIL – Mr. Steven Hack said the meeting with the County Council originally scheduled for 8 June had to be postponed because of time sensitive County Council business that conflicted with the time scheduled for the TCHPC work session. Two alternate dates were offered: 22 June and 13 July. After some discussion, it was decided that the work session should be rescheduled for the 4:00 pm time slot on Tuesday, 22 June 2010. Mr. Hack also announced that the TCHPC budget has been approved.
- C. PRESERVATION MARYLAND CONFERENCE – Mr. Steven Hack highlighted some of the events of interest at the Conference which was held 20-21 May 2010 at the Tidewater Inn in Easton. The Commissioners discussed some of the presentations, such as the one regarding brickwork. It was discussed that many of the presentations were of more benefit to lay people, and not so much for people who are in professions such as architecture.
- D. TCHPC BROCHURE – Mr. Steven Hack spoke about the revised brochure that Mr. Martin Sokolich had emailed to the Commissioners, saying it looks very nice. The revised version features larger photographs, as suggested at the previous TCHPC meeting. Mr. Robert Arnouts said he thinks the overall appearance is much better, but he had not yet analyzed the printed content. Mr. Ward Bucher suggested another good location to display the brochures would be the County Recreation Center.
- E. SCENIC BYWAY – Mr. Steven Hack provided a narrative of the scenic byway bus tour he took with Talbot County Director of Tourism, Debbie Dodson. He said as a tribute to James A. Michener who authored the historic novel, Chesapeake,

a name for the tri-county scenic byway has been suggested: “Michener Chesapeake Scenic Byway.” The three counties the byway meanders through are Caroline, Talbot and Dorchester.

- F. TCHPC MISSION STATEMENT & DUTIES – This topic was not discussed.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. MILLER’S HOUSE (T-70) IN WYE MILLS – Mr. Steven Hack said he and some of the other Commissioners met at the Miller’s House to view it and discuss how it might be saved. Mr. Ward Bucher said the Hemmersleys would like museum quality restoration. He said he talked to Rick Towle, Director of Parks and Recreation about preserving the house, and that Mr. Towle seemed to have some interest, but was not terribly sympathetic to the historic aspects of the building.

Mr. Steven Hack said Councilman Dirck Bartlett has conveyed to him some interest in the Old Music Hall. Various uses for that space were briefly discussed, and the accessibility issues were reiterated during that discussion. Mr. Robert Arnouts said unless a solid use could be established for that space, he doubts the County will be interested in spending money to preserve it.

- B. TCHPC SITE VISITS – Mr. Steven Hack announced that the site visit for June will be at Pleasant Valley (T-84) on Monday, 21 June. Those attending should meet at the Acme parking lot in Easton at 9:15 am.

Doncaster (T-178) was the site visited on 15 May 2010. Mr. Steven Hack said it was found to be in excellent condition.

- C. SPRING ACTIVITY – Mr. Robert Arnouts reminded the Commission that his term expires as of 1 July 2010, and that he does not intend to continue as a Commissioner. It was discussed how poor attendance has become at the TCHPC meetings, and that it hinders any progress that could otherwise be made regarding the various projects and issues the Commission has on its agenda. Mr. Steven Hack will remind the County Council that they have yet to appoint a replacement for Ms. Kathleen Kurtz, and that they will need to replace Mr. Robert Arnouts as well. Meanwhile, he will talk to Mr. Earl Segal to see if he wants to continue as a Commissioner, since his term also expires on 1 July 2010.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, 12 July 2010 at 9:30 am in the County Manager’s Conference Room in the South Wing of the Courthouse. The first Monday, 5 July, is a holiday.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:55 am. (*Note: Today’s meeting was accelerated due to an unforeseen conflict in scheduling for use of the Bradley room.*)