

**CECIL COUNTY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 5, 2016**

**Present:** Dawson, Mike; Diggins, Milt; Dixon, Mike; Edwards, Ron & Audrey; Folk, Patricia; Simpser, Nancy; Sennstrom, Eric

**Absent:** None

**Call to Order:** Chairperson Folk called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**Old Business:** Chairperson Folk inquired as to whether the County had received any submittals of nominations for historic designation. Director Sennstrom indicated that no nominations had been received. Chairperson Folk reported that she had spoken with an individual who may be interested in nominating his property for designation.

**New Business:** Chairperson Folk initiated a discussion of the presentations from Maryland Historic Trust (MHT) and the Maryland Association of Historic District Commissions (MAHDC) to the HDC at their 10/6/15 meeting. Ms. Folk stated that she thought both presentations imparted valuable information and worthwhile ideas for community involvement and education. Chairperson Folk queried as to whether the HDC had suggestions on how to move forward to capitalize of the available options. Director Sennstrom offered to follow-up with the MHT and the MAHDC to explore the Certified Local Government Program and the training opportunities to see if these items would be beneficial to the HDC in the discharge of their duties. He also noted that Melanie Lytle of MAHDC was interested in holding one of her organization's social hours in Cecil County in the spring. Ron Edwards suggested using the Wellwood Club in Charlestown due to its abundant historical presence and record. The HDC requested that Director Sennstrom contact the MHT and MAHDC to further discuss these matters.

Mike Dawson reflected that certain business in North East and Elkton have photographs prominently posted that depict Cecil County's history. He suggested that these businesses should be contacted to ascertain whether they might be interested in partnering with or assisting the HDC with its efforts to educate and heighten the public's awareness of our local historic heritage.

Discussion ensued on the general malaise associated with individuals willing to volunteer to serve on historic preservation boards and the lack of emphasis in the education system regarding local, state, and national history.

**Adjournment:** Chairperson Folk adjourned the meeting at 3:41 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** April 5, 2016, 3:00 p.m., 200 Chesapeake Boulevard, Elkton, MD

Respectfully submitted:

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Eric S. Sennstrom, Director – Planning & Zoning

**CECIL COUNTY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 5, 2016**

**Present:** Edwards, Ron & Audrey; Folk, Patricia; Simperts, Nancy; Sennstrom, Eric

**Absent:** Dawson, Mike; Dixon, Mike

**Call to Order:** Chairperson Folk called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** Nancy Simperts made a motion to approve the January 2016 meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Audrey Edwards. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

**New Business:** Director Sennstrom notified the Historic District Commission (HDC) that a request for a historic property tax credit had been received from the owners of the Keiffer Brick House. Director Sennstrom provided an overview of Chapter 337, Article III of the Code of Cecil County and provided a summary of the documentation provided to support the request. The HDC perused the documentation and determined that the expenses met the qualification for the tax credit. The HDC found that a property tax credit in the amount of \$2,421.40 should be granted by the County Council.

Motion was made by Audrey Edwards to recommend that the County Council grant a historic property tax credit in the amount of \$2,421.40 to the Keiffer Brick House. Motion was seconded by Nancy Simperts. Motion carried by a vote of 3 in favor and none opposed. Patricia Folk abstained.

Director Sennstrom provided an update on the joint meeting between the HDC and the Maryland Association of Historic District Commissions (MAHDC). He reported the meeting is scheduled for 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. on Friday, April 29, 2016 at the Wellwood Club in Charlestown. The MAHDC is advertising the event on their website. The HDC discussed several topics of potential discussion with their colleagues from throughout the state. Ron & Audrey Edwards reported that they would be willing to host a tour of their home after the event for anyone who desired to visit with them.

The HDC examined the information regarding two individuals who have expressed an interest in being appointed to the historic district commission. The HDC found both individuals to be potentially productive members of the Commission. Director Sennstrom indicated that both individuals have been forwarded to the County Executive for her consideration and that hopefully one will be appointed to fill the existing vacancy.

Chairperson Folk asked the HDC to contemplate how the HDC could tailor its activities to comply with the County's Strategic Plan and perhaps identify ways that they could be more efficacious in preserving the County's historic heritage.

**Old Business:** The Historic District Commission had no old business to dispose of.

**Adjournment:** Chairperson Folk adjourned the meeting at 3:41 p.m.

Next Meeting: 3:00 p.m., July 5, 2016

Respectfully Submitted:

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Eric S. Sennstrom, Director – Planning & Zoning

## **CECIL COUNTY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**July 5, 2016**

Due to the lack of a quorum, the July 2016 meeting of the Cecil County Historic District Commission was cancelled by Chairperson Folk.

The next meeting shall take place on Tuesday, October 4, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. in the Cecil County Administration Building.

**CECIL COUNTY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 4, 2016**

**Present:** Coleman, Heidi; Dixon, Mike; Edwards, Ron & Audrey; Folk, Patricia; Simperts, Nancy; Sennstrom, Eric

**Absent:** Dawson, Mike

**Call to Order:** Chairperson Folk called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion was made by Nancy Simperts to approve the April 2016 meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Audrey Edwards. Mike Dixon, Ron & Audrey Edwards, Patricia Folk, and Nancy Simperts voted in favor of the motion. Heidi Coleman abstained from voting. Motion carried.

**New Business:** Director Sennstrom notified the Historic District Commission (HDC) that Susan Shannon, owner of the Brick House on Turkey Point Road, had submitted a request to avail herself of the historic property tax credit afforded by Chapter 337, Article III of the Code of Cecil County. Director Sennstrom presented the HDC with Ms. Shannon's supporting documentation. The HDC perused the materials and discussion ensued as to what expenses should qualify as restoration and preservation of the structure and what should not qualify. The HDC discussed just how strict should they be in determining what should be credited and what should not as well as setting a precedent for future HDC's regarding similar requests. The HDC decided to invite Ms. Shannon to their January 2017 meeting so that she can provide additional elucidation on her request for the HDC's edification to help them understand the work that was done to the Brick House vis-à-vis restoration and preservation.

Chairperson Folk commented that it would be beneficial to historic preservation efforts in the County if periodic meetings were held between the County's HDC and those of the municipalities. She was of the opinion that such meetings would offer an opportunity to exchange ideas and support for each other's activities and be mutually advantageous in raising awareness for preservation and improving the efficacy of all entities. The HDC concurred and suggested that a joint meeting in the spring of 2017 would be the optimal time. A gathering similar to the one held earlier this year at the Wellwood Club in Charlestown was envisioned as the best scenario. It was suggested that representatives from the Maryland Historic Trust (MHT) and the Maryland Association of Historic District Commissions (MAHDC) be invited to provide a talk on an issue such as the issuance of certificates of appropriateness to create an interest in attending. The HDC asked Director Sennstrom to begin laying the groundwork for such a meeting.

Chairperson Folk advised the HDC that it would be helpful to historic preservation efforts if articles were published in the local newspapers regarding the HDC's preservation activities. The HDC suggested additional outreach through social media platforms such as facebook and twitter. The HDC asked Director Sennstrom to approach the local newspapers to gauge their interest in writing an article on the HDC and Ms. Coleman volunteered to investigate expanding the HDC's exposure in social media.

Director Sennstrom provided a overview of his memo regarding the mention of historic preservation in the County's Comprehensive Plan and Strategic Plan as well the as limitations on the powers of the County's HDC established by the Annotated Code of Maryland and the Constitution of Maryland.

**Old Business:** There was no old business to dispose of.

**Adjournment:** Chairperson Folk adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Next Meeting: January 3, 2017

Respectfully submitted:

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Eric S. Sennstrom, Director – Planning & Zoning