

CECIL COUNTY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
4 January 2005

Present: Cairns, Ed & Sally; Dixon, Mike; Edwards, Ron & Audrey; Folk, Patricia; Simperts, Nancy; Sennstrom, Eric

Absent: N/A

Call to Order: Chairman Ed Cairns called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Nancy Simperts to approve minutes of December 2004 meeting with the correct spelling of James Wollon's name and the correct date (2/26/05) for the HDC workshop. Seconded by Patricia Folk. All in favor of motion.

New Business: Chairman Ed Cairns stated that the HDC has received a nomination for historic designation from the "Onion Bed". David Holsten, the owner, spoke about the property and the history of settlement thereon. Mr. Holsten provided the HDC with a summary of the property's layout, its associated outbuildings, and property lines. He continued that the property has been in his wife's family since 1783. The dwelling has had updates and expansions over the years. Mr. Holsten suspects the original dwelling was erected in 1726 on Nottingham Lot 35. Andrew Jobe deeded 200 acres of the lot to his son. John White lived on the property in 1758, Jacob Reynolds payed taxes on a house at this location in 1783. Patricia Folk queried as to why it is called the "Onion Bed"? Audrey Edwards stated that the Holstens are lucky to reside in a dwelling that their ancestors lived in. Chairman Ed Cairns inquired as to whether the dwelling and structures are on the east or west side of Blue Ball Road? Mr. Holsten answered that the house is on the east side and accessory buildings are on the west side. Audrey Edwards asked about the Jobe's indentured servant. Director Sennstrom will do a public notice for HDC, Planning Commission, and County Commissioner meetings on this nomination.

Nancy Simperts submitted a nomination for historic designation on the Cherry Hill United Methodist Church. Audrey Edwards stated that she will be providing a nomination for historic designation on the West Nottingham Friends Meeting House.

Old Business: Chairman Ed Cairns provided a summary of previous consensus on the HDC's brochure. Director Sennstrom stated that solicitations for quotes to print the bi-fold, perforated color brochure with photographic collage have been sent to five printers with a request to respond by 1/14/05. Chairman Ed Cairns stated that the Elkton library has been reserved for the HDC's workshop from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m on Saturday, 26 February 2005. Chairman Ed Cairns summarized the Library's rules for the room rental. The HDC discussed the workshop format and agenda. Patricia Folk stated that James Wollon will speak for free on the Department of the Interior's standards for historic properties. His presentation will last approximately 45 minutes with an additional 15 minutes for questions at the end. Mike Dixon stated that Mark Clark has declined an invitation to participate. Sally Cairns stated that Nicole Diehlman has stated that she will attend. Audrey Edwards stated that Catherine Masek, an architectural paint specialist and expert in field, will attend. Mike Dixon suggested having designees give testimonials about why they opted to nominate their properties for historic designation. Ron Edwards said that Chairman Ed Cairns should give a presentation on the HDC. Agenda format discussed was as follows: 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Registration; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Keynote address; 10:30 -11:00 a.m. Testimonials from two designees; 11:00 – 11:30 a.m. Chairman Ed Cairns presentation; 11:30 – conclusion meet and greet. Audrey Edwards queried as to whether Johns Hopkins would be available. Chairman Ed Cairns asked if Ron & Audrey Edwards could get crafts people to attend? Audrey Edwards said that Jim Groff attended the last meeting. Sally Cairns suggested Ross Gibson. Chairman Ed Cairns said that 3 or 4 would be nice. Sally Cairns suggested an invitation be sent to Preservation Maryland. Mike Dixon said that inviting Preservation Maryland is a good opportunity. Sally Cairns will contact Maryland Historic Trust and Preservation Maryland. Ron & Audrey Edwards will contact booth people. Chairman Ed Cairns selected Nancy Simperts and Patricia Folk to work on publicity. Mike Dixon will prepare press release to send to newspapers. Patricia Folk stated that the testimonials should be limited to 15 minutes each. Audrey Edwards will contact Darlene McCall about providing comments on researching land records. Audrey Edwards notified the HDC that Preservation Delaware has an article regarding the remnants of a canal on a Glasgow farm that was intended to connect the Elk and Christina Rivers. The farm also contains the remains of Indian villages. Mike Dixon said that portions of this canal can be seen off of Feeder Road in Cecil County.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Next Meeting: 1 February 2005, 3:00 p.m., Planning & Zoning Conference Room

Respectfully Submitted:

Eric S. Sennstrom, AICP
Director
Planning, Zoning, Parks & Recreation

CECIL COUNTY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
1 February 2005

Present: Cairns, Ed & Sally; Dixon, Mike; Edwards, Ron & Audrey; Folk, Patricia; Simperts, Nancy; Sennstrom, Eric

Absent: None

Call to order: Chairman Ed Cairns called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Approval of minutes: Motion made by Nancy Simperts to approve minutes of 4 January 2005 meeting. Motion was seconded by Sally Cairns. All members of HDC were in favor of motion.

New Business: Chairman Ed Cairns announced that the HDC is in receipt of two nominations for historic designation. The first is from the Onion Bed and the second is from the Cherry Hill United Methodist Church.

HDC-2005-01 "Onion Bed": David Holsten appeared to present his application for the Onion Bed. Mr. Holsten summarized the history of the property starting with its historical connection to William Penn. Property was originally part of Nottingham lot #35 and occupation of the property can be traced back to 1701. Date of erection of dwelling is not certain, it is suspected that it was constructed between 1758 and 1783. A tax assessment from 1783 indicates one dwelling on the property. The Reynolds family has occupied the property from 1783 to the present. Chairman Ed Cairns interjected that the property owners petitioned for a license to sell beer and cider at this location in 1736. Mr. Holsten continued that the wagon house was constructed from re-used timber. The dwelling consists of two brick sections and a frame section.

Motion made by Ron Edwards to recommend approval of request for historic designation. Motion was seconded by Patricia Folk. All members of HDC in favor of motion.

HDC-2005-02 "Cherry Hill United Methodist Church": Nancy Simperts stated that the application includes the Church, Parsonage, Church House and Cemetery. Director Sennstrom stated that the church began in 1800, the present structure was erected between 1857 and 1859. The parsonage was built in 1872. The ground for the cemetery was acquired from 1877 to 1879. The church added an organ in 1888 and in 1890 a stained glass window was installed. The Cherry Hill school moved to the rear of the site in 1960. Chairman Ed Cairns stated that the church's history was interesting. Nancy Simperts indicated that the application includes a ½ acre and the cemetery on parcel 213. HDC discussed the setting of the church and cemetery. Patricia Folk inquired if the church is still in use? Nancy Simperts replied in the affirmative and stated that it is on the Maryland inventory of historic places.

Motion made by Patricia Folk to recommend approval of request for historic designation. Motion seconded by Ron Edwards. All members of HDC in favor with exception of Nancy Simperts who abstained.

Old Business: Chairman Ed Cairns stated that the next item of business is the workshop. Ron Edwards queried if that is the correct terminology to use in describing the event. HDC discussed whether it would be more appropriately titled a seminar, forum, workshop, etc. Chairman Ed Cairns stated that seminar is fine. Audrey Edwards indicated 4 suppliers had been contacted, Ross Gibson is thinking about it, Mr. Barchowsky is a mill worker, Elizabeth Mask is a colorist/analyst, Joseph Wey is a timber framer. Cecil Historical Trust will also display. Chairman Ed Cairns stated that publicity is needed. HDC discussed locations for fliers. Director Sennstrom presented a summary of prices received from EZ Print. The sole respondent to our solicitation for quotes to print the HDC brochure. Patricia Folk suggested printing as many as we could afford. Patricia Folk inquired about accoutrements for workshop/seminar. Coffee, doughnut holes, cream & sugar, sign in sheet were agreed upon as necessities. Director Sennstrom will create sign in sheet. Name tags will be provided for HDC members. Chairman Ed Cairns stated that HDC should meet in March to review workshop/seminar. Mike Dixon suggested inclusion of Harford Community College in HDC's efforts. Chairman Ed Cairns will invite to participate. Chairman Ed Cairns summarized brochure from Goucher College.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

Next meeting is 1 March 2005 at 3:00 p.m. in the P&Z conference room.

Respectfully submitted:

Eric S. Sennstrom, AICP
Director – PZP&R

CECIL COUNTY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

5 July 2005

Present: Cairns, Ed & Sally; Dixon, Mike; Edwards, Ron & Audrey; Folk, Patricia; Simperts, Nancy; Sennstrom, Eric

Absent: None

Call to Order: Chairman Ed Cairns called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Nancy Simperts to approve the minutes of the 3 May 2005 meeting, motion seconded by Patricia Folk. All in favor of motion to approve.

Old Business: Director Sennstrom provided the HDC with an update on the status of the informational brochure. The delay in printing is apparently due to the printer not moving forward with alacrity. Chairman Ed Cairns noted that his press release was given to Cheryl Mattix at the Cecil Whig and that a brief summary was printed in Ms. Mattix's column. Chairman Ed Cairns lamented that it took too long for the Whig to respond to his press release. Audrey Edwards suggested that the Cecil Historical Trust would be helpful in getting the word out in a more timely manner in the future. Mike Dixon suggested an article in the new publication known as Cecil Soil. Mike Dixon will forward contact information to Sally Cairns. Chairman Ed Cairns requested that the HDC look at the press release and offer comments for revision. Mike Dixon suggested posting the application on the County's website and on the Historical Society website. Chairman Ed Cairns presented the newsletter from the Helm and said that the Friends of Mt. Harmon will be having their picnic on 17 September 2005. HDC perused the handouts.

New Business: Chairman Ed Cairns stated he had three items to discuss. He received a call from Rich Julian, developer of the Woods at Tome to have Chairman Ed Cairns inspect an old dam structure for historical significance. Chairman Ed Cairns was puzzled by the structure placement and purpose. Rich Julian informed Chairman Ed Cairns that Nick Demond stated that the structure was erected 75 years ago by the fire company as a reservoir for fire fighting. Chairman Ed Cairns stated that in his opinion, there is no historical significance. Audrey Edwards inquired if the Clark family built the dam. Chairman Ed Cairns said it was built by the fire company. The HDC engaged in further discussion of the dam. Sally Cairns stated that it is nice to have a developer be concerned with potentially significant historic resources. Chairman Ed Cairns stated that he was contacted by George Glessner on Colora Road about potentially nominating his property for historic designation. Chairman Ed Cairns reported that the information and forms have been sent. Audrey Edwards conveyed that Mr. Glessner is a nice man who has been contacted previously by the HDC. Chairman Ed Cairns was also contacted by a woman concerned with the development of the Holt farm. Chairman Ed Cairns responded to her by stating only the property owner can nominate for designation. He suggested she contact the developer to ascertain if anything can be done to protect any items of historical note that may be present. Mike Dixon inquired as to whether the lady on Liberty Grove Road has been contacted. Sally Cairns indicated that the information has been sent. Mike Dixon reiterated that the forms should be on the County's website and that the website should be user friendly. Chairman Ed Cairns queried as to whether any nomination forms have been received. Director Sennstrom stated none had been received. Patricia Folk asked what effect would the recent Supreme Court decision regarding eminent domain have on historic preservation efforts? Chairman Ed Cairns summarized the criteria contained in Section 245.18 of the Zoning Ordinance. The ultimate decision will be left to a judge to decide. Ron Edwards stated that PECO was considering putting another power line over their house, they contacted PECO and the power company voluntarily decided not to locate the power line over their house. Audrey Edwards suggested that the HDC should intercede for the original house on Chantilly Golf Course. Patricia folk stated that

brochures and publicity are needed. Audrey Edwards stated that North East has been selected by the American Broadcasting Company to be a typical Maryland town. Nancy Simperts stated that Peoples Bank of Elkton is being demolished and that it should be saved. Mike Dixon interjected that Guenzer's former office is also rumored to be demolished.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

Next Meeting: 6 September 2005, 3:00 p.m., P&Z conference room

Respectfully Submitted:

Eric S. Sennstrom, AICP
Director
Planning, Zoning, Parks & Recreation

CECIL COUNTY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
11 October 2005

Present: Cairns, Ed & Sally; Edwards, Ron & Audrey; Simpers, Nancy; Sennstrom, Eric

Absent: Dixon, Mike; Folk, Patricia

Call to Order: Chairman Ed Cairns called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Nancy Simpers made a motion to approve the July 2005 meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Ron Edwards. All in favor of motion.

New Business: Director Sennstrom presented the application from George & Elizabeth Glessner nominating Barnes Inheritance for designation as a historic structure. The property was originally part of Susquehanna Manor, a 32,000 acre land grant from Lord Baltimore to George Talbot. Susquehanna Manor was intended to create a buffer to the southward encroachment of William Penn's Pennsylvania colony. Susquehanna Manor was subsequently divided into smaller parcels after 1767. James Barnes obtained his Maryland patent in 1793. The property then progressed through different owners until the Glessners purchased it in 1965. The dwelling was built in two parts. The smaller portion was erected sometime between 1793 and 1800. The larger portion was erected sometime near the middle of the 18th century. The house was built from stone found on the property and is an example of the German style known as double pile construction. A three inch thick top coat originally covered the exterior. The mortar was made from sand, horse hair, lime and water. The joists, beams and downstairs floor are white oak, the attic floors are yellow pine. The exterior window sills are made of black walnut. The house has 21 double sash windows, each with six panes. There are also five attic windows and two basement windows. Some of these windows still have the original glass. All of the window sashes are original. The newel post on the interior stairs goes through to the basement and can be tightened with a wedge if it starts to wobble. The old kitchen retained its oak lintel until replaced in 1985. The new kitchen was erected around the well and the hand pump is still present. A letter from Raymond Michael Borland in support of this nomination was read by Director Sennstrom.

Motion was made by Nancy Simpers to recommend that Barnes Inheritance be designated as a historic structure due to the significant exterior features such as the stone work and original windows. Additionally, interior features of note include the newel post and stone walls. Motion was seconded by Audrey Edwards. All in favor of motion to recommend approval of nomination.

The HDC perused the proof of the informational brochure. Sally Cairns indicated that her first name was spelled incorrectly. Chairman Ed Cairns indicated that the return address was located incorrectly. Nancy Simpers suggested moving the photographs on the interior of the brochure down slight bit so that the top photograph is not cut off. The

HDC was pleased with the overall product and stated that they would like to proceed with the printing.

Audrey Edwards discussed a narrative concerning Green Hill. The property's owners may be submitting an application for nomination shortly. Ron Edwards stated that the owners were procrastinating until they completed their renovations. Nancy Simperts stated that she will attempt to have the new owners of the Fair Hill Inn nominate that property for designation.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 1 November 2005, 3:00 p.m., P&Z conference room

Respectfully submitted:

Eric S. Sennstrom, AICP
Director – PZP&R