

MINUTES

TALBOT COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

4 March 2013

I. ROLL CALL

- A. The regular meeting of the Talbot County Historic Preservation Commission was called to order at 3:05 pm on Monday, 4 March 2013. Those members in attendance were Mr. Ward Bucher, Chair; Mrs. Marsha Kacher, Ms. Alice Marie Gravely, Mr. Robert Amdur, Mr. Ron B. Mitchell, Mr. Jacob Laureska and Dr. Dorothy C. Fenwick. Representing the County were Mr. Martin Sokolich and Ms. Florence Ball.

II. CURRENT BUSINESS

- A. REVIEW MINUTES OF 4 February 2013 MEETING – The minutes of the TCHPC meeting on 4 February 2013 were read. Two corrections were noted. A motion was made approve the minutes as corrected, and it was seconded and carried.
- B. PLANS FOR THE TCHPC SOCIAL EVENT – Ms. Alice Marie Gravely confirmed that she can host the event on Sunday 23 June 2013 from 2 to 4 pm. Mr. Ron Mitchell said he will advise the County Council members that the event is being held and solicit their attendance. Ms. Alice Marie Gravely offered to provide the beverages if the other Commissioners will contribute solid refreshments. She also suggested telling invited representatives of organizations that they are welcome to bring literature to distribute to other attendees. Mr. Ron Mitchell said he will contact Richard Tilghman again to confirm his attendance as a speaker. He will also speak to Councilman Dirck Bartlett, Senator Richard Colburn, and Delegates Adelaide Eckardt and Jeannie Haddaway to elicit their interest in attending. Mr. Ward Bucher said he will extend an invitation to Elizabeth Beckley of Preservation Maryland and ask if she would like to speak. Mr. Ron Mitchell said he will ask Dirck Bartlett if he would speak also.

The Commissioners briefly discussed program arrangements. Ms. Alice Marie Gravely suggested keeping the presentations by speakers short to allow invitees time to mingle and engage in conversations with others. Mr. Martin Sokolich will prepare the invitation mailing list and print out the invitations. Mrs. Marsha Kacher volunteered to stuff envelopes at the 6 May TCHPC meeting so the invitations can be sent out six weeks prior to the event. Mr. Ward Bucher said he will contact the Talbot Historic Society and other local historic organizations to see if they would like to send representatives to the event.

- C. PROPOSED TCHPC WEBSITE – Mr. Jacob Laureska said he got some estimates together for setting up and maintaining the website. He found that the cost would be considerably less than he had anticipated when it was discussed at last month's meeting. The Commissioners discussed various details and possibilities for the design and use of the website and felt it would be an enhancement to the mission of TCHPC. They

decided to keep the website's contents simple and basic at the beginning and possibly add more information in the future. The website is to include hyperlinks to related websites. Mr. Jacob Laureska said he could set up the website and maintain it for two years for \$80.74 (\$3.36 a month). He said a domain name can be purchased through godaddy.com for \$8.98 (included in the \$80.74). He provided a list of available URLs from which the Commissioners could choose. Mr. Martin Sokolich said there is currently not enough in the TCHPC budget to pay for the website. The Commissioners took up a collection to pay the \$80.74 cost to allow Mr. Laureska to get started right away.

Motion - Mr. Ron Mitchell moved to adopt "talbotcountyhpc.com" as the URL for the TCHPC website. The motion was seconded and carried.

- D. COUNTY BUDGET HEARINGS – Mr. Martin Sokolich said an agenda was published for budget hearings by the County Council, but TCHPC was not on the list. He advised that if the Commission wants to get on the agenda to let him know.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. SITE VISITS – Mr. Robert Amdur announced that he has arranged to visit Beverly (T-240) on Monday, 11 March at 3 pm. He will try to arrange to visit Rich Neck Manor (T-211) or Webley (T-214) in April.

IV. OPEN FLOOR

- A. OLD BLOOMFIELD (T-175) – Mr. Martin Sokolich said he will talk with Dirck Bartlett to see if he wants to move forward with an Historic District Overlay (HDO) application to add Old Bloomfield to the Talbot County inventory of protected historic properties.
- B. SECTION 106 REVIEW FOR A CONCEALED CELL TOWER - Mr. Martin Sokolich said the Ottery Group is currently in the pre-application process to obtain approval of a concealed cell tower to be hidden in a bell tower. The site proposed for the tower is the small park across from the fire house on Tilghman Island. He said they have done a balloon test and he distributed simulation photos of the site showing how the bell tower might look. The general consensus of the Commissioners was that the design of the bell tower is hideous and does not blend well with the surrounding architecture in the village. Mr. Martin Sokolich said the Ottery is asking TCHPC if they wish to provide comments for the Section 106 review that is required by the federal government.

MOTION – Mr. Ron Mitchell moved that Mr. Martin Sokolich should respond to the inquiry from the Ottery that TCHPC wishes to be consulted for the Section 106 review of the proposed concealed cell tower. Ms. Alice Marie Graveley seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be on Monday, 1 April 2013, at 3:00 pm in Conference Room One of the Talbot County Office Building at 215 Bay Street in Easton.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 4:00 pm.

12 March 2013
Corrected 2 April 2013