

**MINUTES of the February 16, 2021 MEETING of the Commission
(via Zoom)**

**February 17, 2021
Adopted: 3/16/21**

Members Present: Bob Booher, Gail Littlefield, Mimi Styles, David Stopak, and Jeff McCrehan. Jeff McCrehan took minutes.

Approval of Agenda and Adoption of Minutes

1.1 AND 1.2 The proposed agenda was revised by deferring topics 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.4.1, 3.5.2, 3.6.1, and 3.7. Bob will re-circulate the January minutes for approval at the March meeting. Mimi suggested, and it was agreed, that at the end of each HPC meeting, a brief check-in with members regarding who is scheduled to attend the following month's Planning Commission meeting. Also a review of who is attending/monitoring other WG committees would be in order.

Project Review

2.1 Discussion of the building permit application to screen in the front porch at 317 Brown Street, Kathy Evans home. Mimi will prepare the written review including HPC design recommendations.

Old Business:

3.1 Woods Protection Ordinance:

Wendy reported that state guidelines were used, essentially copying direction from the Maryland state archaeologist, and no issues have yet arisen from that approach.

3.2 Racial Equity Committee:

Wendy mentioned a possible internal speaker series, and the presentation of a documentary video on slavery that was produced in upstate New York, to open a dialogue in WG. Wendy also noted that the session in NY included a Q&A period. It was agreed further pursuit of this will not likely happen until at least March 2021.

3.3 Historic landscape resources:

3.3.1 A draft map of historic landscape resources was edited by Bob, and Johanna McCrehan is incorporating the edits prior to the March meeting of the HPC.

3.3.2 Topic deferred; Gail noted she will publish the list of committees that members have volunteered to monitor for HPC related issues.

3.3.3 Topic deferred; Gail mentioned she is onworking, and a next step will be a list of resource types and work actions that would likely be covered by the Public Ways Permits.

3.4 National Register Status:

3.4.1 Publishing in other media – topic deferred.

3.4.3 Wendy and Marida onworking changes to the Town website to improve ease of access to National Register information. Will likely be in the form of four separate PDFs.

3.5 Masterplan update:

3.5.1 No issues discussed – item deferred.

3.6 Joint meeting with PC:

3.6.1 Meeting not yet scheduled. Gail will finalize her letter to Fred Stachura (MAHDC) regarding resources about conservation districts.

3.7 Guidelines: No issues discussed – item deferred.

3.8 Bulletin Material:

Mimi will prepare a bulletin insertion based on the “summary statement of significance” prepared by Robinson & Associates’ in the National Register Nomination form, in response to the NR eligibility criteria. Topics included in the summary are social history, community planning & development, architecture, landscape architecture, etc.

3.9 PC Meeting Report

No HPC rep attended the February Planning Commission meeting, hence the suggestion above that coverage for the subsequent month’s PC meeting be confirmed at each HPC meeting.

Town Council Report

Prior to the meeting, Darrell summarized his report provided via email.

New Business:

4.1 Border Committee:

Bob reported on this committee’s efforts to make the roadways edging the Town feel more included. He discussed the examples of “snake fencing” that would make the wooded areas of Washington Grove Lane and Railroad Street appear more included. Bob will pursue.

4.2 Annual Budget:

The annual budget session starts in March. The HPC is generally requested to provide their proposed budget items before then. Gail has suggested adding funding for the masonry restoration and for any zoning assistance by MAHDC. Bob will circulate last years’ budget for review in anticipation of a discussion.

4.3 Shady Grove Sector Hearing

Gail drafted a letter regarding this issue, and Bob will forward to Mayor Compton, et al.

4.4 Solar Array in Lower Field

David and Bob reported on the discussion to build a solar array in the lower field below the conservation meadow, and other possible additional locations to include inside the nearby cloverleaf.

4.5 Bike Path issue

David recommended the HPC weigh in regarding the location of the proposed bike path that would transit WG. Wendy and David will draft a position paper re: same.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at roughly 9:35 pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 16 at 7:30pm via Zoom.

Jeff McCrehan