

**STAFFORD COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**April 3, 2014**

The meeting of the Stafford County Historical Commission of Thursday, April 3, 2014, was called to order at 3:13 p.m. by Chairman Anita Dodd in the ABC Conference Room of the George L. Gordon, Jr., Government Center.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Anita Dodd, Richard Chichester, Barbara Kirby, Ann Best-Rolls and Ken Pitts

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jane Conner and David Rodriguez

STAFF PRESENT: Kathy Baker and Terry Baxley-Morton

PRESENTATIONS BY THE PUBLIC

NEW BUSINESS

1. Rappahannock River I-95 - Crossing Upgrade.

Mrs. Baker stated she would send a list of concerns.

Mrs. Dodd stated the Commission would submit their other concerns south of Route 17 bridge improvements and addition of lanes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. Oakenwold - Rezoning - Discussion.

Mrs. Baker stated Oakenwold and the airport have a committee working on trying to preserve Oakenwold.

3. Annual Historic Preservation Awards - May 2014 for 2013 - Nominations & Preparation.

Mrs. Dodd stated the only one on the list they had would qualify for what was done in the past year was Ron Christmas, all the others were accumulated work done. She stated they had given awards in the past for accumulated work.

Mr. Chichester stated Silver had been farming their place for more than 100 years. And Billy Shelton takes care of the historical cemetery in Falmouth, and he has not done any more this year then he has before. He stated he was not sure the past year needed to be in the criteria.

Mrs. Dodd stated she did not have a problem for recognizing a body of work, but she could not comment on Little Whim because she was not familiar with what was done there.

Mrs. Baker stated it was based on the owners' maintenance of the property throughout their ownership.

Mrs. Kirby stated it was the interior.

Mrs. Baker stated they did maintain the exterior and the landscaping very well. It has been nicely maintained under their ownership.

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Mrs. Kirby stated it could also be submitted under landscaping because they did quite a bit of that.

Mrs. Dodd stated she would consider them under the preservation award and asked the Committee if they were at a point that they could decide.

Ms. Best-Rolls arrived at 3:29 p.m.

Ms. Baxley-Morton informed Ms. Best-Rolls that Jerrilynn Eby had been nominated before she arrived.

Mr. Chichester asked if she could be nominated today, because she absolutely deserved it.

Mrs. Dodd asked if further discussion was needed on any of the nominees.

Mrs. Dodd stated the nominations include Ron Christmas, Chairman of the 350<sup>th</sup> Committee, for his fundraising and coordination. Silver Farm for being at least a 100 year old farm, James and Bernadette Schwartz for the homeowner preservation award for Little Whim maintenance over the last 15 years and Jerrilynn Eby for the research and books written about Stafford County, and the Falmouth Cemetery Trustees.

Mr. Chichester stated he would not support Little Whim because in his opinion, he did not think 15 years in the county and remodeling the house met the threshold. He stated he would not be offended if it was elected.

Mrs. Dodd stated he was elected by the Planning Commission.

Mrs. Kirby stated Dr. Schwartz served on the Planning Commission.

A brief discussion followed between the Commission members concerning Dr. and Mrs. Schwartz and Little Whim.

Mrs. Dodd stated they were the custodians of the house for 15 years and took care of it and which is a form of preservation. She stated the awards were supposed to recognize individuals that have done preservation work in the county to help preserve the county's cultural heritage. She stated she had no objection to presenting them with an award.

Mrs. Kirby made a motion to request a nomination for General Christmas, the Silver Farm, Dr. Schwartz, Mr. Shelton and the Union Trustees and Jerrilynn Eby for her book.

Mr. Chichester seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5 – 0 (Mrs. Conner and Mr. Rodriguez were absent).

Ms. Best-Rolls stated Crown Trophies has the County Seal in their computer system to put on the plaques.

The Committee had a lengthy discussion concerning the wording on the plaques. It was decided the Commission would use the county seal and the format design should remain the same every year. All plaques would begin with the wording "The Stafford County Historical Commission proudly honors..." The date would be set as the last year even though the award was being presented the current year. It was decided General Ron Christmas, Chairman of the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Blue Ribbon Committee would

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receive the volunteer award for his service. The Silver Family (Silver Ridge Farm, A Virginia Century Farm) would receive the preservation award. James and Bernadette Schwartz would receive the homeowner preservation award for Little Whim. Jerrilynn Eby MacGregor would receive the volunteer award for historical research and education. Falmouth Cemetery Trustees would receive the landscape award for the preservation and maintenance of the Falmouth Cemetery.

Mrs. Baker stated the reception was scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup> and awards would be given out at the meeting, which starts at 7:00 p.m.

### MINUTES

Mrs. Dodd asked if there were any minutes that need approval.

Ms. Baxley-Morton stated no.

### CONTINUATIONS

4. Civil War Database - National Park Service - Monthly Update.

Mrs. Baker stated Eric was working on the project and she would let the Commission know when she received further information.

5. Preservation Planner - Update.

Mrs. Dodd stated it was her understanding there was a request for a position which would include part of the preservation planner position.

Mrs. Baker stated during the Board discussion on Tuesday, they are recommending taking out any new positions that were requested.

Mrs. Dodd asked if that was a recommendation, did that mean it would happen.

Mrs. Baker stated it was never official until they vote but at this point it has been forwarded without any new positions.

6. Falmouth Intersection - Master Interpretive Plan - Update.

Mrs. Baker stated the consultant made a presentation to the Board of Supervisors on March 18<sup>th</sup>. No action was taken primarily because they are concerned about parking issues.

Mrs. Dodd asked if they understood it was just a plan.

Mrs. Baker stated yes, but they did not want to adopt the plan when they knew they wanted to have an additional discussion concerning the parking and transportation issues. It is scheduled to go back on May 6<sup>th</sup> for action.

7. Proposed Ordinance O06-47 - July 18, 2006 - Archaeological Surveys & Investigations - Discussion.

Mrs. Dodd asked if there was any discussion on the preservation ordinance. She stated she and Barbara received a phase 1 copy from Amber, of the archeological survey that was done for the 342 pressure

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zone upgrade, which is a utility line going through Falmouth. A phase 1 was done to see what the impact would be, if any, on the cultural resources they might be going through. They would be going through 4 different ones that were identified. She stated she was not sure about the deadline to make comments and felt the Commission needed to review this. She asked if copies could be sent to the other Commission members and they would only need the first 74 pages. She stated in her opinion, the piece that goes through the water part has been flooded so many times there is a tremendous amount of silt there. The archeological remains are more than likely below where they are going to disturb, but they should have an archeologist on site when they dig.

Mr. Pitts asked if a phase 2 was recommended.

Mrs. Dodd stated the report did not recommend it was necessary, and she would not, but she would recommend an archeologist on site when they dig.

Ms. Baxley-Morton referred back to the historical preservation awards and asked Mrs. Dodd if she wanted to include the Patowomeck Indians on for next year.

Mrs. Dodd stated yes. There was a suggestion that the Patowomeck Indian Tribe be put on as one of the entities that would nominate people.

8. Additional Presentations by the Public - as Determined by Chairperson.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Mrs. Dodd stated she was contacted by the Archeologist for the base and she was looking for the earliest map of Stafford County that showed their property on 610. She stated the only one she was familiar with was the Civil War era map that includes that. She stated there were plat maps of different farms in the area, but she was not aware of any that border 610.

Mrs. Kirby stated she thought there was an 1810 Wood map.

Mrs. Dodd asked if the County had a copy of the 1810 map.

Mrs. Kirby stated she doubted it.

Ms. Baxley-Morton suggested Mrs. Dodd check with Gordon in GIS and/or Jerrilynn.

Mrs. Kirby stated she knew when Amanda and Mary did some work on trying to find earlier maps. She stated there was also the Aquia map and Scott Mayausky has a copy of that in his office.

Mrs. Dodd stated she also had a copy of that.

### **REPORTS BY COMMISSION MEMBERS**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Kirby made a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Pitts seconded the motion.

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The motion passed 5 – 0 (Mrs. Conner and Mr. Rodriguez were absent).

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p. m.