

**CECIL COUNTY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**7 July 2009**

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

**Absent:** Cairns, Sally

**Call to Order:** Chairperson Folk called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Chairperson Folk thanked Ed Cairns for chairing the 5 May 2009 meeting in her absence. Additionally, she thanked the members of the HDC for their commitment to preserving the County's historic heritage. Chairperson Folk reminded the HDC that they needed to work as a team and that they will be using meeting agendas.

**New Business:** Chairperson Folk asked if there were any revisions to the draft fact sheet. No revisions were identified. The HDC will use the fact sheet as worded. The fact sheet will be distribute to various print media as well as the library branches and placed on the County's website. Nancy Simpers volunteered to write an article for publication in magazines such as *Cecil Soil* and *Cecil Connections*. She also volunteered to contact the *Cecil Whig* to see if they would publish an article. Chairperson Folk said she would talk to Denise Davis about placing the fact sheet in the library branches. Nancy Simpers inquired as to the possibility of Cecil County Public Schools offering a social studies segment on the history of Cecil County. Chairperson Folk said she would talk to Superintendent of Schools Henry A. "Dick" Shaffer about this issue.

Nancy Simpers reported that Director Sennstrom and she met with property owners from the Elk Mills community on 1 June 2009 at the Harlan House to see if they would nominate their properties for historic designation. Ms. Simpers said that 10 folks from frame row attended the meeting and were briefed on the nomination process and presented with an overview of the fact sheet. Chairperson Folk inquired as to whether a follow-up meeting will be held to keep the process moving forward. Nancy Simpers responded in the affirmative with a tentative date in early September. Chairperson Folk, Ed Cairns and Nancy Simpers volunteered to participate in the September meeting. Discussion ensued on the community of Elk Mills, the historic significance of the mill worker housing, potential candidates for designation, and historic resources to verify the dates that the dwellings were erected.

Chairperson Folk indicated that the HDC needs to follow-up on obtaining the services of a student intern. Since the HDC never received a response from the history department at the University of Delaware, Mike Dixon suggested that the HDC contact both Dr. Mike Seidel at Washington College and the history program at Harford Community College. Mr. Dixon will provide contact information to Ms. Folk.

Chairperson Folk asked if the HDC would like to meet on a quarterly basis unless an application to designate was received. Motion was made by Nancy Simperts to meet quarterly unless an application for nomination was received. Motion was seconded by Ron Edwards. All members present voted in favor of motion. Motion carried.

Ed Cairns provided a briefing on the efforts of the Comprehensive Plan Citizen Oversight Committee and where the process will be moving in the near term future. He noted that both he and Ms. Folk are members of the Comprehensive Plan Committee.

**Other Business:** Chairperson Folk indicated that it would be beneficial to the HDC to attend events such as the Preservation Maryland Conference and other workshops in an effort to stay informed on preservation techniques and issues. Audrey Edwards noted that useful information can be gleaned at these events if you pick the proper topics and issues. The HDC resolved to keep each other informed on seminars, conferences and other events to stay abreast of the latest preservation matters.

**Adjournment:** Chairperson Folk adjourned the meeting at 3:53 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, 6 October 2009

Respectfully submitted:

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Eric S. Sennstrom, AICP  
Director – Planning & Zoning