

**LAYTONSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
March 16, 2015**

Roll Call:

The regular meeting of the Laytonsville Historic District Commission (HDC) was called to order by Chair Sheree Wenger at 7:37 p.m. Commission Members Jill Ruspi, Lisa Simonetti, Charles Hendricks and Michele Shortley were present. Alternate Joanne Howes was absent.

Attendance: Elizabeth Besteder and Mike Bladen were present..

Minutes:

The minutes from the meeting of February 24, 2015, were approved as presented.

Preliminary Statement by Chair:

The preliminary statement was not read.

New Business:

Chair Wenger shared an article that appeared in the Real Estate section of the Washington Post regarding Laytonsville Preserve. She noted that some of the facts presented were incorrect.

Member Hendricks briefed the Commission on a meeting that he attended in Rockville on February 24, 2015. The meeting was hosted by staff from the Maryland Historical Trust, Montgomery County Planning Department, and the City of Rockville to learn how to apply for tax credits for renovation work. It featured presentations by Melissa Archer of MHT, Historic Preservation Supervisor Scott Whipple and the Montgomery Planning Department. Member Hendricks reported that the county tax credits have increased from 10 percent to 25 percent for exterior repairs of at least \$1000 done by a licensed contractor. The State credit is 20 percent and includes interior work, but an application must be submitted and approved prior to beginning the work. The Commission noted that Historic District residents should be notified of this information. It was also discussed that the State had set aside money for Historic District in designated sustainable communities. There was discussion as to whether the Town was designated as a sustainable community. Secretary Dillingham stated that she would investigate.

Elizabeth Besteder and Mike Bladen of 21412 Laytonsville Road inquired about the process and guidelines to make repairs and improvements to their home. The application and hearing process were explained.

Member Hendricks inquired about replacing a broken basement window in his home. He stated as it is a metal window it is hard to replace in kind. Chair Wenger suggested that he ask Mike Seebold for possible resources to obtain a similar window.

Old Business:

Chair Wenger stated that the pink donation box had been removed from the gas station at 21625 Laytonsville Road.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Member Hendricks made the motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Member Ruspi. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Charlene Dillingham

Clerk, Town of Laytonsville