

LAYTONSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
July 18, 2011

Oath of Office: Mayor Prats gave the oath of office to Chair Sheree Wenger and Member Joann Howes.

Roll Call:

The regular meeting of the Laytonsville Historic District Commission (HDC) was called to order by Chair Sheree Wenger, at 7:36 p.m. Commission Members: Charley Hendricks, Joann Howes, Michele Shortley, Jill Ruspi and Alternate Lisa Simonetti were present. Guests Robin Ziek, Jim Ruspi, Michelle and Larry Halvorson and Colin Headrick were present.

Attendance:

Minutes:

The minutes from the meeting of June 20, 2011, were presented and approved.

Preliminary Statement by Chair:

The preliminary statement was not read.

New Business:

Robin Ziek, Historic Preservation Planner for the City of Rockville attended the meeting and shared the process that Rockville uses for residents to apply to Montgomery County for tax credit on maintenance of properties within the Rockville Historic District. Ms. Zieks brought handouts which provided an overview of the Montgomery County process. She stated that state tax credits are reviewed at the state level and applicants deal directly with the state. The City of Rockville has been working under the county program for 20 years. The City of Rockville Historic District Commission works with the applicant to submit tax credit applications to the county for consideration. The Rockville HDC has the applicant use the Montgomery County application. The program is for properties within the historic district of Rockville and covers exterior alterations only, Credit may be granted for 10% of the repair once approved by the City of Rockville HDC. Ms. Ziek stated that tax credits have to do with maintenance and good stewardship. She commented that new construction was not eligible for tax credit but maintenance was eligible. She also stated that properties that are on the National Register are eligible for Federal and State tax credit for interior and exterior work. She suggested that the Laytonsville HDC apply to the state as a certified local funding program which would help to open up funding to the Town. She also recommended joining Preserve America and supporting the National Trust for Historic Preservation to become eligible for grants and

funding that these programs offer.

Old Business:

Boy Scout Colin Headrick presented his Eagle Scout project to the Commission. The project is to clean up the water tank behind the Town Hall. Colin presented his idea at a Town meeting in 2010 and at the July Town meeting and received permission to proceed but needs to finalize the design with the HDC. Clean up work on the surrounding brush and trees has begun. Colin presented his designs for the tank to the HDC, proposing the town logo on the front with his Boy Scout troop number and Boy Scout fleur de lis logo on the side. After some discussion about colors and transferring the town logo to the tank, it was determined to paint the tank a solid color of green with the troop number and the date. A plaque would be installed next to the tank to tell about its history and why it was saved. Colin will find out what shades of green are available in the bridge paint and he would review them with Michele Shortley.

Larry and Michele Halvorson of 21521 Laytonsville Road came to the meeting seeking feedback on their application number HDWP02-10 for the replacement of their damaged copper gutters. They presented the options of replacing with aluminum gutters which is a tenth of the cost of copper. They also presented the option of using a copper penny material which would look shiny all of its life. There was discussion about the importance of maintaining the original materials versus allowing a less expensive replacement for affordability. Chair Wenger noted that there is conflicting information about whether the house originally had gutters. The Halvorsons agreed to explore options for other types of gutters that would maintain the look but be affordable. Chair Wenger suggested that Mike Seebold may be a good resource. The Halvorson's will submit a new application as the original one is over a year old.

As the meeting was running late, Chair Wenger stated that the discussion on the satellite dishes will be deferred to the August meeting. Chair Wenger reminded members that there would be a hearing in August for new windows in the basement of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church located at 21611 Laytonsville Road.

Motion: County Tax Credits

Member Hendricks made the motion that reflecting on what the HDC learned from Robin Ziek, the HDC will evaluate tax credit applications as Rockville does it. Member Shortley seconded the motion. **Unanimously approved.**

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Member Shortley made the motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Member Hendricks. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Charlene Dillingham

Clerk, Town of Laytonsville