

Kent County Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Summary

The Kent County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) met on Tuesday, November 29, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the County Commissioners' Hearing Room at 400 High Street, Chestertown, Maryland. It was a hybrid meeting, and the following HPC members were in attendance: Jeremy Rothwell, Max Ruehrmund, and Melinda Zupon (remotely). There was not a quorum, and a work session was held. Staff in attendance were Shelley Heller, County Administrator (remotely); Mike Moulds, PE, Director of Public Works (remotely); William Mackey, DPHZ Director; Penelope Young-Carrasquillo, Grants Manager; and Campbell Safian, Planning Specialist.

Jeremy Rothwell called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

GENERAL DISCUSSION / WORK SESSION

Discussion of the current condition and proposed next steps for Turner's Creek Granary:

- Turner's Creek is a popular public landing for boats and kayaks.
- The granary in its current condition, cannot accommodate human occupancy.
- An active use for the granary must be determined to justify the rehabilitation and maintenance costs.
- The granary is suitable for storage purposes, such as kayaks.
- It was recommended that the County create a partnership with a non-profit organization or an educational program that will use the building, such as the Sultana Foundation or the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy.
- Adding signage in and around the granary will inform the public about the granary's historical significance.
- The Department of Public Works are subject-matter experts on how to properly seal the granary, to prevent further damage from weather elements and vandalism.
- Surrounding the granary with a chain link fence would prevent public access.
- Grant funding must be obtained to update the 2009 Granary Engineers Report.
- The Engineers Report will analyze the granary's structural condition and its potential uses.
- Grant applications could be submitted, such as the American Battlefield Protection Program, in an effort to limit the amount of money that the County would expend towards the restoration of the granary.
- Acting Chair inquired about the process for photographs related to permits and inspecting sites.

ADJOURNMENT

Jeremy Rothwell adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Jeremy Rothwell, Acting Chair

Campbell Safian, Planning Specialist