Laytonsville Historic District Commission Meeting Minutes, April 19, 2021

**LAYTONSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

**Videoconference Meeting Minutes**

**Monday April 19, 2021**

**Present:**

Charles Hendricks, Chair

Andy Drouliskos

Michele Halvorson

Susan Phillips

Jill Ruspi

**Absent:**

Michele Shortley, Alternate

**Attendees:**

Mary Burke, Secretary

Jennifer Sizemore

**Opening:**

Chair Hendricks called the meeting to order at 7:36. He noted that a quorum was present.

**New Business:**

The first order of business was to approve the minutes from the February 15, 2021 meeting. Member Ruspi made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Member Halvorson

seconded, and all approved. Next was to approve the minutes from the February 25, 2021 meeting. Member Phillips made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Member Drouliskos seconded, and all approved.

Anticipation of HDC Membership Changes:

* + The terms of four members are expiring mid 2021.
  + Chair Hendricks had asked all four members if they would like to continue. Member Phillips asked for her term to expire due to the demands of her job. Member Halvorson has made a move out of the Town of Laytonsville, but will serve the remainder of her term. Members Ruspi and Drouliskos are happy to continue to serve.
  + Chair Hendricks spoke with Mayor Ruspi about finding new members. They will be Jennifer Sizemore (former HDC Secretary) and Michael McDonald (who resides in the Layton House).
  + The future members, along with Members Hendricks, Ruspi, and Drouliskos, were able to attend training presented by the Maryland Association of Historic District Commissions on the 13th of April.
  + The Town Council is aware of the appointments and will need to approve them in June.

Discussion of Maryland Association of Historic District Commissions Training:

* + Member Ruspi stated that if you were a newcomer, the training was very useful. The training shared examples, which was very important. The second half of the training was more useful to experienced HDC Members. It was worth the amount of money that was charged.
  + Member Drouliskos said that it was more of a lecture to a group and that he would have liked to have had more back and forth conversation. He felt as though he could have read the book to learn what was presented. He was interested in learning more about other towns. Chair Hendricks suggested that perhaps they could attend a Zoom HDC Meeting for Rockville or Gaithersburg.
  + Member Ruspi noted that these towns have more resources because they have a larger town staff.
  + Jennifer Sizemore agreed with what other members said and stated that a lot of what was learned was not applicable to Laytonsville.

Walking Tour of Laytonsville:

* + Leslie Gottert, Executive Director of the Maryland Association of Historic District Commissions, wants to do a walking tour of the town. In anticipation of this walk, Chair Hendricks sent her a copy of *Laytonsville from Crossroads to Community*. In addition, Chair Hendricks recommended the book to all HDC members. Member Phillips shared that the *Sandy Spring Legacy* book includes a section on Laytonsville. She noted it was a great book and that it could be purchased at the Sandy Spring Museum.
  + Chair Hendricks was interested in seeking Ms. Gottert’s input on some of the historic preservation issues that we have in the town (such as a few homes in disrepair or outbuildings left to decay). He would also like her to see the Rolling Ridge House due to its historical significance. The walk is scheduled to take place May 10.

**Old Business:** There was no old business.

**Open Forum:**

21524 Laytonsville Road: Now has a “Contract Pending” sign.

21521 Laytonsville Road**:** Has a “Coming Soon” sign and will be for sale beginning this weekend.

Johnson Lot (P931), south of 21513 Laytonsville Road: The “For Sale” sign has come down. The lot has sold and the land has been surveyed and perk tested.

Tree removal within the historic district:

* + If a homeowner wishes to cut down a tree that is not sick or damaged, a Work Permit is necessary.

**Miscellaneous:** Chair Hendricks stated that the next HDC Meeting will be held May 17, 2021.

Member Halvorson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:37. Member Drouliskos seconded, and all approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Burke