

CLAIBORNE (COMMUNITY) ASSOCIATION MINUTES – March 22, 2009

Attending: Kirke Harper, President; Dan Higgins, Vice-President; Molly Bond, Treasurer; Judy Harrald, Secretary; Jim Richardson and Barbara Reisert At-Large Representatives.

Meeting began at 7:00 at the home of Barbara Reisert
The group recognized the loss of Betsy DesJardins earlier this month.
January minutes were approved as corrected.

OLD BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report: Balance is \$1110.55.
Kirke and Molly will fill out Maryland Tax Form for 2008.

Following Betsy's funeral Pete and Mary withdrew their objection to using the word "community" in our association name. They also said they would ask Barbara Haddaway if she would withdraw her objection. Without changing the Bylaws we could insert the word "Community" back into the name of the Association for informal purposes and keep the name Claiborne Association for formal uses.

Neavitt's request for a post office staffed by USPS employees has not been approved by the US Postal Service. Because of current economic conditions we will not make any requests of the USPS. Our current goal is to avoid the closing of our Post Office.

Dan, Kirke and Rev. John Moore had a meeting with Methodist Eastern District Superintendent, Rev. Bill Sterling. He took photographs of the church and grounds. Soon thereafter some tree work was done. It is hoped that work on the steeple will begin soon. He told Kirke via email that we should work with the Neavitt community and ask if we could meet with the Neavitt board of trustees. He checked with his business manager and advised us that, with the Neavitt Trustees' agreement, in the future we could possibly enter into a lease agreement or buy the church outright. In response to our request for a key to the building, John Moore told Kirke about the need to develop a Safe Church policy before issuing any keys. Any event in the church involving children would require at least 2 adults

The Village Center Board met in March and the planning process is beginning to move forward. Longwood and Bozman have committees and Bozman has started writing their plan. Kirke talked to the county planner and received the name of someone that he could contact about the status of the jetty, County Parks and Recreation representative Rick Toll. Kirke received a map of the land in Claiborne that is in conservancy and has asked about a map that designates what part of Claiborne is owned by Talbot County.

Claiborne Village Center Planning Committee: Jeff Desjardins and Carole Kabler have volunteered to serve on the Planning committee. Need to assign tasks and begin

brainstorming on what some issues might be that should be in the plan, e.g. drainage problems and solutions, failing septic systems, the Jetty, the landing, a gazebo at the landing, interpretive displays, dredging, defining an entrance for Claiborne.

There was a community garden meeting at Will and Lyda's house. Lyda has agreed to organize the garden.

| A proposed memory garden to remember Betsy DesJardins and Alam Todd will find a home in a plot on Bayside Drive owned by Ralph Steinberger. Plants have been donated by someone who caretakes in the area.

| George Zackman contacted Kirke to see if anyone in Claiborne was interested in home delivery of the Washington Post. Kirke will put up a notice for sign-up in the Post Office.

Judy Harrald polled her neighbors on whether they would be willing to cut back on the number of waste collectors that drive through Claiborne... an estimated five different companies do so currently. Judy will call a variety of contractors and ask what they would charge if they were to have sixty houses. (United, BFI, Manning, Waste Management Allied, etc.)

Jim Richardson reported on acquiring and planting trees. He acquired a grant application from the Maryland Forestry Board which will award up to \$1500. Environmental Concern, a local nursery in St. Michaels said they would be happy to sell us trees. Tremendous Maryland can order native trees (\$28 a piece... 5 – 6 feet.)
Jan Kirsh would give us consulting help pro bono.

Upcoming events:

Clean up day April 11 – Abby Cureton will run it through the summer.

Flower garden will be planted April 18th at noon.

April Annual meeting 25th and potluck 5:30 pm

Yard sale May 9th.

Story telling March 29th. John Moore and Buddy Wharton.

Adjourn at 8:20pm.

Submitted by,

Judy Harrald
Secretary, Claiborne Association

