Town of Elkton Elkton Historic District Commission July 26, 2023

PRESENT: Paula Newton, Chair; Christine A. Brimm Hurschman; Mickey Thompson; David Beste, Esq.; Jeanne D. Minner, Director of Planning; Quinn Krenzel, Planner I

ABSENT: None

Ms. Newton called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. and stated that this is a meeting of the Historic District Commission and that a quorum was present. She stated that the Commission operates under the authority granted to it by the Town of Elkton. She further stated that the qualifications of the Commission members are on file with the Town of Elkton. The basis of the decisions of the Commission to be consistent with the Town's Ordinances, they are on file with the Town of Elkton and are hereby made a part of the record of each and every action of the Commission at today's meeting. Each application heard today is considered on its own merits and is not to be considered as establishing a precedent for any other application.

Ms. Newton stated the first item on the agenda is approval of the June 28, 2023 meeting minutes. Ms. Newton asked if the commission had any corrections. There were none. She stated that she had a couple corrections. She then called for a motion.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the minutes of June 28, 2023 subject to the noted corrections. Ms. Newton seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Newton introduced the next item on the agenda, which was the request of Susan Burkholder, applicant for Trinity Episcopal Church at 105 N. Bridge Street.

Request of Susan Burkholder, applicant for Trinity Episcopal Church at 105 N. Bridge Street. The request includes placement of an aluminum fence.

Ms. Burkholder was in attendance to present this request to the board. She stated her name and gave background of the ongoing issues around Trinity Episcopal Church. She explained that there is increased drug use on their property. After conversations with Elkton Police Department, they suggested putting a fence up around the property to protect from trespassers. Ms. Burkholder states they would like to get a fence and no trespassing signs. She says that they have submitted three (3) bids. Ms. Newton clarified where the fence would be going. Ms. Minner clarified that any questions they have regarding the dimensions of the fence and placement on the property can be answered by Chip Bromwell when they apply for the fence permit. Discussion ensued about the public trespassing and that there needs to be no trespassing signs in order to do anything about people trespassing.

MOTION: Motion was made by Ms. Hurschman to approve the request of Susan Burkholder for the placement of an aluminum gated fence. Mr. Thompson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Newton moved on to Old Business.

Old/New Business – Ms. Minner asked about Preservation Maryland coming to the Historic Society with their pop up office. Discussions with the representative involved grant opportunities. Ms. Newton retold her conversation with the representative about trade schools and explained how she thought of some people it could be good for.

Ms. Minner asked if there were any new grants coming up. Ms. Newton mentioned one or two. Ms. Newton brought up that a representative from Maryland General Services came by to visit the log cabin and was very impressed and mentioned that there would be other grant opportunities in relation to that project. Ms. Minner said that she applied to a grant for the Doughboy statue to do a study regarding the grade around the monument but unfortunately was not awarded the money. Discussion of grants carried on for a bit.

Ms. Newton asked about the Howard House and any updates. There were no new updates.

Ms. Minner said that John Downs reached out to Mr. Corddish about the acquisition of the Holly Hall building and explained that Mr. Corddish seems to be in agreement that he'll sign the intent to sell as long as the building is used for a governmental purpose. Mr. Corddish wants to restrict what the building is used for. The grant has been applied for and is just pending signature which could help the project get awarded.

Ms. Newton asked about Planning Department updates and discussion ensued about different projects and land around Elkton.

MOTION: Motion was made by Mr. Thompson to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hurschman. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Quinn Krenzel