

January 30, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission

VIA: Frederick Stachura, HPC Coordinator, Historic Preservation Section

FROM: Daniel Sams, Historic Property Grant Program Administrator
Historic Preservation Section

RE: Historic Property Grant Program Committee
2012 Award Recommendations

On April 8, 2008 the County Council approved CB-003-2008 (DR-2), the legislation enabling the Prince George's County Historic Property Grant Program. The program provides grants to nonprofit organizations or foundations, political subdivisions, and individuals for the purpose of acquiring, preserving, restoring, or rehabilitating historic properties in accordance with the Maryland Annotated Code, Article 28, Sections 5-302 and 5-306. The Planning Board adopted the Program Guidelines on May 8, 2008. Funds for the first year of this program were allocated in the Planning Department's FY 2008 budget and carried over into the FY 2009 budget. In January 2009 the Planning Board awarded \$500,000 to 16 projects. Funds for the second year of this program were allocated in the Planning Department's FY 2009 budget and carried over into the FY 2010 budget. In April 2010 the Planning Board awarded \$500,000 to 15 projects. Funds for the third year of the program were allocated in the Planning Department's FY 2010 and carried over into the FY 2011 budget. In March 2011 the Planning Board awarded \$500,000 to 12 projects.

The program was reauthorized in the FY 2011 budget and carried over into the FY 2012 budget with \$250,000 in available funds. A fourth round of the program was announced in August 2011 and a workshop for potential applicants was held in September. Fourteen applications were received and compiled by Planning Department staff. Requests for 2012 grant funds totaled \$1,069,139. St. Thomas' Church received \$25,000 in emergency grant funds in December 2011 to undertake repairs to the church's bell tower, leaving \$225,000 in available grant funds for the remaining applications.

Historic Property Grant Program Committee Recommendations

In accordance with the program guidelines, a grant committee consisting of five members and two alternates was appointed by the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) Chairman to review applications and provide award recommendations to the HPC. The committee met on January 10, 2012 and on January 25, 2012 to review and rank the applications.

The committee used the selection criteria in the program guidelines to evaluate and rank applications. The committee also recommended that, in the event an award is refused or a contract is terminated, the available funds be reallocated in equal amounts to the top three remaining highest-scoring funded projects, until the funds are exhausted or the projects are fully funded, whichever comes first. Please see Attachment 2 for the committee's detailed recommendations.

Next Steps:

Based on the applications attached to this memorandum in the form of a binder and on the grant committee's recommendations, the Historic Preservation Commission should select the grant recipients for the 2012 round. The HPC's recommendations will be forwarded to the Planning Board for their review and approval.

Attachments: Attachment 1, Letter to the Planning Board Chairman from Henry C. Turner, Jr.
Attachment 2, Table of Grant Committee Award Recommendations
Attachment 3, Description of Recommended Properties and Projects

Enclosure: *Historic Property Grant Program 2012 Applications* binder