

MARYLAND BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION
Worcester County Division Meeting
January 22, 1976

A meeting of the Worcester County Division, Maryland Bicentennial Commission was held at the Worcester County Public Library in Snow Hill, Md., on Thursday, January 22, 1976.

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 p.m. by the chairman, Robert H. Robertson, Jr. The following members were present: Mr. and Mrs. William Phillips, Mr. Strayer Hancock, Mrs. James Leach, Mrs. N. Paul Joyner, Mr. Richard Phillips, Mr. Ron Russell, Mrs. Esther Flory, and Mr. and Mrs. Elmer A. Brittingham.

Since minutes of the last two meetings had been sent to the membership, they were not read.

A Treasurer's Report was given for December 11, 1975 and for January 22, 1976 showing a balance in the checking account of \$180.96. The savings account as of this date shows a balance of \$2650.69.

The chairman reported on the recent meeting at Annapolis, attended by four members of the Worcester County Commission. The book of pictures of some Worcester County historic dwellings by Curtis J. Badger, is now on sale at \$6.25 each. Its sale is a project of the County Commission.

Sketches of a projected Information Center north of the Md./Va. Line were shown. The center shown and sold by Prentiss Howard would cost \$1100.00. The center shown to be constructed by Mr. Bill Brown's students at the Worcester County Vocational School would cost the price of the materials plus 10%. The building would be constructed at the school and moved to the site on Route 13. The chairman was advised by the members present to look into the second source further and report at the next meeting.

The site for the Information Center at this time is planned at the BP filling station about 2 miles north of the Md./Va. Line. The center will be open from May to October and manned by people as volunteers from service clubs in the area. One person will be appointed and paid to assume the responsibilities of running the project. The chairman and several members of the Worcester County Commission should approach the Worcester County Commissioners in the near future regarding their willingness to pay the salary for such a person. A fan or air conditioner may be needed in the center during the summer months. Volunteers will work inside the house, visitors will remain outside the house, sanitary facilities at the BP service station will be available to visitors. Two flag poles will be needed.

Ron Russell asked questions about the brochure he is preparing. Mrs. N. Paul Joyner and Richard Phillips will meet with Mr. Russell at their convenience to make necessary suggestions and bring a report to the next meeting. A decision must be made on the price and the publisher for the brochure.

Mr. Strayer Hancock mentioned the possibility of the Worcester County Bicentennial Commission purchasing the Cowpens Flag for the schools in the county to fly beginning on Maryland Day. These flags are available for the schools at \$14.00 each and the County has 13 schools. This would amount to an outlay of nearly \$200.00. At this time the group recommended that each school have money raising events to purchase their own flag. If any school cannot raise the funds the Commission will consider the case again.

The treasurer asked whether there would be any items on sale for profit at the Information Center? If so should a Maryland Sales Tax number be obtained? At this time the possibility of having sales is not definite. The group intimated that it would be all right to get a number.

It was reported that there would be a Bicentennial Ball at Convention Hall, Ocean City on October 2nd and possibly an "open house" in County tour on October 3rd. Richard Phillips was asked to look into this further and report next meeting. If so the Information Center should remain open through October 3, 1976.

Finances were discussed. 56 Maryland Bicentennial Calendars remain to be sold. The Snow Hill Public Library has some to sell and the treasurer has a number to sell. \$600 of our funds are earmarked for the County History in conjunction with the Worcester County Historical Society. Undefined costs at this time are for the "brochure" and the Information Center. Our treasury shows total money in the neighborhood of \$2850.00.

Other items given consideration at the meeting were:

- 1) the date of separation of Worcester County from Somerset in 1742?
(since the meeting it has been learned from Mrs. Flory that the date was Dec. 10, 1742, bill into legislature, Oct. 20, 1742. This act is framed and hung in the Purnell Museum in Snow Hill - according to Elmer Brittingham.)
- 2) possibility of the Worcester County Flag and a Bicentennial Flag for the schools?
- 3) scheduling for showing in the county - Paul Green play - "We the People."
- 4) a University of Maryland touring show - 30 minutes long. We would have to pay travel expenses and entertain caste over night. This show is available thru May 15, 1976. It was recommended to inform Mrs. William Beach, president Worcester County Historical Society.

No further business, meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Mildred C. Brittingham
Sec.

WORCESTER COUNTY BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

Treasurer's Report
January 22, 1976

Balance in bank 12/11/75-----\$210.23

Receipts:

Calendars sold (31)-----\$62.00 62.00
\$272.23

Disbursements:

Worcester County Messenger (2 wk. ad)-----\$16.00
3 telephone calls & tax-----1.71
Postmaster (stamps)-----1.84
Checking acct. fee-----0.36
Wolk Press (50 calendars)-----65.36
 & shipping)
Pocomoke Public Library - xeroxing minutes-----6.00
\$91.27 91.27

Balance in bank 1/22/76-----\$180.96

Savings Acct. (12/31/75 interest - \$27.31) ---\$2650.69

Mildred C. Brittingham
Mildred C. Brittingham, Sec.-Treas.