

VIRGINIA BEACH HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

April 3, 2019, 5:00 pm

Towne Bank Building, 2101 Parks Avenue, Suite 500

Approved May 1, 2019

Present:

Officers:

Chair, William Gambrell; First Vice-Chair, James Wood;
Second Vice-Chair, Sharon Prescott; Secretary, Bobbie Gribble;
Immediate Past Chair, Bernice Pope

Members:

Glenn Carwell, Jennifer Estes, Sharon Felton, Harriet Frenzel, Jimmy Jordan,
Lee Lockamy, Katie Paulson, Brianna Perez, Mac Rawls

City Council Liaison:

Rosemary Wilson

Staff:

Mark Reed

Public:

Linda Alcox

PURPOSE: The purpose of the Commission is to advise the City Council and the Departments of Planning and Community Development and Museums on all issues related to the preservation of historic buildings, structures and sites located in the City of Virginia Beach.

MISSION: The mission of the Commission shall be to preserve, protect and maintain the historic identity of Virginia Beach and the former Princess Anne County through a program of advocacy and increased public awareness of involvement.

Welcome/Introductions/Remarks – Bill Gambrell

Bill Gambrell welcomed those in attendance.

Approval of March 6, 2019 Minutes – Bobbie Gribble

Mr. Gambrell asked for Commission members to look over the minutes of the March 6 meeting and provide any corrections or additions. Jimmy Wood made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Harriet Frenzel. There was no discussion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Public Meeting, April 10 6:30 – 8:00 – Sharon Prescott

Sharon Prescott noted that the annual Public Meeting would take place at the Convention Center a week from today at 6:30 p.m. She reminded those who volunteered to assist with check in, etc., to come by 5:30. She said help is needed to sign people in, please introduce yourself as a commission member. There will be information to be handed out to those in attendance.

Ms. Prescott noted the agenda for the Public Meeting that is in the packet of meeting information (see Appendix 1). She briefly went over the presentations and noted that time would be tight to get the program completed by 8:00 p.m.

Ms. Prescott noted that the press release went out last week. There will be a paid advertisement in the Beacon tomorrow and on Sunday. If you have Facebook or belong to NextDoor - Mark Reed will get out a blurb to us that you can post.

Historic Preservation Month – Sharon Prescott

Ms. Prescott noted that May will be Historic Preservation Month. She asked members to please use your Social Media to promote Historic Preservation Month.

Ms. Prescott said that Mayor Dyer will issue a Proclamation on May 7 at 6:00 p.m. at the City Council formal session. Please attend if you can.

Ms. Prescott noted that the Pints for Preservation activities are a main part of the Historic Preservation Month celebration. She said we are in the process of developing a promotional poster. Please think of restaurants or businesses that would put them up and help us distribute them when they come in.

Ms. Prescott said that we are partnering with Preservation Virginia and we have three local craft breweries committed as our partners in the initiative. There will be a happy hour event at each of these:

- **Smartmouth Pilot House - May 11, 3 – 6 pm**
- **Deadline Brewing Project - May 16, 6 – 9 pm**
- **Farmhouse Brewing Co - May 23, 4 – 7 pm**

Please come to these events to support the Commission, Preservation Virginia and the Cape Henry Lighthouse. All proceeds will go to the preservation of the lighthouse.

Scavenger Hunt - Student Leaders Committee

Brianna Perez discussed the development of the Scavenger Hunt. It will be done during Spring Break April 13 – 21. Ms. Perez said that there is one middle school and two high schools participating. She noted that some teachers are giving extra credit for participating. They are using various types of technology for advertising and implementing the Scavenger Hunt.

Students that complete the Scavenger Hunt will receive some prizes.

- The Military Aviation Museum donated a 4 pack of visitor passes
- Jungle Golf will give some free passes
- The Aquarium will give passes
- Brianna's ice cream store (Sub Zero) will make a donation

Committee Reports

Cape Henry Historic Site – Mac Rawls

Mac Rawls reported on the Cape Henry Historic Site committee. He noted that the Committee is meeting three times a year. They have not met since their March meeting.

Mr. Rawls asked Mark Reed to report on the progress of construction at the Cape Henry Lighthouse. Mr. Reed said that there is now a Substantial Completion date of April 18th. This means that the majority of construction will be complete and all that will be left is a punch list. He said there is a Ribbon Cutting ceremony scheduled on Saturday, May 4th at 11:00 a.m. He said an invitation is being mailed out to Commission members.

Mr. Reed noted that there is a Section 106 review of proposed demolition of 12 buildings and structures on Ft. Story. The Navy has arranged a tour for the committee to see the buildings that would be impacted. The tour is scheduled for April 29.

Mr. Rawls said that the committee would also like to tour the Cape Henry Train Station and St. Teresa's Chapel. He said there is concern on how these buildings are being maintained.

Historic Recognition – Katie Paulson

Katie Paulson reported for the Historic Recognition committee. She said the Historical Register Review Committee visited 7700 Ocean Front Avenue. She said that they are working on scheduling a committee meeting to evaluate the property for potential listing on the register. The target is to have that accomplished before the next Commission meeting.

Princess Anne County Confederate Statue Roundtable – Jimmy Wood, Sharon Felton

Jimmy Wood reported for the Princess Anne County Confederate Statue Roundtable. He said that he, Sharon Felton, and Councilperson Rosemary Wilson had a meeting with Mayor Dyer. Mr. Wood said that Mayor Dyer has asked that we have another public meeting to present the recommendations. The Mayor's idea was to have a public meeting with a moderator.

Mr. Wood asked the Commission what their opinion is on the public meeting format. He said the next step will be to have a meeting with the Roundtable to discuss public meeting options.

Mr. Gambrell made the point that the Executive Committee felt there is the possibility that this might take us back to square one. Mr. Wood suggested a middle ground, which would be a public meeting format where we present the recommendations then break up into tables with a round table discussion. Mr. Rawls said he liked that idea and suggested using the city's trained facilitators at the tables.

Mr. Wood noted that the people who are most likely to show up will already have a strong opinion on the subject. Mrs. Wilson noted there is an election that will be occurring soon and we want to make sure the issue does not become politicized.

Mr. Rawls said that we need to make sure that people understand they are not making a decision that night, they are providing feedback.

Mr. Wood noted that the option of removing the statue is not on the table. By state code it will stay. He suggested this be stated up front.

Sharon Felton noted that the Mayor was impressed by the composition of the Roundtable group and he had suggested that they serve the Mayor in an advisory capacity going forward. Ms. Felton said she feels it is important for the public to see the members of the Roundtable.

The Commission's consensus is that we have a public meeting with roundtable discussion.

Student Leaders – Brianna Perez

Brianna Perez presented for the Student Leaders committee. She had a written report in the meeting packet (see Appendix 2). She has created a record by month to help the next group that serves in 2019/2020.

For African American Heritage Month, Niaylah Mascall gave a spoken word presentation at Salem High School about the first African American slaves to come to Princess Anne County. Ms. Perez noted that Mark Reed gave the student a lot of good information that helped her develop the presentation.

Project Updates – Mark Reed

Archaeological Assessment Southern Half – Cost Share Grant Application

Mr. Reed said that the grant application for the archaeological assessment project was submitted by the March 15 deadline. The cost share will be 80/20, with the City putting in the 80% (\$36,000) and DHR will put in the 20% (\$9,000). DHR staff would manage the project from procurement to completion. They have limited funding, but DHR has been encouraging about the project. The hope is for a positive response. We should know if the application was successful by the May Commission meeting.

Architectural Survey Projects Southern Half

Mr. Reed said he feels confident that we will be able to get this contracted in the current fiscal year. Mr. Reed met with Councilwoman Henley's History Group to tell them about the project. He noted that they have a wealth of historic knowledge about the southern half of the City. Mrs. Henley said we should go ahead with the project and the history group will work with us.

Mr. Reed said there is a May 1 deadline for purchase requisitions. We have entered a Purchase Requisition in the system, so funds should be encumbered. The Solicitation for Quotes (SFQ) should go out this week. If all works out, we could have a Purchase Order cut by mid-May.

Historic Properties Glimpse – Mark Reed

March Historical Review Board -

Mr. Reed said that there are no items for the Historical Review Board's scheduled April 17th meeting.

Mr. Reed noted that the Masonic Lodge 25 building on Princess Anne Road will be demolished soon. Unfortunately, this 1870s building is not salvageable due to water/moisture damage. Mr. Reed said he got into the Lodge in 2018 and got some pictures of the interior. There wasn't much visible of historic architectural features as it has 1970's paneling throughout. Mr. Reed said he is scheduled to access the building again on Friday, April 5 to look in the attic and take pictures. Mr. Reed said the building has been moved twice, most recently in 1968 to its current location.

- **Old Business**

Mr. Reed gave Lee Lockamy a City of Virginia Beach Tote Bag with thanks for his service on the Historic Preservation Commission.

- **New Business**

Cavalier Hotel Historical Marker Dedication April 4

Mr. Reed noted that there will be a dedication ceremony for a state historical highway marker for the Cavalier Hotel tomorrow, April 4 at 10:30. The Cavalier initiated the application and hired a professional cultural resource firm, Commonwealth Preservation Group, to prepare and submit the paperwork. This will be the 18th marker in Virginia Beach.

Mr. Reed said that Victoria McQuay has resigned as a Student Member. She said she has some issues that prohibited her from attending meetings.

Mr. Reed noted that the FY20 City Manager's Budget came out last week to City Council. The Planning Department/VBHPC submitted a request for \$45,000 for additional funding (\$10,000 for grants; \$20,000 for National Register PIF/Nominations; \$15,000 for archaeological projects). This is not funded in the current budget.

Mr. Reed suggested that since we have not expended all of the money in this year's budget, it is probably best to just let this request fade away. Next year we will spend money on the archaeological assessment, on research grants, and following up on the National Register recommendations from the recent survey. The need will be there down the road in a year or two, when we are ready to proceed with the National Register Nominations

Ms. Prescott noted that we will need volunteers for the Strawberry Festival, which is on Saturday, May 25th. Volunteers are needed 10 - 1 and 1 - 4. Ms. Perez said she will be there.

Lee Lockamy said the Nansemond Indian Tribe has traced their heritage to the American Revolution. They are the first American Indian Tribe to be chartered by the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). The ceremony was held last fall.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m. The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 1, 2019, 5:00 p.m., Towne Bank Building, Suite 500

#preserveVB

“Protect It, Preserve It”

Submitted by: Bobbie Gribble, Secretary

Appendix 1

Virginia Beach Historic Preservation Commission

Public Meeting Program

Wednesday, April 10, 2019 – 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Virginia Beach Convention Center

Welcome and Introductions – Bill Gambrell, VBHPC Chair

- Overview of VBHPC

Award of Distinction for Excellence in Historical Rehabilitation – Bill Gambrell

- 1912 William E. Wood Farmhouse – Sara Wood Hewitt

Architectural Surveys and Archaeological Assessments – Mark Reed, Planning Dept.

- 2018 Architectural Survey Update Northern Half
Laura Purvis, Architectural Historian, Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.

Accomplishments and Highlights in the Past Year – Jimmy Wood, 1st Vice Chair

Virginia Beach History Museums – Anne Miller, Manager

- Thoroughgood House 300th Anniversary

Princess Anne County/Virginia Beach Historical Society – Linda Alcox, Board Member

Research Grant Program and Project Presentation – Mark Reed

- *The Skirmish at James's Plantation*
Chris Pieczynski

Historic Preservation Month May 2019 – Sharon Prescott, 2nd Vice Chair

- Pints for Preservation
- Scavenger Hunt Pilot Program – Brianna Perez

Closing – Bill Gambrell, VBHPC Chair

Virginia Beach Historic Preservation Commission

Annual Public Meeting

Wednesday, April 10, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Draft Agenda

Subject	Presenter	Time Allotted
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Welcome and Introductions	Bill Gambrell	5 minutes
Restoration Project recognition (plaque)	Bill Gambrell	10 minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • William E. Wood Farmhouse 	Sara Wood Hewitt	
Architectural Survey Update Northern Half	Mark Reed Laura Purvis CRA	15 minutes
Projects/Accomplishments/Updates	Jimmy Wood	10 minutes
Historic Houses		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thoroughgood House 300th Anniversary • Francis Land House Renovations 	Anne Miller	10 minutes
Princess Anne County/VB Historical Society	Linda Alcox	15 minutes
Research Grant Program	Mark Reed	15 minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skirmish at James' Plantation – Christopher Pieczynski 		
Historic Preservation Month	Sharon Prescott	10 minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pints for Preservation 		

04/03/2019

Appendix 2

Historic Preservation Commission Student Leaders Committee

Committee Report

March 27th Meeting 2019, 5:00 p.m.
2101 Parks Avenue, Suite 500

Co-Chairs: Brianna Perez
Commission Sponsor: Sharon Felton

1. Discussed Historic Preservation Month
 - a. Updated outline for the Scavenger Hunt
 - b. Decided on scraping the float due to time and resource restraint
 - c. Looked over the fliers and posters (see attached)
 - d. Begun registration with Salem and Green Run High School and Great Neck Middle
 - e. Received prizes from Sub Zero Ice Cream Shop, VB Historical Homes, and the Aquarium
3. African American Heritage Month (February)
 - a. Partnering with Salem High School's African American Male Summit to perform a spoken word based off of slavery in Princess Anne County (performed by Niaylah Mascall) (Please see me after if you would like the recording)
4. Clues and YouTube
 - a. Need to film some members
5. Student Members Transition
 - a. Google Drive, email, eventual calendar created

2019 Scavenger Hunt - Clues

Hello! My name is _____. We are so excited to start the first ever Historic Preservation Commission Scavenger Hunt. You will have a whole week to

search the city of Virginia Beach looking for a QR code at each historical marker. There will be clues along the way, but it will require you to investigate further. Prizes will be awarded to the first one to finish. So, let's get started. Your first clue is to look for a house that will be celebrating its 300th anniversary this year. Be sure to take a picture with the historical marker, and post a picture using #PreserveVB on instagram. Good luck!

Congratulations! You made it to the second clue! Our city is rich in history, and has many hidden gems. For your next clue find the third parish church for Lynnhaven Parish. Don't forget to click on the QR codes for

your next clues, and hurry so you can be the first one!

Thank you for taking the time to explore this great city. We are so excited for you to learn more about the history and fun facts that you may have never known. For example, Virginia Beach holds the record of having the only known person to be tried and convicted of witchcraft in colonial Virginia. This is your chance

to go find out who that person is, and search for their historical marker.
Good Luck!

You are halfway through the scavenger hunt! Congratulations! This next clue will lead you to the first and only African American high school in Princess Anne County/Virginia Beach. Be sure to post your pictures using #PreserveVB to race for the chance to win a prize!

Hi there! Get ready for this next clue. Virginia is known for its colonial history, but did you know that Virginia Beach has its own colonial history as well. Find the next historical marker that is known for a Revolutionary War battle that resulted in the first Patriot death in Virginia. You're almost at the end. Don't give up!

Congratulations! You have finally made it to the last clue! This next clue takes place somewhere George Washington may not have slept there, but he did meet there. Can you find the last clue and win the first ever 2019 Historic Preservation Scavenger Hunt?

You have finished the scavenger hunt! But are you the first? Find out April 22nd. Be sure to check your text

messages or email to know! Thank you for participating in this years Scavenger Hunt. Be sure to continue searching Virginia Beach for its history and beauty. It is important to preserve history, and keep our city alive! Enjoy the rest of your spring break!