

**Virginia Beach Historic Preservation Commission**  
General Meeting Minutes – January 4, 2017  
Convention and Visitors Bureau  
Town Bank Building, 2101 Parks Avenue, Suite 500  
Approved February 1, 2017

**Present:** Bernice Pope, Chair; Mac Rawls, Vice Chair; Katie Paulson, Secretary; Michel Ashe; Dr. Glenn Carwell; Harriet Frenzel; Bill Gambrell; Diane Horsley; James Jordan; Sharon Prescott; James Wood

**Student Member:** Lucas Anderton

**Staff:** Mark Reed; Carolyn Smith

**Council Liaison:** Rosemary Wilson

**Public:** Mariah Pohl (Southside Daily)

Chair Bernice Pope called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

Ms. Pope asked that the Commission review the minutes from the December meeting, which were approved unanimously.

Ms. Horsley presented the slate of officers to be voted on, which were unanimously approved:

- Bill Gambrell as Chair
- James Wood as First Vice Chair
- Sharon Felton as Second Vice Chair
- Katie Paulson as Secretary
- Bernice Pope as Immediate Past Chair

As new First Vice Chair Mr. Wood reviewed the priorities and goals for 2017. These included continuing efforts at the Princess Anne Courthouse and Cape Henry Historic Site, pursuing the establishment of more National Register districts, starting with the Cavalier Shores PIF, expanding the Historical and Cultural District zoning overlays, and increasing Commission presence at public events, such as the Strawberry Festival and Neptune Festival.

Mr. Gambrell asked that Mr. Reed introduce Ms. Frenzel to the Commission. Ms. Frenzel was an original appointee to the Commission and was reappointed for 2017.

The Commission discussed ideas for the public meeting, scheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup> at the Central Library. Ms. Felton presented potential topics for discussion, which include an explanation of the new CLG status and the current efforts of the Commission at the Cape Henry Historic Site.

Ms. Prescott presented a report for the City Owned Buildings Committee. At the committee's last meeting they discussed the need to add sites to the list. They determined that utilitarian structures, such as sheds, are a low priority for the committee, but they will continue to identify these resources. The committee wants to be sure that the GPIN information is included in the inventory for flagging purposes.

Ms. Felton provided an update on the Historic Districts Committee. Oceana HD is on track to be submitted to DHR in February and will go to the State Review Board in June. There is enough money in the budget to move forward with the PIF for Cavalier Shores. Seatack is working closely with Mr. Frankenfield to develop signage for the neighborhood; they are still not interested in pursuing a National Register district. The previously approved new local districts are moving forward with the city attorney.

Dr. Carwell notified the Commission that the ground floor of the Princess Anne Courthouse is now occupied by Emergency Management. The HSR will be completed soon and the Courthouse Historic District nomination contract will be awarded soon.

The Historical Register Review Committee listed 8 additional properties on the Virginia Beach Historical Register in 2016. Ms. Paulson notified the Commission that these properties will be identified in a press release to go out next week. Four of these properties were voted on by the Committee, while the other four were previously listed on the State and/or National Registers and their owners responded to a form allowing them to be included on the local register without further review.

Mr. Reed provided a number of updates on old projects. As mentioned by Ms. Felton the Oceana Historic District is moving forward. Ms. McLane will present the nomination to the Oceana Civic League and the Commission. After the nomination is submitted in February, DHR will coordinate contacting property owners and scheduling the public meeting, which will likely take place in May. If approved, Oceana will be the first residential National Register district in Virginia Beach. Mr. Reed is also in the process of putting together the PIF proposal for Cavalier Shores; this will likely go to bid in February.

Ms. Pope notified the Commission that she has not yet gotten in touch with the attorney for Aldi's about the Willis Wayside building; she will follow up before next meeting.

Mr. Reed reminded the Commission that the Financial Disclosure form is due on January 17<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Reed updated the Commission on the design charrette for the Princess Anne Village development. The new neighborhood will be adjacent to the new Courthouse District and near a local district. Nothing has been submitted to the planning department yet. Ms. Prescott attended the charrette and felt that it's appropriate for the Commission to be concerned that what is put in this location is in keeping with the district.

Ms. Frenzel brought it to the Commission's attention that there is a property on Wishart Road that is about to be developed that may have archaeological potential. Mr. Reed is to check if a site plan has been submitted to the city yet.

Mr. Gambrell asked for "parting remarks" from Commissioners to ensure that all items of interest have been addressed. Ms. Pope shared that she received an invitation for the

Commission from Preservation Virginia to attend the Celebration of the Economics of Preservation on January 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at 501 East Broad Street in Richmond. The final installment of the economic report on preservation will be presented. She asked that Commissioners that are interested in attending let her know so she can RSVP.

Ms. Wilson noted that there are two openings on the Commission. Ms. Wilson suggested asking if Ms. Ross-Hammond would be interested in serving on the Commission to represent the Kempsville area of the city; Ms. Pope volunteered to call.

Mr. Rawls provided two committee reports. The Cape Henry Committee will meet late in January to evaluate their meeting with the US Coast Guard. He noted that Preservation Virginia is interested in the old railway depot to use as a new main entry point to the lighthouse and as a museum. The committee is encouraged by the potential for the new Cape Henry Lighthouse, but it will be two years before any action can be taken due to the on-going renovations.

Mr. Rawls also updated the Commission on the Cavalier Hotel. The committee is meeting with the developers again to find out if they are still on schedule; if so, the hotel will open in April 2017. He noted that this will coincide with the anniversary of the First Landing and suggested that the Commission use it as an opportunity to publicize both events.

The next meeting will be on February 1, 2017 at 5 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 pm.