

VIRGINIA BEACH HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

3/7/18

TOWNE BANK BUILDING
2101 PARKS AVENUE, STE 500

Approved April 4, 2018

Attending: Chair: Bill Gambrell, First Vice-Chair: Jimmy Wood, Second Vice-Chair: Sharon Prescott, Immediate Past Chair: Bernice Pope, Michel Ashe, Sean Diment, Jennifer Estes, Sharon Felton, Diane Horsley, Katie Paulson, Madeleine Penree, Mac Rawls,

Council Liaison: Rosemary Wilson

Staff: Mark Reed, Carolyn Smith

Public: Cheryl Scott, Beth Bettingfield Bangle, Linda Alcox, Steve Alcox

The meeting was opened by Bill Gambrell at 5:00

Sharon Prescott took the notes for Bobbie Gribble, Secretary (who was not present).

Bill noted the Cavalier would have a lighting of the building and grounds and fireworks at 6:00. Due to that event, the presentation on the 2017 year-end report will be postponed until next meeting.

Minutes: A motion was made by Mac Rawls to approve the minutes from the February 7, 2018 general meeting. Jimmy Wood seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Public Meeting in April: Sharon Prescott reviewed the proposed agenda. The Commission had no additions. The Commission voted to approve the agenda. Sharon Prescott, Bobbie Gribble and Diane Horsley will work on the Public Meeting with staff.

Legislative Advocacy Day: Sean Diment and Madeleine Penree both said that it was a unique and enjoyable experience to participate in the Legislative Advocacy Day. They attended along with Councilperson Rosemary Wilson, Commission members Bill Gambrell, Jimmy Wood, Bobbie Gribble, Bernice Pope, and Sharon Felton, Student Leaders Committee member Justin Burns and City staff Mark Reed. There was a meeting with the Governor who expressed his support for Historic Preservation and Tax Credits. The team also attended the Preservation Virginia event at the end of the day. Councilperson Wilson facilitated the meeting with the Governor and many opportunities for the students and Commission members to speak with legislators. Those that attended said the Student Representatives did an excellent job of representing the Commission.

Committee Reports

Cape Henry Lighthouse – Mac Rawls

1. The city has agreed to make a contribution towards transportation at Cape Henry on a shuttle bus to help address base access and security concerns
2. A new advertisement for construction was put out by the City. The bids all exceeded the amount available for construction in the budget. Available funds on hand are \$859,000. The amount bid is \$1.134 million, leaving a gap of over \$200,000.

Cavalier Task Force – Mac Rawls

At the Cavalier Hotel ribbon cutting, Bruce Thompson thanked the Commission for its dedication and involvement. The Commission can be very proud of what was accomplished with this important rehabilitation project.

Princess Anne Confederate Monument – Sharon Felton, Jimmy Wood

Another meeting was held concerning the Princess Anne County Confederate Monument/Statue. There was great input, understanding and a lot of thoughtful discussion. History is being made with this group and this could serve as a model for other communities. The next meeting is scheduled for March 9th at 3:00 p.m. in Building 20-A, the Courthouse Annex.

Student Leaders – Sean Diment, Madeleine Penree

Their latest meeting was held on February 21. The next one is March 14th at 5:00. They have continued working on entries for Clio. For Women's History Month, Sean coordinated with National Honor Society members to do a display board at Ocean Lakes High School. The board highlighted women of note including some from Virginia Beach, such as Meyera Oberndorf.

Project Updates - Mark Reed

Architectural Survey Update – Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. has been hired to do this project. They are teaming with architectural historian Debra McClane, who did the Oceana Historic District nomination for us. This architectural survey is for the northern half of the city.

Cavalier Shores Historic District Nomination – Two proposals have been received. Mark will review them. One of the proposals came in very close to our target budget and one was about 50% above it.

Courthouse Village and Municipal National Register District – This listing has still not appeared on the National Parks Service's weekly register list. Mark is not concerned about the delay as a group of Virginia nominations is still pending. Unfortunately, both DHR and NPS have had staff shortages that have slowed the process. He will keep checking every week.

FY17 Research Grant Projects – All projects from the FY17 grants are close to complete. The Seaview Beach research paper and web site has been complete for some time and all three of the historic marker applications have been sent to the DHR for State Review Board consideration. The Skirmish at Kemps Landing marker will be reviewed at the March 2018 meeting and the other two will be on the June agenda.

FY18 Research Grant Program – The deadline for applications is March 15th. Based upon the inquiries received we are expecting many applicants. There is \$10,000 budgeted for the FY18 grants.

There was no **Old Business**.

New Business

Strawberry Festival – Mark said that the Strawberry Festival needs a committee to coordinate Commission efforts. The Student Leaders Committee has discussed potential activities, such as face painting, nice banner, toys, and 1800s games. Sharon Prescott volunteered to chair the committee. Diane Horsley and citizen Steve Alcox will assist.

Next Meeting April 4, 2018