

VIRGINIA BEACH HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

05/02/18

TOWNE BANK BUILDING
2101 PARKS AVENUE, STE 500
Approved June 6, 2018

Attending: Jimmy Wood (First Vice-Chair), Sharon Prescott (Second Vice-Chair), Bobbie Gribble (Secretary), Bernice Pope (Immediate Past Chair), Diane Horsley, Harriet Frenzel, Sharon Felton, Glenn Carwell, Jennifer Estes, Katie Paulson, Madeleine Penree, Mac Rawls

City Council Liaison: Rosemary Wilson
City Staff: Mark Reed, Carolyn Smith
Community Attendee: Cheryl A. Scott

PURPOSE: The purpose of the Commission is to advise the City Council and the Department 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 and involvement.

The meeting opened at 5:10

Welcome/Introductions and Remarks:

First Vice-Chair Jimmy Wood chaired the meeting and welcomed those in attendance.

Approval of April 4, 2018 Minutes:

The minutes of the April 4, 2018 general meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission were approved unanimously by the members that were present.

Public Meeting - Sharon Prescott

Sharon Prescott thanked the Commission members for their assistance and attendance. She noted that 110 citizens attended the Public Meeting on April 18.

Mark Reed briefly went over the results of the survey that attendees completed. He pointed out that the most points were for the Commission to hold a yearly meeting for the public. He said the Executive Committee will review the survey at their next meeting. Mark noted that he had reworded the questions this year, which seemed to encourage more response. There were 20 respondents.

2018 Strawberry Festival May 26 - Sharon Prescott

Ms. Prescott said that volunteers are needed for set up Friday and for two 1/2 day shifts on Saturday. She passed around a sign-up sheet. She noted that we will have a tent, table and chairs. Sean Diment has designed a banner and Mark will get the banner printed.

There was some additional discuss about the "Protect It, Preserve It, Post It" slogan with no real outcome.

Ms. Prescott said she has talked to Janet with the Strawberry Festival about providing parking passes. Harriet Frenzel mentioned we might ask Patrick McAtamney to volunteer. Bernice Pope said she will reach out to him.

Sean Diment said the student representatives will have colonial games to play with children and they will be doing face painting. Mr. Reed said there will be a give-a-way item, a keychain with a plastic house and a 36 inch tape measure. The house will have VB Historic Preservation Commission printed on it. He said that they will have a history question to answer to earn the prize.

Student Membership Nomination - Sharon Felton

Sharon Felton said that ten (10) students were nominated for the 2018/2019 Student Member positions. Interviews are being scheduled. She noted that the Executive Committee and the student members, Sean Diment and Madeleine Penree, will participate in the interviews for the candidates.

Cape Henry Historic Site - Mac Rawls

Mac Rawls said that the RFP for construction on the Cape Henry Lighthouse is being reposted. The bids are scheduled to be opened on Wednesday, May 16th. Mr. Rawls noted that city staff is still working on providing a shuttle service. Right now it is in a bit of a state of flux while the City is working on satisfying the Federal Government. Currently we are trying to go through the city to get it in the budget. He noted that Preservation Virginia has a different idea of what they want with the shuttle than what the city has proposed.

Princess Anne County Confederate Monument - Sharon Felton

Ms. Felton noted that the next meeting of the PACCSR will be Friday, May 4th at 3:00 p.m. at the old Courthouse Annex building. She said that the members are bringing a lot to the table and the conversation is robust. Ms. Felton recognized Mark for doing a great job of keeping the committee on point and connected. She said each member is taking great responsibility, is being cautious and concerned plus is including the entire community.

Recognition of Historic Buildings - Katie Paulson

Katie Paulson said that there are two new applications to the local register program – 429 26th Street and 318 27th Street. She noted that these two properties are owned by the same person. Ms. Paulson said the committee will perform site visits and review the two properties. There should be something to report next month to the Commission.

Jimmy Jordan said he is checking into partnering with the Hampton Roads Realtors Association for the printing of the revised edition of the 50 Most Historically Significant Houses and Structures in Virginia Beach booklet. Rosemary Wilson said it is always nice to partner with community organizations. Mr. Reed noted that there needs to be a formal request from the Commission and that should probably come from the chair. He said he would work on drafting a letter for Bill Gambrell to review.

Student Leaders - Madeleine Penree

Madeleine Penree said the next meeting of the Student Leaders Committee will be Wednesday, May 16th at 5:00 p.m. She noted they will be going over Clio and the Strawberry Festival.

Ms. Felton, Commission sponsor of the committee, thanked the Commissioners and Councilperson Wilson for their support of the Student Leaders. Rosemary Wilson said she feels the Student Leaders Committee representation is a growth process and the Commission is learning from them.

Project Updates - Mark Reed

Courthouse Village and Municipal Center National Register Historic District - Mr. Reed said the listing for this district is still pending. He is hopeful that recognition will happen in the near future as he has seen that Virginia submittals are being reviewed at this time by the National Park Service. He noted that he has also been watching for another item in Virginia Beach – a boundary increase for the Adam Thoroughgood listing.

FY18 Research Grant Program – Mr. Reed included a handout in the meeting packet with a table for the approved Research Grant awards for FY18. He reviewed these briefly. He noted that the Commission worked with the Planning Department to identify some additional funding for the grants in the current year's historic preservation program appropriation. This year's approved grant awards total \$13,000, which is a 30% increase over the stated program budget. He said this allowed the Commission to make several more awards and to have a more diverse range of projects.

Mr. Reed noted that we currently have the FY16 Grants listed on our website. This includes links to the research papers and pictures of historic signs and markers, etc. He is working on posting FY17 grant projects as they are completed.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business –

Commission Presentation to City Council June 12th

Mr. Reed noted that the Commission will provide a briefing to City Council on the afternoon of Tuesday, June 12. There was some question about the time and Councilperson Wilson said that the workshops usually start at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Reed said that the briefing will include a recommendation from the Commission for the Princess Anne Courthouse Historic Structure Report to be accepted as a general guide to maintenance and repair for the historic building. He said the last Council briefing from the Commission was presented September, 2016.

Ms. Felton noted that she has been working with citizens that have expressed interest for research grant requests in 2019.

Bernice Pope said she was at one of the city budget hearings and heard that there would be a historic component for Burton Station. She said she had been on a Burton Station committee previously and oral histories were done. She wonders what has happened to those videos. Carolyn Smith will ask Mark Shea of the SGA Office to make a presentation to the Commission about Burton Station and the historic component.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.