

Virginia Beach Historic Preservation Commission  
Top Priorities/Goals for 2020 and 2021  
Committee Assignments  
Approved February 12, 2020

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**Identified Priorities/Goals for 2020 and 2021**

**Certified Local Government**

- **Historic Resources Surveys**
  - Complete Phase 2 City-wide Archaeological Assessment (southern half)
  - Complete Phase 2 of Architectural Resources Survey Update (southern half)
  - Update Virginia Beach Historic Resources Inventory and Survey Plan
  
- **Update 1994 Historic Resources Management Plan**
  - Develop scope of work for Strategic Plan Update
  - Apply for DHR FY2021 Cost Share Program grant funds for project
  - Hire professional firm to lead the strategic planning and public input process
  
- **Identify potential for extension of Historic Zoning in multi-property historic districts listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places**
  - Oceana Neighborhood
  - Cavalier Shores
  
- **Update/Establish Design standards and guidelines for Historic and Cultural Districts**
  - Develop scope of work for standards and guidelines project
  - Apply for DHR FY2021 CLG grant funds for project
  - Hire professional firm to lead the guidelines development process
  - Update local Historic Preservation Ordinance to include:
    - Extension of local zoning protection to archaeological resources
    - Inclusion in the Review Board of one or more additional members meeting the professional qualifications standards referred to in 36 CFR 61
    - A provision that specifies the city's requirement for filling review board vacancies to ensure that such vacancies do not remain unfilled for unreasonable periods of time
    - Enforce Attendance Requirements
    - Orientation for members of HPC and HRB
      - Timely submittal of required documents

- **Participate in CLG 4-Year Review**
  - Meet with DHR CLG Coordinator

## **Advocacy**

- **City of Virginia Beach Comprehensive Plan 2021**
  - Provide input regarding historic/cultural resources
    - Develop actionable items
  - Committee: Bill Gambrell, Chair  
Mac Rawls
- **Historic Preservation Planning**
  - **Presentations for City Council**
    - Activities and accomplishments since last updates (June 2018; August 2019)
    - Recommendation on the Confederate Monument
    - Strategic Plan
    - Historic District Standards and Guidelines
  - Committee: Executive Committee
- **Sea Level Rise and Historic Resources**
  - Update, review and correction of the ArcGIS map layer of Architectural Resources after completion of survey update of southern half of the City
  - Update ArcGIS map layer of Archaeological Resources after completion of assessment of southern half of the City
  - Incorporate map layers of historic resources with map layers for projected levels of rise to identify threats to resources
  - Participate in city/regional/state planning initiatives
  - Participate in DHR/PVA mini conference June 2020 in Virginia Beach
  - Develop informational materials and/or workshops for historic property owners
  - Committee: Bobbie Gribble, Chair  
Ian Lichacz  
Bernice Pope  
Bob Magoon
- **Historic Kempsville Master Plan**
  - Interpretive signs in mini park
  - Historic art walk
  - Committee: Executive Committee

➤ **Policies for City-owned Buildings and Sites**

- Develop policy and plan for 302 22<sup>nd</sup> Street – C & P Telephone Building (1927)
- Update spread sheet on City-owned buildings as needed
- Complete development of Administrative Directive covering some of the following issues
  - Acquisition
  - Sale
  - Maintenance
  - Renovation
  - Use
  - Archaeology
  - Recognition
  - Protection
- Committee: Sharon Prescott, Chair  
Tom Nicholas, City of Virginia Beach Public Works Department

➤ **Research Grant Program**

- Continue Research Grant Program and fund interesting and worthwhile projects with FY21 appropriated funds
- Identify research areas that will be priorities for FY21 grants
- Identify subjects for state highway marker funding
- Committee: Executive Committee

➤ **Student Members and Student Leaders Committee**

- Seek ordinance change to establish one member as a Junior that will serve for two years
- Expand student participation beyond the two Student Members
- Engage Students in meaningful projects
  - Entries in the Clio app
  - History Scavenger Hunt
  - Student advocacy for historic preservation in local high schools
  - Legislative Advocacy at the State Capitol
  - Historic Preservation Month
  - Presentation at Annual Public Meeting
- Committee: Caroline Dixon, co-Chair  
Rachel McGraw, co-Chair  
Joseph Bonvie  
Emily Cheng  
Kaleea Korunka  
Hannah Levi  
Mason McCoy  
Blake McCullough  
Caitlin Miklos  
Matthew Nguyen  
Harmony Peura  
Sydni Stock  
Samantha Vega

Sharon Felton, Sponsor  
Bernice Pope  
Christi Lyons

- **Recognition of Excellence in Historic Preservation Projects**
  - Continue to develop a program to recognize excellence in historic preservation in Virginia Beach for completed projects
    - Cape Henry Lighthouse
    - Hickman House – when completed
  - Committee: Executive Committee

## **Preservation of Buildings, Sites, Historic Identity**

- **Historic Preservation Program Structure**
  - Coordinate with the Planning Department, City Attorney and Historical Review Board to investigate benefits of combining the HRB within the HPC
    - Discuss during CLG 4-year review
    - Coordinate with the Preservation Zoning Ordinance items listed above under CLG
  - Investigate revising the Student Member membership to include one junior and one senior. The junior would be appointed for a two-year term and this arrangement would be an aid in continuity for student involvement.
  - Investigate adding a third Student Member
  - Committee: Executive Committee
- **Princess Anne County Confederate Monument**
  - Review, discuss and revise (if needed) recommendations
  - Present Recommendations from HPC to City Council
  - Work to implement recommendations if approved/accepted by City Council
  - Committee: Sharon Felton, co-Chair  
Jimmy Wood, co-Chair  
11 Others
- **Cape Henry Historic Site**
  - Facilitate improvements for base access process and visitor parking
  - Maintain coordination with stakeholders including JEB LC-FS, Preservation Virginia, National Park Service, U.S. Coast Guard and City of Virginia Beach
  - Explore potential for restoration of 1902 Railroad Station
  - Support rehabilitation of St. Teresa's Chapel
  - Work with Preservation Virginia to develop community support
    - Pints for Preservation
    - Establishment of Cape Henry Lighthouse Association
  - Resolve Admiral Comte deGrasse statue issue
  - Support nomination of CH/Fort Story National Register Historic District
  - Potential connection with Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail

- Committee: Mac Rawls, Chair  
Bernice Pope  
Harriet Frenzel  
Chris Pieczynski  
Kym Hall, National Park Service  
Jennifer Hurst Wender, Preservation Virginia  
Adrianna DiMucci, Preservation Virginia  
Cici Budimier, Order of Cape Henry 1607  
Barbara Spradlin, Order of Cape Henry 1607  
Earnest McDonald, JEB LCFS

➤ **Financial Incentives**

- Improve and expand financial incentives available to property owners
  - Review partial tax exemption program
  - Look for program models that reduce tax liability on land for building rehabilitation/preservation
    - Develop proposal for Virginia Beach for tax incentive that includes reduction of tax burden from land value
- Committee: Executive Committee

➤ **Historic Districts**

- Pursue establishment/expansion of Historical and Cultural District zoning overlays
  - First Telephone Building – 302 22<sup>nd</sup> Street
  - Expand Courthouse Historic District to include entirety of the proposed Princess Anne Village property
  - Expand Adam Thoroughgood House Historic District to include entirety of the City-owned property
  - Develop informational solicitation for private National Register property owners to voluntarily seek Historic and Cultural District protections
- Pursue Multiple Property Documentation National Register Nominations
  - 1950s/1960s resort motels
    - Jefferson Manor Motel Apartments
- Pursue Underrepresented Communities Grant for National Register Nomination
  - Seatack
  - L & J Gardens
- Identify other potential National Register historic districts during historic resources survey process and pursue eligibility determination and nominations as appropriate
  - Chesapeake Beach
  - Doyletown
  - Queen City
  - Rural districts/districts in southern part of the city
- Historic District Identification Signs
  - Research Historic District identification signs in other communities

- Develop standards and guidelines for identifying signage for local Historic and Cultural Districts and identifying signage for National Register Historic Districts
    - Develop standards and guidelines for identifying historic areas that do not meet criteria for local, state or national districts
  - Committee: Sharon Felton, Chair  
Lee Lockamy
- **African American Historical Buildings and Sites**
  - Encourage and facilitate preservation of sites associated with African American history
    - Seatack Elementary School
    - Mount Olive Baptist Church
    - Cemeteries
- **Threatened Buildings**
  - Develop list of potentially threatened historic buildings, structures and sites
  - Work with property owners, developers and City staff to ensure positive outcomes for threatened historic buildings, structures and sites
  - Develop and Publicize an Endangered Properties List
  - Committee: Jennifer Estes, Chair  
Mac Rawls  
Bernice Pope  
Christi Lyons

## **Increased Public Awareness and Involvement**

- **Recognition of Historic Buildings**
  - **Virginia Beach Historical Register (VBHR)**
    - Follow up on initiative to get properties profiled in “50 Most Historically Significant Houses and Structures in Virginia Beach” to apply to the VBHR
    - Develop marketing/communications plan to encourage historic property owners to complete and submit applications to the VBHR
    - Identify additional City-owned buildings to be placed on VBHR
  - Committee: Katie Paulson, Chair  
Steve McNaughton  
Lester Fabiszewski  
Christi Lyons
  - **Update 50 Most Significant Houses and Structures publication**
    - List potential additions
    - Research history of potential additions and make selections
    - Initiate draft of revised publication
    - Develop publication strategies
  - Committee: Katie Paulson, Chair

- **Recognition of Community History and Historic Preservation**
  - **State Historical Highway Markers**
    - Encourage development of historical highway markers through the research grant program and other means
    - Seek to produce a historical highway marker for each of the twelve communities identified in the 2017 research paper on African American Communities by Edna Hendrix and Joanne Lucas
  - **City Historical Marker Program**
    - Finalize marker specifications
    - Establish a list of potential markers that represent cultural, historical and geographic diversity
    - City Administration approval; ordinances as required
    - Presentation to City Council
  - **Interpretive Panels/Signs**
    - Review existing informational sign program located on Boardwalk and other locations in the City
    - Research interpretive sign programs in other communities
    - Develop local interpretive panel/sign program
    - Coordinate with Historic Kempsville mini park sign project as appropriate
  - **Diverse Community and Preservation**
    - Support proclamation of African American Heritage Month for February 2020
    - Support proclamation of Native American Heritage Month for November 2020
    - Investigate viability of proclamations for other cultural communities significant to Virginia Beach's history.
    - Seek grants to survey and recognize underrepresented communities
    - Contribute regular articles to the Virginian Pilot/Beacon on local history
  - Committee: Executive Committee
  - **Public Events**
    - Explore potential for Holiday Historic Houses Tour in December 2021 or for a Historic Houses Tour at an alternative time of year
    - Explore partnership with PAC/VB Historical Society
    - Explore partnership with ViBe Creative District
    - Explore Partnership with Council of Garden Clubs
      - Historic Garden Week in Virginia
    - Develop Publicity Committee
  - Committee:
- **Historic Preservation Month**
  - Support proclamation of Historic Preservation Month for May 2020
  - Speaker Series or Lecture
  - Student History Fact of the day/week/month
  - Pints for Preservation

- Committee: Sharon Prescott, Chair  
Bobby Gribble  
Bernice Pope  
Jimmy Wood  
Harriet Frenzel  
Caroline Dixon  
Rachel McGraw
  
- **Public Meeting**
  - Host a Public Meeting in 2020
    - Develop a varied agenda
  - Committee: Mac Rawls, Chair  
Bobbie Gribble  
Harriet Frenzel

02/12/2020