Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)
Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2016

Members Present: Patricia McCambridge (Chair), Venetta Stephens, Sam Leary, George Nicholos, and Edd Conner

Staff/Others Present: Senior Planner Alexis Baker, and Historic Preservation Planning Intern Kimberly Parker

The official meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m. by the Chair.

Ms. Stephens made a motion to accept the November 10, 2016 meeting minutes as written. Mr. Conner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

An update was given on the HPC’s Facebook page. Several topics were discussed for future Facebook posts, including a video tour of Happer House.

The HPC was presented with proofs for the Dismal Swamp Canal Historic Interpretation/Natural Resources Signs. In the future, the HPC would like to see additional signs discussing the economic importance of the Dismal Swamp Canal, how the Albemarle and Chesapeake Canal led to the decline of the Dismal Swamp Canal, and a more in depth sign on the geology of the Swamp.

Mr. Lennie Luke, Parks Planner, with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism will attend the January meeting. The HPC would like to discuss with him several historic properties, maintained by Parks, Recreation and Tourism, including the Chesapeake Arboretum, Superintendent’s House, Gertie’s School and the Portlock Gallery. They would also like to discuss the possibility of a Solar System Trail at the Dismal Swamp Canal Trail and updates to the Tree Walk.

Handouts were given to the HPC on their current bylaws and City code description outlining the HPC’s creation and mission. The HPC would like to recommend possible updates in February.

Ms. McCambridge will work on a letter addressed to the City Manager discussing the HPC’s knowledge base and how they can assist other City departments. This draft letter will be distributed by email to the HPC members for discussion.
With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 7:00 p.m.