



Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) Meeting Minutes July 12, 2018

Members Present: Patti McCambridge (Chair), Thomas Sledge, Venetta Stephens, David Schleeper, and Edd Conner.

Staff/Others Present: Senior Planner Alexis Baker; Assistant City Attorney Meredith Jacobi; HPC Staff Advisors, Park Manager Kevin Kaul and Public Works Project Manager Wayne Mortimer; and guest, Doris Stewart, Bear Quarter historian

The official meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by the Chair.

Mr. Sledge made a motion to approve the June 14, 2018 minutes as written. Ms. Stephens seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The HPC discussed a future Chesapeake Local Register of Historic Places. They would like to utilize the Norfolk County Historical Society (NCHS) book and inventory framework from the 1980s. The NCHS also designed a bronze plaque with a assigned number for each residence on their register. The HPC could expand the program to include residential and commercial buildings. Ms. Jacobi spoke with Mark Reed, the Historic Preservation Planner, in Virginia Beach regarding their local historic register. Mr. Reed shared their application process and design for their plaques and brochures. Listing on the potential Chesapeake Local Register of Historic Places could be a requirement to received local historic grants or tax abatements. The HPC would also like to talk to Virginia Beach on how they funded their plaque program. Nashville, TN and Jacksonville, FL have local registers with the plaque program funded through a nonprofit. The HPC will put together a packet of information to share with the Planning Department director prior to recommending this program to City Council.

Mr. Mike Barber, the Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director, would like to be on the September agenda.

After a discussion on packing materials for the historic photographs, a motion was made:

Ms. Stephens made a motion to use \$73.26 of the HPC's budget to purchase bubble wrap, gum paper, tape and cardboard. Mr. Conner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The photographs will be brought to festivals and events either on a computer or an album with plastic dividers.

The HPC logo needs to be updated. However, Ms. Kemple is not here to discuss this issue. It is tabled until the next meeting.

School education and outreach is on hiatus due to schools being out for the summer. Ms. Kemple continues to update the HPC Facebook page.

Steven Radcliffe with SLR Imagery was able to make a connection with the Chesapeake and Albemarle Railroad. They will assist him with photographing trains on the freight bridges as well as allow him to photograph the Fentress train platform, located behind Great Bridge Cyclery on Fentress Road.

A Section 106 National Historic Preservation Act letter was addressed to the HPC for a telecommunications tower at 359 S. Battlefield Boulevard. Ms. McCambridge will write a letter on behalf of the HPC finding no concerns regarding historic resources due to the location of the tower.

A reporter contacted Ms. McCambridge and Vicki Josue, chair of the South Norfolk Civic League, for a meeting next Tuesday at the South Norfolk Memorial Library. They will be discussing the new street signs for the South Norfolk Local Historic District that will be posted in August.

A new zoning stop work order text amendment was recently approved. The new amendment clarifies that a stop work order can be issued for certain work that does not require a building permit such as work performed in the South Norfolk Local Historic District without a certificate of appropriateness.

Ms. Baker, upon request of Ms. McCambridge, provided by email to the HPC prior to tonight's meeting, a synopsis of policies and studies that the Planning Department uses when reviewing Planning Applications. She stated that it is illegal for local government to make arbitrary decisions on planning applications. The HPC's responsibility is to review Planning applications in terms of historic and cultural resources. While they may comment on other issues as a private citizen, the HPC's purview is historic resources. Planning Staff uses recommendations and expertise from other departments to draft reports for the Planning Commission. For example, Staff contacts Public Works regarding road infrastructure, Public Utilities for utilities, and Schools regarding student level of service.

Ms. Stewart recently wrote a book on Bear Quarter. She shared her book and research with the HPC. She will present her research to the Norfolk County Historical Society in September. She will work with Mr. Schleeper to fill out a sign application to present to the HPC.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.