



**Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)
Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2020**

Members Present: Patti McCambridge (Chair), Melissa Kemple, Venetta Stephens, David Schleeper, and Edd Conner

Staff/Others Present: Senior Planner Alexis Baker; Assistant City Attorney Meredith Jacobi; Parks Planner Ana Elezovic; and HPC Staff Advisor, Parks Manager Kevin Kaul

The official meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m. by the Chair.

Mr. Schleeper made a motion to approve the December 12th meeting minutes as presented. Ms. Stephens seconded the motion. All members present at the November meeting voted yes by voice vote.

The joint meeting with the Historic and Architectural Review Board was held after the regular HPC meeting on November 14th. Planning Director Jaleh Shea and City Council Member Susan Vitale presented the proposed Great Bridge Historic Gateway Overlay District. Ms. Baker discussed potential deadlines for the proposal to go before the Planning Commission and City Council.

A quick update was given about the historic artifact inventory. Ms. McCambridge was able to get a copy of a hand drawn map from the City Attorney's Office.

The HPC discussed a potential local historic register. It could be used as a basis for tax abatement. Ms. Jacobi noted that several partial tax abatement programs for residential and commercial projects exist in Chesapeake, aimed at the South Norfolk Revitalization Area. The HPC would like to start with a local historic register before creating a new tax abatement program based on the local historic register. Ms. McCambridge reviewed several local historic programs in Virginia Beach and San Jose. The Virginia Beach local historic register application can also be used as a model for Chesapeake. Anything individually listed in the National Register or Virginia Landmarks Registries should be part of the local historic register as well as the structures listed in the Chesapeake Fine Arts Commission's "Chesapeake Historic Structures." Additionally, structures in historic districts that are significantly contributing should also be listed. Mr. Conner will explore the structure in Centreville/Fentress National Historic District and Ms. Kemple will explore the Oaklette National Historic District. Before next month, Mr. Schleeper and Ms. McCambridge will further review verbage with the local historic district and speak with a potential City Council sponsor for the local historic district. Ms. McCambridge will also speak to Virginia Beach about who made their plaques and if they have a matrix to review potential candidates for the local historic register.

Ms. Baker reviewed current planning applications. There did not appear to be any significant historic sites that would be affected by the applications.

Ms. Jacobi had no legislative updates.

Ms. Elezovic mentioned that Parks, Recreation and Tourism is proposing the addition of a Historic Services Division in its budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

Mr. Conner talked about the Jolliff Road Civil War Fort. Particularly, he mentioned that extra parking may be placed onsite. Ms. Baker asked if the Virginia Department of Transportation is the process of transferring the property to Chesapeake or if it would be a long term lease. Mr. Kaul did not know yet. A field trip to tour the fort will be held on January 25th at 10 am. Ms. Baker will advertise the field trip.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm.