

STAFFORD COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MINUTES
April 4, 2019

The meeting of the Stafford County Historical Commission of Thursday, April 4, 2019, was called to order at 3:05 P.M. by Jane Conner in the ABC Conference Room of the George L. Gordon, Jr., Government Center.

MEMBERS PRESENT: James Tully, Sue Henderson, Anita Dodd, Jane Conner, David Rodriguez, Ryan Lovell, and Richard Chichester

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Lindsey Marr, Kathy Baker

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Conner called the meeting to order at 3:05 P.M, and asked Mr. Rodriguez to call roll.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Mr. Rodriguez called roll and stated there was a quorum present.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Section 106 Review – Ferry Farm Archaeology

Ms. Baker stated they were just looking for any additional comments the Historical Commission may have regarding the Section 106 review.

The members of the Historical Commission stated they were in concurrence and that they would like to continue receiving updates as the project progresses.

2. Signage at Government Island

The Commission members discussed where the signage concerning the rules and regulations of Government Island should be posted so that it would be more easily seen.

Ms. Baker suggested the Commission members give the Parks and Recreation department their suggestions and recommendations for better historic preservation methods at Government Island.

Ms. Henderson made a motion for the Chairman, Ms. Conner, to draft a letter to Parks and Recreation with the Historic Commission's recommendations.

Mr. Lovell seconded the motion.

The motion passed 7-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. Annual Historic Preservation Awards

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Mr. Chichester discussed his interest in the Historic Commission finding a way to show appreciation to jail inmates who assist with the historical preservation of Stafford County through their community service.

The Commission agreed to invite Glenn Trimmer to their next meeting, so that they could discuss that idea with him.

The Commission voted on the Historic Preservation Award nominations they had received. They voted unanimously (7-0) for the nominations of: Beatte Jensen for Belmont Grounds, John & Cathy Harris for Latham-Beckhin Cemetery, Sherry Cooper & Will Shelton for Staples Cemetery, and Norman Schools & Frank White for Bethlehem Church and Cemetery.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the nomination of Jay Holloway for the Barnes House.

Ms. Dodd stated she felt a project needed to be 100% complete before it could receive a Historic Preservation Award.

Ms. Conner stated she felt the Barnes House was close enough to completion, and the outstanding work that had been done by Mr. Holloway outweighed that the project was not completely finished yet.

After discussing whether or not the Commission could give the Landscaping Award to Mr. Holloway for the exterior wall that was fully completed, the Commission unanimously voted against (0-7) the nomination for the Barnes House. The Commission also voted unanimously against (0-7) the nominations for the Union Church because it was an incomplete project, for Irma Clifton's work on Shelton's Cottage because she had received an award for that in a previous year, and Bill & Cessie Howell because none of the work they were nominated for had been done in 2018.

4. County-owned Cultural Resource Properties

Ms. Baker informed the Historical Commission members that the position of a Cultural Resource Specialist had not been chosen to be included in the Board of Supervisor's 2020 budget.

Ms. Henderson and Ms. Dodd asked Ms. Baker what else they needed to do in order to make the extreme need for that position known to the Board.

Ms. Baker stated the position of a Long-Range Planner had been chosen over a Cultural Resource Specialist because of the way the Board of Supervisors had prioritized their Strategic Plan. She stated they had chosen Downtown Stafford and the Healthy Growth Initiative as two of the items they wanted to focus on in the first year, and to achieve those goals another Long-Range Planner was needed on staff. She told the Historical Commission members to continue being vocal about the Cultural Resource Specialist Position, and to get in contact with the Board Member for their district.

ADDITIONAL PRESENTATIONS BY THE PUBLIC

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

REPORTS BY COMMISSION MEMBERS

Ms. Dodd asked about the status of the Civil War Report. She stated Mr. Mink had told them he would have the finished report to them by April 2019.

Ms. Baker stated she had not heard from Mr. Mink but that she would reach out to him.

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Ms. Dodd asked if there was any way to have information from the Falmouth Master Interpretive Plan App displayed on the television screen in the main lobby of the George L. Gordon Jr. Government Center.

Ms. Baker stated that she would check to see if that was possible.

Ms. Henderson stated she wanted to inform the Commission that the Falmouth Beach area had been accidentally clear cut, which meant there would be nothing to stop the flood waters when the Rappahannock overflows. She stated she was worried for Shelton's Cottage and that she would email Mike Morris to make sure there was a flood plan in place for that structure.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 7, 2019

Ms. Dodd made a motion to approve the minutes from February 7, 2019.

Mr. Lovell seconded the motion.

The motion passed 7-0.

March 7, 2019

Ms. Dodd stated there was a grammatical error on line 56 and that "they" should be changed to "the".

Ms. Henderson made a motion to approve the amended minutes from March 7, 2019.

Mr. Lovell seconded the motion.

The motion passed 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Ms. Conner adjourned the meeting at 4:16 P.M.