

Minutes for Hampton 2019 Commemorative Commission

February 6, 2018 – 4:00 p.m. at Hampton History Museum

Attending: Ann Bane, Adrian Banks, Steve Bond, Terry E. Brown, Jimmy Cerraccio, Luci Cochran, Terri Crickenberger, Billie Einselen, Colita Fairfax, Aaron Firth, Mary Fugere, Larry Gibson, Jimmy Gray, Simeon Green, William Harper, Mike Kuhns, Jonathan McBride, Will Moffett, Synetheia Newby, Glenn Oder, Raymond Tripp, Claude Vann, Audrey Williams, William Wiggins

Excused Absence: Artisia Green, Hugh Harrell, Rob Shuford, William Harper

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Lt. Col. Claude Vann. Roll call was completed. Visitor Adrian Banks was introduced and welcomed to the meeting. Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Co-Chairs Report:

Lt. Col. Claude Vann shared there was a small ceremony at Tucker Cemetery recently and a dedication of the Martin Luther King Bridge. Dr. Wiggins reminded the group that the bridge is also named for Shepard Mallory, Frank Baker and James Townsend. Lt. Col. Vann appreciated many of the commissioners being there at these events. Aberdeen Gardens Historical Association will sponsor prizes for the winners of the essays. Claude Vann has reached out to Vanessa Thaxton-Ward to see if she would be interested in serving on this Commission. Mike Kuhns will be retiring soon and his replacement, Bob McKenna will come on board on March 21.

Dr. Colita Fairfax recently attended the Roundtable with the State Commission. There were seventeen representatives from seventeen higher learning institutions around the state attending. She met briefly with David Rubenstein, a philanthropist. The State Commission is working on inviting former President Obama. Claude Vann shared there was a webinar that was sponsored by the State Commission. The state will use the webinar on an on-going basis as a method of reaching out to people. The Commission then broke into their committee groups.

Education Committee:

The essay contest for the elementary students has been delayed due to the snow. They do have fifteen Art submissions. The high school essays are due May 15. Judges are Will Moffett, Luci Cochran and Audrey Williams.

Commemoration Committee:

Discussion included commemorations that served as a continuation of the Cities United conference. On Friday, a reception will be held at the Commanding General's House. On Saturday activities will include dedication of the Fort Monroe visitor center, activities related to the commemoration, a memorial project, heritage tours throughout the day. Regarding the commemorative ceremony, the committee intends to collaborate and connect through a shared singular vision. The National Park Service is putting together a brochure for January, 2019. They will coordinate this effort with the CVB/Marketing Committee. They hope to have it completed by the end of August, 2018. A spoken word event for the youth will be discussed. Saturday evening's activities will include a culturally-inclusive concert.

Marketing Committee:

They met last week and decided to remove the pole banners and airport sponsorship from their budget due to the high cost. Several Commissioners asked that those items not be removed from the budget, but rather to include all potential opportunities that could be funded if a source is identified. The cost of hiring police officers for the traffic is already in the budget. The CVB clarified that while \$30,000 has been requested from the \$210,000 committed by the city, the CVB has allocated \$110,000 in funds from its existing budget to cover 2019 marketing committee strategies. National Park Service expressed intent to commit \$95,000 to 2019 projects and commemorations.

New Business:

It was suggested that we need a budget document. The document should be divided into headings such as Event, City, NPS, etc. and have an additional column titled "Unbudgeted" which would include items such as the pole banners and airport sponsorship. Please provide your committee updates to Brenda Bailey and she will add them to the Draft Commission report.

A budget that includes sponsorships, needs to be put together between now and the next meeting. Claude Vann, Colita Fairfax and Steve Bond will work on the budget document. The budget is what we need to do for our next meeting. It was suggested that we have another meeting between now and the March meeting. The Commemoration Committee hand-out needs to be added to the Draft Commission report. There needs to be a representative from each committee to meet prior to the March 6 Commission meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

*Submitted by Terri Crickenberger
2/13/18*