

## Minutes for Hampton 2019 Commemorative Commission

May 8, 2018 – 4:00 p.m. at Hampton History Museum

**Attending:** Ann Bane, Steve Bond, Luci Cochran, Terri Crickenberger, Billie Einselen, Colita Fairfax, Aaron Firth, Brittany Foster, Mary Fugere, Bill Harper, Larry Gibson, Simeon Green, Susan Lineberry, Jonathan McBride, Dionne Redding, Vanessa Thaxton-Ward, Claude Vann, Bill Wiggins, Audrey Williams  
Guests: Cassandra Newby-Alexander and William Alexander

**Excused Absence:** Terry E. Brown, Jimmy Gray, Kemi Layeni, Glenn Oder

**Absent:** Ryan Taylor-Fontes, Hugh Harrell, Rob Shuford, Raymond Tripp

Lt. Col. Claude Vann opened the meeting at 4 p.m. Roll call was completed. Motion was made to approve the minutes, with noted corrections. Motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Cassandra Newby-Alexander with Norfolk State University spoke to the Commission about the *1619 Making of America Summit* to be held on September 26-28, 2019 at Norfolk State University. The conference will be held at the Wilder Center, which holds 1500 people. They hope to fill it to capacity. She would like this Commission to participate and help plan the tour on September 28, 2019. Possible tour guides are Bill Harper, Larry Gibson, Audrey Williams and Bill Wiggins. She shared that if the Commission would like to participate, we would be listed as a partner. The Hampton 2019 Commemorative Commission would take ownership of the tour, plan it and seek funding for the tour. It was decided that this Commission would discuss this at a later date and make a decision on participating.

### *Co-Chairs' Report:*

Dr. Colita Fairfax has drafted a press release about the Commission, which will be shared with national organizations, after it has been edited. Brochures and postcards will also be developed, as reflected in the marketing strategy. Please forward your feedback to Colita Fairfax. She shared that in their Executive meeting, they talked about getting a dedicated 1 (800) number for the Commission. There will be an orientation for new Commissioners on May 21. Please add the date to your calendar, so you may participate. Artisia Green has resigned from the Commission due to a variety of issues.

Claude Vann shared that the Ambassador from South Africa recently came to Hampton. It was an opportunity for us to give him exposure to 2019. Claude Vann thanked all who served on the Essay Committee. Thank you to Simeon Green, Billie Einselen and Artisia Green for being judges. The next presentation will be Wednesday, June 6, 2018.

Claude Vann has been talking to Aberdeen Gardens and David Barr, a writer, who would like to do a documentary of Aberdeen Gardens. There is a webinar that the State does regularly to provide state-level 2019 updates. They have asked Fort Monroe to present a film produced for 2019 in the Fort Monroe Theatre. Claude Vann shared that the Tucker Society won a \$100,000 grant for their cemetery. Bill Harper shared the grant will be used to restore and beautify the cemetery. The Tucker Society is planning an event on Friday, August 24, 2018 from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Please add this date to your calendar. More information will be coming out. Another event may take place on August 23, 2018 at Tucker Cemetery. Bill Harper has already spoken with Corporal Gallishaw for special permits. A motion was made and seconded that we save the dates of August 23-24, 2018 for presentations related to the William Tucker Society. Motion carried.

*Commemoration Committee:*

Since the Visitor Center dedication ceremony and the Commemoration ceremony are very similar, they have drafted a suggestion to become one ceremony, which is just a coordination change. Susan Lineberry is taking this suggestion back to the State for their thoughts.

*Marketing Committee:*

Mary Fugere shared that an ad has been placed in the Jazz Festival program in June. Ad space has also been reserved for the Virginia Travel Guide. They are also looking at Virginia Tourism newsletters and banner ads to market 2019. The HCVB will sponsor a traveling 1619 exhibit. Mary Fugere is drafting a Virginia Tourism Corporation Marketing Leverage Grant to supplement the CVB's budget for 2019 advertising. She shared that she needs partners and would like to reach out to the National Park Service, Hampton University, etc. for their participation in the grant.

*Education Committee:*

Colita Fairfax thanked Ann Bane for educating our young people about 1619 and how much she appreciates Ann Bane, who is making the school system aware of our work. Colita Fairfax hopes the Commission will come to the School Board meeting. There are pictures on the website. She also shared the Summer Institute will have one week of a pilot this year and two weeks of a pilot next year. They are still working on the agreements for the stipends. Claude Vann and Colita Fairfax will be speaking with Luci Cochran this month regarding fund raising efforts.

*Old Business:*

Motion was made to submit the proposed budget so Steve Bond may present it to the City Manager. Motion was second. Motion carried.

It was agreed to table the Power Point Presentation draft recommendations. The draft has some edits that were submitted by Dr. Bill Wiggins and Calvin Pearson. Mary Fugere shared that the History portion of the presentation was pulled from the approved 2019 narrative. The picture of Simon Bernard is just a freeze-frame from You-tube and has no relation to 2019. It is the place in the presentation that the video is shown. Mary Fugere is eager to reach out to civic groups. Please review and submit any edits to her.

*New Business:*

Mary Fugere introduced Brittany Foster to the Commission. She is a teacher with Hampton City Schools. She will be our Program Event Coordinator and will be working remotely. Mary Fugere shared that Ryan Downey, HCVB Director of Media & Community Relations and his media team will attend next month's meeting. They will be pitching stories to the media and executing the marketing strategy. Annette Oakley will also be joining us at next month's meeting. She will be taking over 2019 administrative responsibilities that have been handled by Terri Crickenberger, who is retiring.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

*Submitted by Terri Crickenberger  
5/15/18*