

## **VIRGINIA BEACH HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

Planning and Community Development Conference Room, 2875 Sabre Street, Suite 500  
September 7, 2022, 5:00 p.m.  
Approved October 5, 2022

### **Present**

Officers:	Chair, James Wood; First Vice-Chair, Sharon Prescott; Second Vice-Chair, Christi Lyons; Immediate Past Chair, Mac Rawls
Members:	Glenn Carwell, Derek DuBay, Harriet Frenzel, Sharon Felton, Natalie Hubbard, Richard Klobuchar, Becky Livas, Jenna Morris, Tim Oksman
Staff:	Mark Reed, Elizabeth Nowak
Presenters:	Debra McClane
Purpose	The purpose of the Commission is to advise the City Council and the Department of Planning and Community Development and museums on all issues related to the preservation of historic buildings, structures, and sites located in the City of Virginia Beach.
Mission	The mission of the Commission shall be to preserve, protect and maintain the historic identity of Virginia Beach and the former Princess Anne County through a program of advocacy and increased public awareness and involvement.

### **Welcome/Introductions/Remarks**

Chair Jimmy Wood began the meeting at 5:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone back from summer vacation. He noted that the Commission had a full agenda today, but that one planned presentation had been moved. He asked the Commissioners to introduce themselves as the Commission has a new member—Jenna Morris. Mark Reed asked Jenna Morris to briefly introduce herself. Ms. Morris is a junior at Kellam High School.

Mark Reed introduced Debra McClane, who is attending to discuss the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nomination for the Blue Marlin Inn & Suites (AKA Blue Marlin Lodge).

### **Presentation – Blue Marlin Inn & Suites NRHP Nomination – Debra McClane (DM)**

- Acknowledged Kristin Kirchen (KK) as being co-author for MPD
- MPD covered the VB Oceanfront Motels & Hotels 1955-1970; approved by DHR and NPS in 2021
  - KK and DM did some survey work under that project
  - MPD is an umbrella document—helps to streamline nomination process for properties that have a similar history/property type
  - Spans between early family cottages (late 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century) through the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century w/date of first national chain (1970) showed up in the oceanfront of VB

- Strong middle class; more people were traveling with leisure time; private automobile ownership; new roads and bridges; a lot of people were military and had been stationed here
- Post-WWII different clientele—wanting more informal spaces, access with car
- DM compared the old Aolis Motel with the Cavalier Hotel
  - More informal and more modern; this is what MPD covers
  - 1950s/1960s—most of these remained segregated; alot of hotel owners eventually integrated partially because of Civil Rights laws and partially due to economic need to have clients to pay mortgages/bills
- With MPD—required to put forward at least 1 nomination with the MPD
  - Jefferson Manor Motel was first—KK as author (Pacific Ave) - listed in 2021
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> nomination – Crest Kitchenette Motel – KK presented on this to HPC in June
  - Crest Kitchenette and Blue Marlin on Sept. Board of Historic Resources meeting agenda
    - Both designed by William Burton Alderman
- Blue Marlin on east side of Pacific between 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>; Oceanfront area as defined in MDP extends from 40<sup>th</sup> St (Aolis/Oceans II Condos)—south to Rudee Inlet—East is ocean—West is westside of Pacific Ave
  - As oceanfront built out, hotels began to be constructed further inland
- Blue Marlin images—soon after completed (1966—VA Record); built 1965; Dr. John Anderson and his wife
  - Property purchased in 1962
  - Dental office was constructed; eventually became the front office of the hotel;
  - Mrs. Anderson was a Norfolk native; predominately the main hotel operator; family lived on-site during season; lived in Birdneck in off-season
    - Very active in the Innkeepers Association of VB – now Hotel Association
    - Very well known in the local industry/oceanfront
  - 1965: engaged Alderman to design motel
  - Stated that motel was intended as an investment to pay for kids’ education costs
  - Opened in late 1965
  - Each unit had an efficiency like Crest Kitchenette (original section)
  - July was opening of tourist season (short term rentals outside of tourist season)
- Dr. Anderson died in 1968 but Mrs. Anderson kept the motel going through 1971 before selling the property
- Alderman: Williamsburg, VA born; one of the most active designers of motels in the Oceanfront area in the 1950s/60s; no two designs look alike; served in WWII with his twin brother; went to UVA; 1960 opened his own firm here; died in 2012

Rick Klobuchar said that if that’s the Helen Anderson he knew she had a remarkably long period of engagement with the Council of Garden Clubs; Ms. McClane said she was also first chair of the boardwalk art show.

- Noted the major original features (pools; original dental office area; site features like parking)
- Different owners until 1974 when purchased by Robert Winstead and Eugene Wells and owned until 2012

- Changes made to motel: dental office renovated; room became office; former office became guest rooms
  - Added the second floor of guest rooms (10 rooms to 19 rooms) – economic practicality
- DHR asked about the architect of the second floor addition. DM called and asked Mr. Winstead—he didn’t know but said it wouldn’t surprise him as Alderman and Wells were really good friends; seems likely, but not confirmed with receipts
- 2012: Winstead sells to Mr. Shah as Tulsi Hotels; renovation as upgrade to meet current code requirements, but overall design is same
- Review of NRHP Historic Places of eligibility
  - Resort Motel – low rise with exterior access; commerce; built in 1965; mid-century commercial development of oceanfront; development trends—Florida style motel; inclusion of efficiency units (major trend at time); added role of women in this industry with this nomination (Mrs. Anderson); trend in motels—newer owners with immigrant backgrounds
  - Distinctive style of motel; Jefferson and Crest are very exuberant; Blue Marlin is much more typical—nice details, but overall understated; property type is distinguished by scale (low rise); vertical arrangement of rooms; masonry construction – reinforced concrete construction; Architecture: VB architect, Alderman
  - Local level of significance
  - Period of Significance 1965-1977 (after 2<sup>nd</sup> floor added)
    - Discussions with DHR—because less than 50 years, needs to meet exception G; argument that because built to keep property viable as lowrise, it was okay to add to include
- Images showing roof details and qualifying architectural features
  - Folded plate roofs over guest wing/dental office
    - Retained with upper story addition
    - Original gates
    - Details on exposed concrete areas
    - Stacked units
    - Cantilevered stairs
    - On-site parking (retained and distinctive)
    - Adult pool is original; kiddie pool removed for parking
    - Kitchenettes not original but vintage efficiencies remain in historic wing (not all rooms have them)
    - Honeycomb detail above the pool (original)
    - Breezeblock
- 2<sup>nd</sup> building built in 1984; 4 story standalone building (non-contributing element on property); when it reaches 50 years, might be eligible with rest of property; lower level has parking; stacked units; outside unit and ocean view; sign doesn’t survive; Mr. Shah has continued to use Blue Marlin iconography where he can
- Nomination has been submitted to DHR—on Sept. agenda; DM will be attending; if approved, staff forwards to NPS for review and listing
- Lastly: MPD—umbrella document for the historic context, but buildings are ultimately listed individually; these buildings are eligible for the City’s tax abatement program;

eligible for federal and state rehabilitation tax credits; listing does provide eligibility for some funding opportunities

- Looked at 20 motels in the MPD—these are the first 3 to move forward; Alderman designed 7 but these are only 3 surviving; carries a little more weight in relationship to Alderman's career and influence in this area
- Mac Rawls said this is helpful history. Ms. McClane noted that the owner has been very interested and very supportive of designation initiative. He feels ownership.
- Mark Reed asked if the Blue Marlin is the borderline of eligibility of the motels that were surveyed. Ms. McClane responded that it is a little extra because of Alderman. She said they really found that most of those motels were architect designed, which is interesting. She said we look at these now as if they're ubiquitous, but this was radical when they were happening, they replaced the traditional cottages. They were modern and trendy, even the most basic ones have a little something to them. She said the Beach Carousel was an architect-designed building, but we don't know their name. Midcentury modern buildings are very interesting. There is something to be said about those wanting to do the most recent thing in that area.

Mr. Wood thanked Ms. McClane for her presentation.

Note: Derek DuBay joined remotely at 5:21 p.m.

### **Approval of June 1, 2022 Minutes**

Before reviewing the meeting, Mr. Reed said that Derek DuBay had joined remotely. Mr. DuBay said that he was participating virtually due to health reasons from California. Mr. Wood asked the members present to review the minutes of the June 1, 2022 meeting and to provide any recommended changes or corrections. A motion was made by Rick Klobuchar to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Becky Livas. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote of the Commission.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Cape Henry Historic Site**

Mac Rawls reported for the Cape Henry Historic Site committee. He said the committee hasn't met recently. He said there was a significant meeting at Cape Henry and many of the Commission attended. It was on August 7 for Lighthouse Day. Preservation Virginia hosted a special reception on site.

They used it as a platform to announce to public officials the completion of improvements and discussion of upcoming restoration work. Mr. Rawls noted it was a great visit and said the highlight was they opened the new Cape Henry Lighthouse for attendees. Mr. Rawls said Preservation Virginia expressed thanks to the Commission and Mark Reed for our assistance with the improvements that had been completed at the site.

Mr. Rawls said they are planning to hold a committee meeting in October. Meetings are held quarterly. Members of this group include the National Park Service, Preservation Virginia, the Order of Cape Henry, and Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek /Fort Story.

### **Threatened Buildings and Sites**

Mr. Rawls reported for the Threatened Buildings and Sites committee. He said they took a field trip to visit some of the hunt clubs and Munden Store. They also visited Pleasant Ridge School.

Mr. Rawls said the Horn Point Club is very endangered. It is owned by heirs or relatives of the Eastman-Kodak Corporation. They are not currently interested in registration of the property. He said we had contacted them, and Tim Oksman helped facilitate contact with their lawyer in New York about restoration. We did not receive a positive response.

Mr. Rawls said they drove by the Drum Point Club and had lunch at Monk's Place, which was formerly a hunt club. The owner of Pocahontas Hunt Club unfortunately had to cancel due to a scheduling conflict.

Mr. Wood asked if there was any sense of owner reticence for the group to visit. Mr. Rawls said he didn't think so. The property is very low so there may be issues related to that.

Mr. Klobuchar said Munden Store is being held together by termites holding hands. Tim Oksman asked if there was any conversation with Jim Salmons. Mr. Rawls responded there had not been. Sharon Prescott said she thinks he might just be waiting for it to fall down.

### **Public Meeting**

Christi Lyons reported for the Public Meeting committee. She said it will be held in the Central Library auditorium on Wednesday, November 9 from 6:00 until 7:30 p.m. There will be presentations on the Oceanfront Resort Motels MPD and on the L & J Gardens National Register nomination. There will be reports on the Commission's activities and by the Student Leaders Committee (SLC) and other updates. She said Mark Reed will be sharing information and Jimmy Wood will be MC.

Ms. Lyons said that as people are filing in we will have some interactive trivia questions like at a movie theatre on Virginia Beach history. She asked everyone to mark their calendars and noted that it is the day after election day. She said we will invite all the families of the SLC members.

### **Student Leaders Committee**

Natalie Hubbard reported for the Student Leaders Committee. She said that interviews were conducted over the summer. There are 13 members this year, a few returning from last year. They will hold their first meeting on September 14. Ms. Hubbard noted that they will be working on new CLIO entries, the public meeting, and the scavenger hunt. They will be brainstorming other ideas.

### **Project Updates**

Mark Reed and Elizabeth Nowak provided updates on various projects that are underway.

Mr. Reed announced that the L & J Gardens Neighborhood Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on August 30. He congratulated the Commission on the accomplishment. He reminded the members that they were awarded an Underrepresented

Communities grant from the National Park Service to partially fund the nomination. He noted that the Commission received a great presentation on the district in June.

Becky Livas asked where the public can view this. How can I share? Mr. Reed asked if she was referring to the nomination. Ms. Livas said the news about the listing.

Mr. Reed said the City will issue a press release, but they need National Park Service approval because of grant. He said Stacy Parker is working on an article for the Virginian-Pilot. He noted that the release will be on the City website. The nomination is on the Commission's webpage and was on the state's website.

Sharon Felton asked if the neighborhood meets the criteria to be listed in CLIO. Mr. Reed responded affirmatively and said it doesn't need to be listed in the National Register for that. Ms. Felton said CLIO is good to share.

Ms. Prescott announced that Burton Station is holding a Burton Station reunion on Saturday. It will be at Burton Station Road and Toliver Street. She said they still want their park and some other improvements. It will be a gathering of people who had lived there. She said there are maybe 4 or 5 homes still occupied. It is the largest collection of vacant land, although some development has happened. She said it is surprising there hasn't been more with the recent infrastructure improvements.

Mr. Reed provided Ms. Morris with a quick summary of the significance of the L & J Gardens neighborhood.

Mr. Reed said we have several other National Register nominations in process. He noted that the Blue Marlin and the Crest Kitchenette are on the Board of Historic Resources September 15 agenda. He said the Board approves listing in the Virginia Landmarks Register. The State Review Board reviews and recommends forwarding to the National Park Service.

For the Seatack Historic District, Mr. Reed said the draft nomination has been under review by the National Park Service since July 12. This nomination is also funded by the Underrepresented Communities' grant. Due to the grant requirements, the National Park Service reviews before it goes to the state boards. He said the L & J Gardens nomination was returned in one day. Mr. Reed noted that it is getting close to making it so we can't get this item on the December quarterly meeting agenda. He said he will continue to follow up on this.

Mr. Reed said that Debra McClane is actively working on completing the Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District nomination. She has provided a draft nomination to staff, which has been reviewed and comments have been given back to her. The Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) staff has reviewed and returned comments on Ms. McClane's VCRIS forms. There still needs to be mapping completed. Once the mapping is together, the nomination should be ready to be forwarded to DHR. Mr. Reed said the Woodhurst nomination may be able to make the December meeting, but deadlines for that are imminent.

Mr. Reed provided a quick overview of these resources and their significance for Ms. Morris.

Mr. Reed said that we have two nominations moving forward that are under contract. He said the Preliminary Information Forms (PIF) for these were determined eligible by the State Review Board in March 2021. The nominations are funded in the current fiscal year.

Mr. Reed noted that the Newsome Farm Cemetery nomination kicks off on Monday and Elizabeth Nowak is managing that project. He said the cemetery is all that survives from the earlier Newsome Farm development from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century

Mr. Reed said that the Chesapeake Beach Historic District nomination is getting underway, and they are scheduled for the October Civic League meeting. He noted that it is a post-World War I bayfront community near the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel. He said Debra McClane is contracted on both of these and noted she has also subcontracted with Edna Hendrix for the Newsome Farm Cemetery project.

Mr. Reed said there are a couple of PIF projects in progress. The Pleasant Ridge School will be heard by the State Review Board on September 15.

Mr. Reed noted that the Gun and Hunt Clubs MPD and the accompanying Pocahontas Hunt Club is under contract with Debra McClane. He said he expects the kickoff meeting will take place later in September.

Mr. Reed said we have also been working on some archaeology. He noted that there has been an assessment underway at Pleasant Ridge School and we expect we will have some archaeological information to accompany the nomination to provide information for Criterion D eligibility. He said that the James River Institute for Archaeology (JRIA) is doing the work there. They have completed the Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) and identified about a dozen unmarked burials. They also identified some areas that might have artifacts.

Based on the GPR they just did ground-truthing of areas of interest instead of shovel tests. There was nothing large found, such as foundations, but they did find some melted glass. The Pleasant Ridge School had been moved to the site in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century after a previous school building had burned. The melted glass and some charcoal that was uncovered provide likely substantiation of a previous building fire. The main thing to note is that the site is relatively undisturbed. On the site they generally found topsoil, a layer of fill, an old layer of topsoil, and then undisturbed soil beneath. The trenches were pretty shallow.

Mr. Reed said a couple other archaeological projects might be coming up. One is the Kempsville Canal kayak launch. We have received a proposal from JRIA for this project. He said he has forwarded the proposal to Public Works with a request to have it funded within the scope of that project. He is waiting on a response.

Mr. Reed said that the City did a geotechnical report for the site in advance of the construction project. The archaeologist had the benefit of that information when developing their proposal. There is a lot of fill on the site. He said they would approach it first with augers down to 6 feet to

see what soil types they encounter. With all the fill, this may not be a high priority if another department can't fund it.

Mr. Reed said the other potential project is at Estates Court. The parcel has been divided into two lots. It is located on the Lynnhaven River before Long Creek. The owner of one lot will allow the City to do an archaeological assessment. DHR doesn't think it has funding left in its threatened sites fund. We will work with them to try to figure out how to make it happen.

Mr. Reed said we have been given an October 1 to December 31 window by the new owner to do the work. He said there was a late 19<sup>th</sup>-century building on the property that was demolished in 2018, but we are more interested in the likely presence of prehistoric features. There are other sites in vicinity that have been positive for prehistoric artifacts. There are 3 just to the east that were determined to be Woodland period camps. One of those also had late-17<sup>th</sup>/early -18<sup>th</sup> century artifacts. The Keeling House is not too far away, either. Mr. Reed said it would seem to be a better choice to investigate over the Kempsville Canal project.

Dr. Carwell departed at 6:00.

### **FY23 Budget Approval**

Mark Reed discussed the Commission's approval of the expenditure areas for the current year's budget (Appendix 1). He noted that we have an appropriation of \$89,158, which is the amount we have had for several years. Within that amount, approximately \$26,000 has already been spoken for – Chesapeake Beach Historic District and Newsome Farm Cemetery nominations.

Mr. Reed said we ask the Commission to approve the budget as we get into the new fiscal year, so we have a formal record of that approval. He said he is open for discussion about the numbers or areas of targeted funding.

Mr. Wood asked if there was any discussion. He said at this point, he would entertain a motion to approve. Ms. Prescott made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Mr. Rawls seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion to approved passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Reed noted that all of this is in one object code, which gives us flexibility on how the funds are spent. If we decide at a later date we need more funding for archaeology, then it can be adjusted. Mr. Klobuchar said he wanted to see how the \$158 is spent. Mr. Reed said it is for small items, like plaques.

### **African American Cemeteries**

Mr. Wood asked Tim Oksman to start the discussion on African American cemeteries with the Newsome Farm Cemetery. Mr. Oksman said as a new member he first learned of this at a presentation to this Commission about a year ago. He said he went and visited and was overcome by the spirituality of the place. He said it is relatively small, less than an acre. It is adjacent to a cul-de-sac in a modest residential neighborhood. The people who are buried there – it is an African American cemetery – the graves date from late 19<sup>th</sup> century, likely formerly enslaved people, through the 1990s. He said when you read the stones, it is striking how many of these people wanted to be remembered for their service in the armed services.

Mr. Oksman said the cemetery is abandoned of unknown ownership. He said maintenance has been difficult and currently the neighborhood has been maintaining it but has indicated that they can't maintain it forever. He noted that he thinks landscaping is needed, fencing, some shrubs, and paths with appropriate markings. He said it cries out to be improved. He thinks it could be done at modest costs if that is the desired outcome.

Mr. Oksman asked, "How is that accomplished?" He said one answer would be through action by the City. He said the City could assume responsibility for it and maintain it thereafter. He has identified a State statute, Section 57-36, that authorizes localities to acquire abandoned cemeteries. This would require a City Council decision. The desired outcome would be to have a process that would result in a proposal to City Council to benefit the cemetery and the city as a whole by way of that. Mr. Oksman said that he presented this to the Executive Committee, and they asked me to bring it forward here.

Mr. Reed said the first thing we would want to do is develop a conservation or preservation plan for the cemetery and you would work from that. He said there are a lot of concerns when you go in and do landscaping or other site improvements or repair of markers. The plan is a typical process that would outline all the steps to move forward and could help identify costs. He said that he thinks the timing is good to put in a request for funds at a service level 3 for a plan to be developed for the cemetery. That would be the starting point.

Mr. Reed said we could work very closely with DHR. They have created a new position of cemetery archaeologist. That person is there to provide expertise for historic cemeteries. The City may be open to the acquisition, planning for its preservation, and maintaining it. He said it is likely that the civic league may not be able to maintain it. They did a big cleanup in April and a smaller cleanup later. He said it wasn't trash as much as it was so much leaf litter, gum balls and limbs. Mr. Reed said our efforts to recognize the cemetery has helped promote the civic league taking pride in the cemetery. They had a Memorial Day Service at the cemetery that Mr. Reed attended.

Mr. Reed then discussed the availability of Maintenance Grants for historic African American cemeteries. He said that recently, Virginia has provided some maintenance funds specifically for historic African American cemeteries owned by non-profits. As of July 1, 2022, localities and municipalities are now eligible to apply for these maintenance funds. As part of this new legislation, date of qualification of burials has been revised to prior to January 1, 1948. He said that burials do not require a marker to qualify for funds, but some documentation is required. The maintenance funding is \$5 per burial.

Mr. Reed said that DHR has recommended applying for the maintenance funding for those that we can identify and that qualify. He said that we can include cemeteries at Newsome Farm and at Pleasant Ridge School. He noted that Edna Hendrix has started compiling information on other historic African American cemeteries. Mr. Reed said the more difficult thing might be the process of doling out money, getting paperwork in order, and coordinating across various stakeholders.

Mr. Reed said he spoke with Joanna Wilson Green at DHR and she said there is other funding out there for preservation/conservation planning or for repairs of markers, but she recommended applying for the maintenance grant first to get a foot in the door and then we could seek other funding.

Harriet Frenzel said that maintaining the cemeteries could be a good Eagle Scout project. Mr. Reed noted that the main issue with cleanup and maintenance is not to cause any damage.

Mr. Klobuchar said other alternatives could be the Beautification Commission, which has an adopt-a-spot program. The Beautification Commission might be interested in the historic significance for their clean up areas. He said the Council of Garden Clubs might also be interested. Ms. Frenzel suggested speaking to John Moss since he is active with scouts.

Mr. Wood said from the Historic Preservation Commission he see three things: 1) send a letter to Council before or in tandem with conservation plan to encourage Council to acquire ownership per a motion; 2) we should pursue funding for preservation plan/conservation plan and pass something tonight to say we want to pursue via the City budget; 3) we should pass a motion to approve seeking maintenance grants.

Mr. Klobuchar made a motion to submit a letter to City Council to encourage them to acquire ownership of the Newsome Farm cemetery. Mr. Oksman seconded the motion

Becky Livas asked why Newsome Farm is the focus of the Commission. Is it to get the others involved? Is that the oldest burial place in the city? What is so significant about it? Mr. Wood said because it is an abandoned historical cemetery. Sharon Prescott noted that it has some United States Colored Troops markers in it. Ms. Livas said when you start with one, it will have to spread out. Ms. Frenzel noted that there is a strong association with churches for many of the others.

Mr. Reed said that Historic Preservation Commission and Staff identify historic resources in our locality, and we work to preserve/recognize them. In the 2018 survey, several neighborhoods were looked at including more than a dozen historically African American neighborhoods. Newsome Farm was one of these and there isn't a lot of the historic neighborhood left, but the cemetery remains and needed more investigation to determine its level of significance. We chose to do more investigation through the PIF process, which provided research to compare it to other cemeteries. It is generally more difficult for cemeteries and churches to be listed in the National Register than other resources. Newsome Farm has been determined to be eligible for listing. The focus is because of it having that determination of eligibility. Moving forward with the maintenance grants we will be able to include other cemeteries.

Mr. Oksman said this could be the first step in the right direction and the right precedent. Ms. Prescott asked if in the letter will we discuss getting funding through the State. Mr. Wood said the letter is to get the ownership. Mr. Reed said he thinks it would be good to mention the potential availability of State funding.

There was no additional discussion. The motion to send a letter to Council was approved unanimously.

Jimmy Wood then asked if there was a motion to request Service Level 3 funding for a preservation plan for the Newsome Farm cemetery and to seek maintenance grant funds. Mr. Oksman made the motion. Ms. Lyons seconded the motion.

Mr. Klobuchar asked who will make that plan. Mr. Reed said that there are professional firms that specialize in cemetery conservation. He said he received a copy of plan that was done by such a firm for the cemetery at the Lynnhaven House. Ms. Prescott said there has been a PIF completed on this. A lot of work has already been done. Mr. Reed said at some point we will likely want to perform Ground Penetrating Radar on the site to look to confirm unmarked burials.

There was no additional discussion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

### **Historic Properties Glimpse**

Elizabeth Nowak provided the glimpse of upcoming issues with historic properties. She said that the Historical Review Board (HRB) will be holding a special meeting tomorrow morning at 10:00 a.m. to continue review of a proposal to install security fencing at the Judicial Center that was deferred in August. Ms. Nowak noted the judges have asked for the fencing around three parking lots. The proposal was for an 8-foot tall black metal fence with solid metal panels between/behind the pickets. The HRB asked about using brick instead. The response was it isn't as secure and would need to be constructed taller. The HRB also asked about having a different color panel behind the pickets to provide some articulation for the fence. That alternative is what is presented in the revised proposal from Public Works.

Ms. Nowak noted that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Historical Review Board is September 21. She said there are several items that could potentially be heard.

- Carraway House sign – this was done without prior approval. The sign is made out of wood pallets.
- Village Shoppes sign in Francis Land House district – the applicant wants to change their site sign to be a directory sign. It would be the approximate size of the sign it would replace.
- Life Saving Station Tower Deck/Railing Replacement – the tower decking has been deemed structurally unsafe. The applicant proposes to replace most of the wood structure with galvanized steel. It is unknown how the current deck is attached and they would need to do a more invasive procedure to try to figure that out. The metal frame and railings would be painted white. They will use wood decking boards and non-structural wood brackets, so it will look no different from the ground level.
- Buildings 18 and 18A in Courthouse District – proposed roof repairs and related repairs and replacement to other materials. None of the work is visible from the ground and any replacement of materials that is not in-kind is thought to be acceptable.

### Old Business

Mr. Reed said today is the deadline for saying if you plan to attend the Preservation Virginia Awards Ceremony on September 23. He went around the table to ask members if they planned to attend. He said he will now ask the department to approve payment for the tickets.

Ms. Prescott asked if more details are to follow. Mr. Reed said he expected they would. He noted that we will drive ourselves and he will send out a list of who is going for those that might want to carpool.

Ms. Morris left at 7:00 p.m.

### New Business

Mr. Reed said we have some decisions to make about the Virginia Beach local historical marker design. He said this will be the most interactive part of the meeting today. He showed a slide of the marker design that the state had approved several years ago. He noted that the company that makes the Virginia state markers has contracts with 40 states. The Executive Committee has identified three marker templates for consideration today. Mr. Reed showed a slide of the Georgia, Maryland and North Carolina marker models (see Appendix 2). He said each would allow for the City Seal to be done as in the approved marker design. He said the state just doesn't want a local marker to look like theirs.

The Commission first voted on the marker style. The Maryland marker style was selected.

Style	Round 1	Round 2
GA	1	X
MD	7	8
NC	3	3

The next vote was on the marker background and letter colors. The dark blue background with gold lettering was selected.

Color (Background/Letters)	Round 1	Round 2
Dark Blue/Gold	6	8
Black/Gold	0	
Brown/Ivory	4	3
Medium Green/Gold		

Mr. Reed shared information about the Virginia 250 Commission. He said it came to him from a third party, but he thought it is pertinent to share the information. He said the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the American Revolution is coming up and the state has appointed a Commission. They are encouraging each locality to form a 250 Committee and to pass a resolution to support the Committee. The state is promising grant opportunities and technical support. He said we should think about how to provide information and recommendation to Council about this.

Ms. Prescott made a motion to send a letter to City Council to recommend establishment of a Virginia 250 Committee for Virginia Beach. Mr. Klobuchar seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Reed said that Native American Heritage Month is coming up in November. He asked the Commission if they wanted to sponsor a proclamation. If so, he will work with Lee Lockamy on that.

Sharon Felton made a motion for the Commission to sponsor a proclamation for Native American Heritage Month. Ms. Lyons seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Wood said the next Commission meeting will be on Wednesday, October 5, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. He adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

## Appendix 1

### FY23 City of Virginia Beach Budget Planning and Community Development Historic Preservation Program

Non-Personnel Operating Budget – 100.204.1110.605520  
\$89,158

Total –

Appropriation	Requested
Training for Historic Preservation Commission and Historical Review Board	\$ 1,500
Historic Markers and Signage for Historic Districts	\$ 8,000
Public meetings	\$ 2,000
Research Grant Program	\$ 12,500
Historic Preservation Month Promotions and Activities	\$ 5,000
Miscellaneous small purchases, such as plaques	\$ 158
Professional Services	
• PIFs/Nominations for National Register of Historic Places	\$ 45,000
○ Pleasant Ridge School	
○ Newsome Farm Cemetery	
○ Southern Virginia Beach	
○ Underrepresented Communities Initiatives	
○ Recent Past Initiatives	
• Scientific investigations – archaeology, dendrochronology, paint color analysis	\$ 15,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 89,158</b>

## Appendix 2



New Business

Local Historical Marker



Georgia



Maryland



North Carolina

New Business

Local Historical Marker