



COUNTY OF PRINCE WILLIAM

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HISTORICAL COMMISSION

B R I E F

Development Services Building
Conference Rooms 202 A & B

May 13, 2008
Regular Meeting

In Attendance

Chairman Duley, Commissioners Burgess, Culp, Cunard, Frank,
Hawkins, MacDonald, Olson, Stickley, Van Derlaske

John Lassiter – Staff Liaison; Heather Hembrey - Public Works Liaison;
Toni Brzyski - Commission Secretary

Jerry MacDonald – Citizens/Guests

7:35 PM

Citizens' Time

No citizens spoke.

RES 08-020

Approve April 8, 2008 Meeting Brief and Resolutions as Amended - APPROVED - MOTION CARRIED [VOTING RECORD: Motion Cunard, Burgess; Approved by acclamation; Absent from vote None; Absent from meeting Anderson, Smith, Swavely, Yankey]

Chairman's Time

William Grayson's Tomb and Belle Air Site – Chairman Duley reported on a letter from Lucy Baker-Dickey indicating Ms. Baker-Dickey is giving up on her project regarding this site.

Resolution – On behalf of Ms. Duley, staff distributed a draft resolution for the Historical Commission to urge the Board of County Supervisors to designate May 2008 as Historic Preservation Month in Prince William County.

Compliments – Ms. Duley commented favorably on the Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre site and all the work that's been done there.

Vice Chairman's Time

No report

Staff Time – Planning

Workshop – Toni Brzyski distributed copies of information made available at the Boards, Committees and Commissions Workshop held on Saturday, May 3, 2008.

Storage for Publications – John Lassiter reported there is a problem regarding space to continue storing the Commission's publications.

**Staff Time –
Planning
(continued)**

Seminar – Mr. Lassiter reported there is an opportunity for the County to host a symposium, in the fall, for the Northern Virginia area with VDHR providing the training.

Presentation – Commissioner Cunard requested copies of the presentation Mr. Lassiter provided at the April meeting on suggested additions to the County Registered Historic Sites list.

**Staff Time –
Public Works**

Storm Damage – Heather Hembrey reported on damage at the Historic Sites from the recent storms:

Rippon Lodge – Trees fell and destroyed much of the gardens; some water in the house and the basement.

Brentsville – Power out and damage to the trails.

Bristoe Station – Damage to the trails.

Ben Lomond – Basement flooded.

Events – Ms. Hembrey reported the county historic sites are now open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

Move – Ms. Hembrey reported the Historic Preservation Division expects to be relocated to Williams Ordinary by the end of June.

Staffing – Ms. Hembrey reported Delain's old position has been reclassified as a Management Analyst and will be advertised in the near future.

King's Highway Update - Ms. Hembrey reported a dedication ceremony is scheduled for June 14 for the new markers for the King's Highway located at the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

Martin Scarlett Grave Stones - Ms. Hembrey reported repair work has been completed on the stones which are housed at Rippon.

Old Business

Election of Officers – A ballot was distributed and the votes were counted. Betty Duley was elected as Chairman. There was a tie for Vice Chairman between Jim Burgess and Dave Swavely. A second vote for Vice Chairman will be held at the June meeting.

Cemeteries – Commissioner Cunard requested an update on the erosion problems at the Syncox/King cemetery in Montclair. John Lassiter will provide an email update of the situation.

**Budget and
Audit Committee**

Budget Update – Copies of the Historical Commission’s FY-08 Budget – Month 10 thru April 30, 2008, were distributed and Commissioner Cunard noted there was approximately \$5,800 in the use or lose category. Ms. Cunard suggested there would be additional funds available in the stipends category, the \$140 for the archaeology program which won’t be spent and the \$300 in the photocopy line.

**Publications
Committee**

Marker Guide – The resolution reserving \$4000 for publishing the marker guide is insufficient as the quote from the print shop is \$4400.

RES 08-021

Agree to add \$400 to the \$4000 already in reserve to cover the cost of publishing 5000 copies of the updated Prince William County Historical Marker Guide - APPROVED – MOTION CARRIED
[VOTING RECORD: Motion Cunard, Burgess; Approved by acclamation; Absent from vote None; Absent from meeting Anderson, Smith, Swavely, Yankey]

Donation – Commissioner Burgess read a note from former member Becky Cumins asking the Commission to donate or make available at cost 30 copies of “Battle of Young’s Branch, or Manassas Plain” to give to wounded soldiers as part of a tour by the non-profit Yellow Ribbon Tours organization.

RES 08-022

Agree to donate 30 copies of “Battle of Young’s Branch, or Manassas Plain” to Yellow Ribbon Tours - APPROVED – MOTION CARRIED
[VOTING RECORD: Motion Burgess, Hawkins; Approved by acclamation; Absent from vote None; Absent from meeting Anderson, Smith, Swavely, Yankey]

**Disbursements
Committee**

Funding Requests – Members reviewed and discussed Commissioner Stickley’s report outlining various requests for funding.

RES 08-023

Agree to allocate \$6000 as follows: \$1500 to RELIC for restoration work on the “Map of Prince William County, Virginia, 1901”; \$2500 to the Historic Preservation Division for restoration work on the Ben Lomond Slave Quarters and \$2000 to the Historic Preservation Division for reproduction of a Prince William Cavalry flag for use at Brentsville - APPROVED – MOTION CARRIED
[VOTING RECORD: Motion Burgess, Hawkins; Approved by acclamation; Absent from vote None; Absent from meeting Anderson, Smith, Swavely, Yankey]

**Legislative
Committee**

Update – Commissioner Cunard remarked on the memo from Dana Fenton, with the SB766 attachment, included in the agenda package. Commissioner Van Derlaske asked about getting the Virginia General Assembly minutes from the meetings when SB766 was discussed. Mr. Lassiter will check on availability.

Comprehensive Plan – Ms. Cunard requested another review of the Cultural Resources Chapter as this chapter was not accepted as edited. Additionally, Ms. Cunard requested an opportunity to review the Housing and Land Use Chapters before they go to the Planning Commission.

Land Development Application Reviews

Manassas Business Park – Commissioner Burgess provided an update on this rezoning case.

RES 08-024

Phase I Archeological Study Recommendations – **APPROVED – MOTION CARRIED** [VOTING RECORD: Motion Cunard, Burgess; Approved by acclamation; Absent from vote None; Absent from meeting Anderson, Smith, Swavely, Yankey]

Brentsville Trust

Update – Commissioner Cunard reported the Trust was unable to conduct business at its meeting on April 9, 2008 as there was no quorum. However, Ben Thompson provided copies of a letter from the Friends giving their 180 days notice terminating their participation in the Memorandum of Understanding which governs the operation of the Trust for the Brentsville Courthouse historic site.

Meeting – Ms. Cunard reported the next meeting of the Trust is scheduled for Wednesday, July 9, 2008 at 1:30 PM in the One Room School at the site.

New Business

Commendation – Chairman Duley passed on a request from previous member Ron Turner to provide a plaque for transportation employees who worked on a cemetery restoration. Mr. Lassiter was given the details.

Journey Through Hallowed Ground – Commissioner Van Derlaske distributed a handout providing details about, and a map of, the Journey Through Hallowed Ground project. Mr. Van Derlaske reported on the meeting he attended about the project noting that it's a very complicated process and that although considerable work has been completed there is a great deal more work to be done to make the project a success.

Resolution – Members discussed the draft resolution urging the Board of County Supervisors to designate May 2008 as Historic Preservation Month in Prince William County.

RES 08-025

To urge the Board of County Supervisors to designate May 2008 as Historic Preservation Month in Prince William County, Virginia, and we join our fellow citizens in recognizing and participating in this special observance - APPROVED – MOTION CARRIED [VOTING RECORD: Motion Burgess, Hawkins; Approved by acclamation; Absent from vote None; Absent from meeting Anderson, Smith, Swavely, Yankey]

Announcements

Woodyard Cemetery – Commissioner Olson reported on the restoration of this cemetery at the Bull Run Marina and mentioned there will be a rededication ceremony on June 8th.

Quantico Primitive Baptist Cemetery – Mr. Olson reported a new scout project at this site (Joplin and Aden Roads) is moving forward.

Whitehall Presbyterian Cemetery – Mr. Olson requested assistance establishing ownership of this cemetery.

Cemetery Committee – Chairman Duley appointed Commissioner Olson to Chair the Cemetery Committee.

Cannon Batteries – Mr. Olson expressed some concern about this site (Cardinal Ridge Road @ Occoquan Club Drive) which the property owner had agreed not to disturb; but now the property is for sale. Mr. Olson also mentioned there is a cemetery in the area.

Adjournment

9:38 PM