



COUNTY OF PRINCE WILLIAM

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HISTORICAL COMMISSION

B R I E F

Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre
Courthouse

September 8, 2009
Regular Meeting

In Attendance

Chairman Van Derlaske, Commissioners Anderson, Burgess, Cavossa arrived @ 8:03 PM, Culp, Duley, Frank, MacDonald, Olson, Smith, Stickley, Swavely, Wright, Yankey

John Lassiter – Staff Liaison; Don Wilson – Library Liaison; Rob Orrison – Site Manager; Toni Brzyski - Commission Secretary

Morgan Breeden, Jerry MacDonald – Citizens/Guests

7:35 PM

Citizens' Time

No citizens spoke.

RES 09-052

Approve August 11, 2009 Meeting Brief and Resolutions as Presented
- **APPROVED - MOTION CARRIED** [VOTING RECORD: Motion , Swavely, Duley; Ayes-by acclamation; Nays-None; Absent from vote Cavossa; Absent from meeting Cunard, Hawkins]

Chairman's Time

Thanks – Chairman Van Derlaske thanked Rob Orrison, Brentsville Site Manager, and Morgan Breeden, Citizen Volunteer, for their work at Brentsville and for making the Commission welcome.

Training – Chairman Van Derlaske reported he's working with the County Attorney regarding training on legal matters such as the requirement to complete the yearly financial disclosure form; Section 106 reviews and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and expects the training will take place next year.

Cabin – Chairman Van Derlaske noted that the cabin at Brentsville is pictured in an advertisement in the September/October issue of "Preservation" magazine.

Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) – Commissioner Cunard requested suggestions from members for qualifications for the new director of the CVB. Please send your ideas to Jan.

Meetings – Toni Brzyski distributed a revised schedule of Historical Commission meetings noting that the October meeting will be in conference room 107 A & B rather than conference room 202 A & B of the Development Services Building. Chairman Van Derlaske requested the December meeting be scheduled to be held at the Old Prince William County Courthouse in Manassas.

Vice Chairman's Time – No report.

**Staff Time
Planning**

Case Update – John Lassiter noted that it appears the Wheelers Grove rezoning case is being withdrawn.

**Staff Time –
Public Works**

Brentsville – Rob Orrison reported a stabilization plan for the jail should be completed in the near future which will provide an estimated cost for the work. The restoration work is expected to take several years.

Events – Mr. Orrison distributed flyers for upcoming events at County historic sites along with the newest edition of the Prince William Civil War Heritage Trail brochure (Civil War Sesquicentennial) which was partially funded by the Commission.

Updates

Bristoe Station Battlefield Park is featured in the “Blue and Gray” magazine.

The National Register Nomination for Woodlawn is complete.

The 1937 aerials are complete and should be available for viewing on the County website in October.

A fence has been erected at Beverley Mill to mitigate issues with the train tracks.

**Staff Time –
Libraries**

Activities – Don Wilson reported he sent out an email recently with information on upcoming RELIC activities and programs.

Old Business

Yellow Ribbon Tour – John Lassiter reported the guests will visit Manassas National Battlefield Park and eat lunch at the Old Prince William County Courthouse in Manassas and, hopefully, be pleased with the publications they receive from the Commission.

Telecommunications – Commissioner Olson distributed draft resolution text about review of telecommunication towers and facilities and requested members provide feedback to him before the October meeting. John Lassiter to provide related draft language for the Comprehensive Plan and the Zoning Ordinance.

**Cemeteries
Committee**

Update – Commissioners Olson requested commendations for Raveen Banks and Debbie Culp for their work entering the information from the cemetery survey forms into the system.

RES 09-053

Provide commendations for Raveen Banks and Debbie Culp to recognize their efforts on the cemetery project - APPROVED – MOTION CARRIED [VOTING RECORD: Motion Olson, Duley; Ayes-by acclamation; Nays-None; Absent from vote None; Absent from meeting None]

**Budget
Committee**

Budget Update – Commissioner Smith distributed copies of the Historical Commission’s FY-10 Budget – Month 2 thru August 31, 2009.

In order to assist the Disbursements Committee in establishing available funds, Chairman Van Derlaske requested members provide cost estimates at the October meeting for upcoming projects.

**Publications
Committee**

Selecman’s Ford Historical Marker – Commissioner Burgess provided an update on a field trip to discover the location of the ford.

RES 09-054

Allocate funds not to exceed \$2000 for fabrication and installation, in front of Antietam Elementary School on Antietam Drive (with the permission of Prince William County Public Schools), of the Selecman’s Ford historical marker with the language included in this resolution, which is as presented in the September 8, 2009, agenda package - APPROVED – MOTION CARRIED [VOTING RECORD: Motion Burgess, Swavely; Ayes-by acclamation; Nays-None; Absent from vote None; Absent from meeting Cunard, Hawkins]

Disbursements Committee – No report.

Legislative Committee – No report.

**Five Year Plan
Committee**

Update – Commissioner Smith reported he’s incorporating comments from the committee into the plan and expects to have a draft plan available for the October meeting.

Historic Properties – No report.

**Historical
Plaques
Committee**

Update – Commissioner Swavely reported the plain plaques were returned to Erie Landmarks for refinishing. He has some suggestions for the next set of recipients. These will need to be reviewed based on the requirements of the plaque program and appropriate resolutions written for Commission approval.

Review of Pending Development Applications

RES 09-055 **Land Development Recommendations** – **APPROVED – MOTION CARRIED** [VOTING RECORD: Motion Yankey, Smith; Ayes-by acclamation; Nays-None; Absent from vote None; Absent from meeting Cunard, Hawkins]

Brentsville Trust No report.

Historic Preservation Foundation **Update** – Commissioner Anderson reported the Foundation has contracted with an architect for a design for the Visitor Center at Rippon Lodge. The design may be available for viewing at the Harvest Festival. Ms. Anderson advised she will be asking the Commission to again be a supporting member of the Foundation at a cost of \$1000.

New Business **Journey Through Hallowed Ground (JTHG)** – Commissioner Wright reported on the importance of stressing Prince William County’s interest in the JTHG. Prince William County is about history not just development.

Ms. Wright also noted that The Blue and Gray Ball will be held at Buckland Farm this year.

Tabletop Display Board - John Lassiter provided an update on this project. He expects to have a mock-up for the October meeting. The display will concentrate on publications, historic properties, historical markers and cemeteries.

147th Anniversary of the Battle of Second Manassas – Commissioner Burgess noted the week-end was a success.

Adjournment

9:07 PM