

Minutes for Hampton 2019 Commemorative Commission

April 3, 2018 – 4:00 p.m. at Hampton History Museum

Attending: Ann Bane, Terry E. Brown, Luci Cochran, Terri Crickenberger, Billie Einselen, Colita Fairfax, Aaron Firth, Mary Fugere, Larry Gibson, Jimmy Gray, Simeon Green, Bill Harper, Hugh Harrell, Kemi Layeni, Glenn Oder, Dionne Redding, Rob Shuford, Raymond Tripp, Claude Vann, Bill Wiggins, Audrey Williams

Excused Absence: Steve Bond, Artisia Green, Jonathan McBride, Ryan Taylor-Fontes, Vanessa Thaxton-Ward

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Lt. Col. Claude Vann. Roll call was completed. Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes for April 3, 2018, with noted corrections. Motion carried.

Co-Chairs Report:

Dr. Colita Fairfax shared that we have four new Commissioners: Dr. Vanessa Thaxton-Ward, Ryan Taylor-Fontes, Dionne Redding and Kemi Layeni.

Glenn Oder shared that we need to identify a space where *Project GAIN* can take place. The Hampton Community Center at Fort Monroe has offered their space. We need to find an organization that will sign the contract that will be the host for *Project GAIN*. There will probably be a \$15,000 minimum investment. Glenn Oder and Larry Gibson have met and Larry Gibson will take his meeting notes back to his church. Glenn Oder will give us 60-90 days to find an organization and if we are unable to find one, then we need to move on.

Colita Fairfax and Cassandra Newby-Alexander met to discuss the *Making of America Conference*. Since we have several historical experts on this Commission, Colita Fairfax suggested that maybe not going outside of this Commission for interpreters for the *Making of America Conference* event on Sunday. The dates of the conference are September 26-28, 2019 and will possibly be on C-Span. Cassandra Newby-Alexander would like to have a meeting in May and a meeting with Mary Fugere. She could probably attend one of our future Commission meetings.

Claude Vann shared that Ann Bane and Colita Fairfax have worked very hard on the Institute for Teachers to be held at the Hilton Garden Inn on Power Plant Way. They have run into a small problem with stipends for the teachers. Colita Fairfax shared that she is waiting to hear back from a business for the prizes.

Commemoration Committee:

Aaron Firth shared that the concert for Saturday evening needs to be booked before we can submit the budget to the City Manager. It was noted to remove the budget sheet (Commemoration Committee Recommendation Cost Summary) from the Commission Report.

Bill Harper shared that the Tucker Foundation is working on two events that will take place in 2018. He is not at liberty to share those plans yet.

Marketing & Outreach Committee:

Mary Fugere shared that Jimmy Cerracchio is leaving us to take a position in California. The HCVB has selected a company called Qubic for HCVB advertising. We have extended Meridian as an agency of record specifically for 2019 and other projects. This will start June 1. Mary Fugere has created a community presentation and her committee will begin scheduling speaking engagements. If anyone on the Commission would like to speak, please send her an email. The CVB applied for a 2019 grant for a Smart Phone tour and app to extend the 2019 trail, which will go more into Hampton history.

Old Business:

The budget for the Education and Awareness Committee should be \$85,950. The names of those no longer on the Commission need to be deleted on Appendix B, second page on the Commission Report. She noted that we need a Chair for the Marketing Committee. Colita Fairfax asked the Commission to please study this report, although there will be changes and modifications.

New Business:

Aaron Firth shared there is a group stepping forward as potential sponsorship for a possible Sunday event in 2019. A motion was made that this Commission support an event on Sunday, 2019. Motion seconded and carried.

Colita Fairfax shared that Artisia Green received information from the *Southern Poverty Law Center* and they have launched a new project called "Teaching Hard History". Colita Fairfax will follow up and share any information that she receives.

Please let Terry E. Brown know if you are interested in going to the *National Museum of African American History and Culture* in Washington, D.C. He can get tickets and needs a week's notice.

Around the table:

Billie Einselen shared that the exhibit upstairs at the History Museum is excellent and would fit perfectly with 2019. Hugh Harrell commended Colita Fairfax and Dr. Christian for the program at the *American Theatre*. Councilman Jimmy Gray would like to have the Executive Committee meetings a week before the Commission meeting. The next Executive Committee meeting will be on April 10. Glenn Oder shared three contractors have been selected for the construction plans at the Fort Monroe Visitor Center. Once the bids come in, it should be under construction by mid-June.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.