

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting held on April 27, 2006 at the Department of Land Use and Growth Management

Members Present: Peter Himmelheber, Chairman
Hal Willard, Vice Chairman
Rob Gibbs, Member
James Grusholt, Member
Margaret McCoy Padukiewicz, Member
Jack Williamson, Member

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the March 30, 2006 meeting were approved as corrected.

Election of Officers

In preparation for Peter Himmelheber's departure from the HPC in June, the members were asked to give some thought to who the next officers should be. Mr. Himmelheber noted that Ms. Wilson has asked him to continue to advise her and the HPC, especially about early roads. He also said that he plans to continue to attend meetings as an interested citizen.

Review of Historic Preservation Award Nominations

This year the HPC received four nominations for historic preservation awards. The members reviewed the applications and unanimously agreed that all four should be sent to the Board of County Commissioners for final approval. The presentation of awards is scheduled for May 23, 2006 at 11:00 a.m. at the regular County Commissioners' meeting.

Name for New School

The County Public Schools have asked various groups, including the HPC, to submit naming suggestions for the new school to be built in the Wildwood area. Some ideas generated were: New Design, Accomack Valley, and New Seat, which were names of early land grants in the vicinity. Names of significant persons suggested were: Clancy Lyles, WW II veteran and community leader; the late Bernard Johnson, who served as principal of all three high schools; former administrators Dr. King and Jane Mattingly; early settler Mathias DeSousa; late Astronaut William McCool; James Bowles, who led the effort to establish the first schools in the 1700s; Paul Bailey, lawyer and citizen who help to establish the school transportation system for both public and private schools.

Items from the Floor

Mr. Willard congratulated Mr. Himmelheber for lending his extensive knowledge of historic roads to reporter Jason Babcock, who recently wrote an article for the Enterprise about county roads.

Mr. Himmelheber mentioned that the Historical Society now has the 1802 Levy Court Road Book on CD, which provides details for the location of many of the county's early roads. He noted that some are still extant while others are now abandoned. A knowledge of early land grants is helpful in determining the location of many early roads.

Mr. Williamson reminded the members to support the Newtowne Players, a new theater group, quartered in the old library in Lexington Park.

Ms. Padukiewicz informed the members that Dr. Martin Sullivan, director of Historic St. Mary's City will present a talk at 4:00 p.m. April 30th about three early settlements: St. Mary's City, Plymouth Plantation, and Jamestown.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Submitted by: _____