

COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL MEETING
July 29, 2009

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting on Wednesday, July 29, 2009 at 5:15 p.m. in the County Manager's Conference Room, Administration Building, Henrico County Government Center, Parham and Hungary Spring Roads, Henrico County, Virginia.

Members of the Board Present:

David A. Kaechele, Chairman, Three Chopt District
Patricia S. O'Bannon, Vice Chairman, Tuckahoe District
James B. Donati, Jr., Varina District
Richard W. Glover, Brookland District
Frank J. Thornton, Fairfield District

Other Officials Present:

Joseph P. Rapisarda, Jr., County Attorney
Barry R. Lawrence, CMC, Assistant to the County Manager/Clerk to the Board
Tanya B. Harding, Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk to the Board
George T. Drumwright, Jr., Deputy County Manager for Community Services
Angela N. Harper, Deputy County Manager for Special Services
Leon T. Johnson, Deputy County Manager for Administration
Robert K. Pinkerton, P.E., Deputy County Manager for Community Operations
Randall R. Silber, Deputy County Manager for Community Development
Jennifer K. Acker, Assistant Director of Public Relations & Media Services
C. Michael Schnurman, Jr., Legislative Liaison

Mr. Kaechele called the meeting to order at 5:16 p.m.

Mr. Pinkerton noted that Mr. Hazelett was on vacation and that there was one item on the special meeting agenda.

2011 Commemoration Advisory Commission Update

Mr. Pinkerton recognized Mrs. Harper, who provided a brief introduction to this item. Mrs. Harper noted the presence of Beverley Davis, the Historic Preservation Advisory Commission's representative on the 2011 Commemoration Advisory Commission, and pointed out that Mrs. O'Bannon is chairing the Commission. She also noted the presence of two County general government employees who are serving as staff to the Commission - Jennifer Acker, Assistant Director of Public Relations and Media Services, and Karen Perkins, Historic Preservation and Special Programs Manager for the Division of Recreation and Parks. Two employees of Henrico County Public Schools who are serving as staff to the Commission were not present - Dawn

Hoppe, Director of Public Information and Television Services, and Carol Simopoulos, Education Specialist for Social Studies (K-5).

Mrs. Harper narrated a Power Point presentation titled *2011 – Commemorating the 400th Anniversary of the Henrico County Settlement*. During her presentation, Mrs. Harper reviewed the Commission’s creation and appointment, meeting schedule and subcommittees, nine objectives, recommended logo, work with Richmond Metropolitan Richmond and Convention Bureau (MRCVB) consultants to develop a Henrico 400th web site, and preparations for a large Henrico brochure containing maps and historical facts. She also reviewed the Commission’s history legacy projects and recommendations, including an October 2010 “kick-off” event and proposed 2011 “hosted” events, and referred to areas that the Commission is still working on. Mrs. Harper concluded her presentation by identifying next steps to be taken by the Commission. Mrs. O’Bannon pointed out that the proposed events are not just a wish list and that the Commission has already received some commitments. Mrs. Harper noted that several County government retirees have stepped forward to assist the Commission.

Mr. Donati expressed concern that the Commission had not proposed a specific event to commemorate the Civil War despite the war’s prominence in the history of the County. There was some discussion of this concern by Mr. Donati, Mrs. Harper, and Mrs. Perkins. Mr. Thornton agreed with Mr. Donati that the Civil War should be included in showcasing the County’s history. Mrs. Harper stated that the Commission can add an event commemorating the Civil War but needs to be careful in selecting an event so that it does not conflict with events being planned by the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission. Mr. Kaechele concurred with this assessment.

Mr. Glover asked that the Henrico Commission consider holding all of its commemoration events in the County, including the January 2011 shire event currently proposed for the Greater Richmond Convention Center. He suggested the Commonwealth Building at Richmond International Raceway as an alternative. There was some discussion of this matter by Mr. Glover and Mrs. Harper. Mrs. Harper commented that although the President of MRCVB was offering the Convention Center to the County without charge, the Commission will pursue the Raceway and other local venues.

Mr. Pinkerton suggested that the guided historic tours mentioned by Mrs. Harper earlier in her presentation include one for travel writers towards the end of 2010. Mrs. Acker advised that Mrs. O’Bannon will soon be participating in a boat trip in Norfolk sponsored by RMCVB for youth group tour operators. At that time, Mrs. O’Bannon will have an opportunity to promote the commemoration events planned for 2011.

Mrs. Harper responded to further questions and comments from the Board. Mrs. Acker distributed lapel pins containing the 2011 commemoration logo and handed out a one-page list of *2011 Commemoration Talking Points* that included staff contact information. She reiterated a point made earlier by Mrs. O’Bannon that the Commission is being very cost conscious and advised the Board that RMCVB will be absorbing some of the costs for promotional materials.


Mr. Donati asked about the status of developing a commemorative coin. Mr. Glover indicated that the lapel pin could be distributed in bulk quantities and would be more useful than a commemorative coin. He noted that youth like to exchange lapel pins at athletic events and that this would be a good way to promote Henrico and the commemoration. Mr. Glover also suggested that the Commission determine its needs before placing budgetary limitations on commemoration activities. Mrs. O'Bannon briefly commented on the results of a citizen survey she conducted concerning the commemoration. She applauded the Commission for focusing on economic development and sticking to its goals and objectives in planning events.

Hearing no objection from the Board, Mrs. Harper stated that the Commission will proceed with its recommendations subject to several modifications based on the Board's input. Mr. Thornton remarked that he expects the commemoration to be first class and not miserly. There was some discussion pertaining to his suggestion that the Commission consider erecting signs along the County's borders welcoming visitors.

The Board recessed for dinner at 6:25 p.m. and reconvened at 6:44 p.m.

Mr. Pinkerton briefed the Board on the agenda for the evening meeting. He noted that two public hearings were scheduled and that at least two citizens were expected to address the Board on the Hearing of Necessity for the North Gayton Road Extension project. There was some discussion relating to this hearing and the concerns of one of the citizens who had asked to speak. After Mr. Pinkerton reviewed the items on the general agenda, there was discussion regarding utility work associated with the North Gayton Road project, the current membership of the Commonwealth Transportation Board, the impact of recent staff reductions by the Virginia Department of Transportation, and the status of resurfacing the pavement on I-64.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.


Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Henrico County, Virginia