



**City of Annapolis
Planning and Zoning**
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Annapolis Heritage Commission
January 8, 2020

The Annapolis Heritage Commission (AHC) of the City of Annapolis held its regularly scheduled meeting on January 8, 2020 at 145 Gorman Street Conference Room 3. **Chair** Mack called the meeting to order at 5:06pm.

A. CALL TO ORDER AND READING OF THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION

Commissioners Present: Chair Theodore Mack, Vice Chair Robert Worden, Marcie Taylor Thoma

Commissioners Absent: Alma Cropper

Staff Present: Roberta Laynor-Chief, Historic Preservation, Hilary Raftovich-Constituent Services Officer, Brian Cahalan-Economic Policy Analyst

Guest Present: Karen Theimer-Brown, David Haight, Felicia Barlow Clar, Paul Clar

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. September 4, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair Worden moved approval of the September 4, 2019 meeting minutes as written. Ms. Taylor Thomas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 3-0.

2. November 6, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Taylor Thoma moved approval of the November 6, 2019 meeting minutes as amended. **Vice Chair** Worden seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 3-0.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. 2019 Annual Report

Ms. Taylor Thoma moved approval of the 2019 Annual Report as written. **Vice Chair** Worden seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 3-0.

2. R-51-19: Commemorative Marker for Police Chief Joseph S. Johnson

Ms. Raftovich noted that Resolution #R-51-19 was introduced by Alderman Paone to honor Chief Joseph S. Johnson and was referred to the AHC for review because a commemorative historic marker is also being proposed. She explained that the legislation is a bit vague as to the process but it does note that a historic marker will be installed. The legislation includes background on Chief Johnson and in the conclusion it states that the Annapolis Police Department (APD) has never been named so the City is proposing to install a commemorative marker on the building to honor Chief Johnson. She noted that since the legislation was introduced; the City has heard from a family member of former Chief Anthony Howes who has requested to speak on the legislation specifically noting that the building was dedicated at a 1994 ceremony. Ms. Barlow Clar asked for clarification as to whether it will just be the installation of a historic marker or naming of the building. Ms. Raftovich responded that although the legislation is a bit vague it also proposes to name the APD building.

Ms. Barlow Clar expressed appreciation for the work of the AHC specifically for their efforts to protect the historical resources in the City. She provided background stating that she possesses a Bachelor's degree in Civil Rights history. She read a prepared statement requesting that the APD building not be named to honor Chief Joseph Johnson but rather requested that the City/AHC consider naming it after Chief Anthony Howes and described specific reasons to support this request. She added that Mayor Alfred Hopkins in an official ceremony in 1994 dedicated the APD to Chief Howes by placing a plaque on the outside of the building for easy visibility but this plaque has since been moved inside the building. At conclusion, she requested that the plaque be replaced with a prominent plaque to be placed on the building. She also requested that the groundbreaking shovel donated to the APD be put on display with a full recording of Chief Howes' contributions to the APD. She also requested that the APD website include Chief Howes full bio as well as the bio of the pioneering African Americans on the force at that time.

Chair Mack explained the AHC's role specifically is to review and comment on the content of historic markers and plaques as well as any legislation referred to it so does not have an approval role.

Ms. Raftovich worked with Alderman Paone to schedule a meeting with Ms. Clar to hopefully resolve her concerns. She encouraged the AHC to send in comments for the Council hearing and request to review the content of any plaques or markers proposed for posting at the police station.

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. Brumidi Statue Plaque Text

Vice Chair Worden explained that he noticed that a statue was being installed and wanted the AHC to review the plaque if there was a plaque to be installed. He has since seen the plaque and noticed an incorrect spelling of Michelangelo name. Mr. Cahalan provided background on the Brumidi statue and now understands the approval process for historical plaques/markers so will ensure that the AHC has opportunity to review these types of requests.

2. St. Clair Wright and Moyer/Zastrow Plaques

Ms. Taylor Thoma updated that the AHC that she will be meeting with Minor Carter on January 9, 2020 and will suggest that he work with someone like Janice Hayes Williams on a location for the Pip Moyer/Zastrow Simms plaque. She also noted that Ms. Hayes Williams did make a recommendation for a location but it was outside of the historic district on Calvert Street.

3. Removal of the W3R Marker near Spa Creek Bridge

Chair Mack said that the W3R Marker has incorrect information as well as the logos were used without permission and should be removed. Ms. Raftovich has been working on this issue and ran into some challenges but will continue to work to resolve the issue. She spoke with the Four Rivers Association who also had some concerns.

4. Miscellaneous

Chair Mack announced that he has to resign the Chair position effective immediately as he will be moving out of the City and stated that it has been an honor to serve on the AHC.

E. ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business, **Vice Chair Worden** moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:20pm. Ms. Taylor Thoma seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 3-0.

The AHC's next meeting is March 4, 2020 at 5:00pm in Conference Room 3 at 145 Gorman Street.