PORTSMOUTH MUSEUM & FINE ARTS COMMISSION

MINUTES

March 7th, 2017

PRESENT: Karen Burgess
Billie Montgomery Cook
Gordon Jones
Donté Owens
Ivan Rodden
Tanya Street
Robert Wilber

STAFF: Nancy S. Perry
Jessica Pitts

ABSENT: Diana Davenport
Lawrence Owes
Donna Rogers

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISORICAL SOCIETY LIAISON: Gwendolyn Murphy-Cayard

Call to Order :
The meeting was called to order by Mr. Donte Owens, Chair. He also introduced new commissioner, Angela Robinson.

Introduction of Speakers
Nancy Perry introduced Planning Administrator, Brian Swets. Brian asked for the commission's input on both the value and vision statement for Portsmouth. The commission participated in an interactive activity where they made suggestions on how to improve specific communities within Portsmouth. One suggestion was that it would be a good idea to make neighborhoods that felt overlooked, feel included and as part of the family.

Approval of Minutes
Gordon Jones made a motion to approve the minutes. Rob Wilber seconded. Minutes were approved as written.

Committee Report

Awards Committee
Rob discussed the grant process with the commission. As of right now, the grant budget is $112,500.

Cultural Arts Committee
Tanya Street made the following announcements:

- Volunteers are needed for the upcoming "Brew at the Zoo" event on June 8th.
- The Hampton Roads Diversity Consortium will be March 16th, 9-11 a.m. at the Children's Museum
- A Commissioner's Round Table will be held March 25th, 10-12 p.m. in Williamsburg.
- Tanya also suggested writing letters to the Council to fill vacant seats on the Commission.

Nominating Committee

- Nominations are due for executive positions (chair, vice-chair, and secretary) at the April meeting.
- Voting will take place in May
- Installation of new officers will take place in June

Announcements

- Celebrate the Arts- March 11th, 10-4 p.m. at the Children's Museum of Virginia
- Bunny Hop 2017- March 25th
- Special Day for Special Needs- March 26th from 9-11 a.m.
- Martha Frances retired on February 28th
- Commission will meet at the Portsmouth Art and Cultural Center for the April meeting.

Adjournment
With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.