

10:00

Conference Opening

Welcome remarks: VCOG Board President Dick Hammerstrom & Dean DàVida Plummer

10:05 - 11:05

African-American Genealogy

Despite Virginia's long recorded history, genealogical resources for African-Americans can be sparse and far-flung. Funding for archives is not a high priority, but the Virginia Untold project seeks to claw back some of what has been lost.

Featuring: Jay Gaidmore (moderator); Gregory Crawford, Barbara Vines Little and Dr. Shelley Murphy

11:10 - 11:55

The 2019 General Assembly

With scandals and slip-ups making national headlines, it's easy to forget that the 2019 General Assembly session was notable for several bi-partisan breakthroughs, notable retirements and opportunities left on the table.

Featuring: Jay Speer (moderator), Marie Albiges and Senatory Mamie Locke

12:00 - 1:15

Lunchtime Program

Socializ over boxed lunches

VCOG's annual meeting, reelection of open at-large board seats and election of officers. (All VCOG members are eligible to vote.)

Keynote Presentation: Shelby Brown

1:20 - 2:20

The Development of Confidentiality

Government officials say they need confidentiality to negotiate economic development deals that will benefit the public. Businesses seek assurances that their proprietary information is disclosed. And from Amazon to Ikea, the public wonders, "What's going on?"

Featuring: Conaway Haskins (moderator), Florence Kingston, Alex Koma and Ned Oliver

2:25 - 3:10

Public Comment Periods: Both Sides of the Microphone

New England may thrive under participatory town hall meetings, but in Virginia, public comment periods are both optional and subject to limitations. What do government officials and citizens each expect and receive during public comment periods?

Featuring: Dr. James Toscano (moderator), Hugh Bassette, Michelle Gowdy and Mayor Donnie Tuck

3:15 - 4:00

Police Body Camera Footage: Unrealized Potential

The adoption of body cameras for use by police officers was promoted in part based on transparency and accountability. Though policies on their use were adopted, access to the content of the recordings has not lived up to the promise.

Featuring: Dave Ress (moderator), Bill Farrar and Michael Paul Williams

4:00

Adjourn

Thank you for attending...Safe travels!

Thank you to our individual donors

Lee & Paulette Albright

Andrew Bodoh

Becky Bowers-Lanier

Paul Casalasi

Maria Everett

Craig Fifer

Paul Fletcher

Mark Grunewald

Dick Hammerstrom

Joshua Heslinga

Waldo Jaquith

The Hon. Andria McClellan

The Hon. Patricia O'Bannon

Megan Rhyne

James Toscano

And for in-kind support, thank you to:



Short breaks are scheduled after each panel.

The lunchtime program will be held a short walk away at the Hampton Museum.