

July 2016

## GHA/GJ Procedure for the Selection of the Grand Marshal

### 1. Criteria

The honorary position of the Grand Marshal recognizes a person who has significantly contributed to the Guinea community in Gloucester, Virginia.

Priority will be given, but not limited to, people:

- Who live in Guinea
- Who work the water or in affiliated occupations
- Who have seniority in the community

The person should embody the spirit of Guinea, have strong connections to the community, be recognizable, and bring prestige to the celebration of the Guinea heritage.

### 2. Procedure

A. Getting public input – Recommendations will be solicited from the community. They may be made directly to any GHA/GJ committee member or by application forms, both paper and on the GJ website.

#### B. Process of Selection

1. The names submitted will be turned in to the Grand Marshal Committee, which will be composed of 2 GJ members (Faye Deal and Della Grinnell) and a representative from the GHA Board (Rupert Thomas) who, with a past year's Grand Marshal, will narrow the list to a slate of between 3-5 names.
2. The Grand Marshal committee will then create a numbered list that contains brief descriptions of the qualifications for each nominee – without the identifying names. The GHA/GJ committees will rank these 3-5 nominees on ballots that are returned to the Grand Marshal committee to count. The anonymity of the final nominees will be maintained, as much as possible, throughout this process.
3. The Grand Marshal committee will be responsible for: asking a nominee to be Grand Marshal, compiling the biography, getting a photograph, and preparing a press release for the GJ program, etc.
4. All names submitted will be retained by the Grand Marshal Committee and kept on file.

C. Announcement - The name of the Grand Marshal will be kept secret until the announcement at the Guinea Heritage Day by a member of the Grand Marshal committee.

**3. Timeline:** Names can be submitted throughout the year, but to be considered in a particular year, a person must be nominated by August 1 of that year.