

Alexandria Archaeological Commission  
Minutes of April 17, 2019 Meeting

**Members Present:**

Elizabeth (Indy) McCall, Member at Large  
(Chair)  
Ivy Whitlatch, Planning District I (Vice Chair)  
Ann Davin, Member at Large (Secretary)  
Dylan Colligan, Business Community  
Jacob Hoogland, Member at Large  
Mark Ludlow, Member at Large  
Janice Magnuson, Planning District III  
Ralph Rosenbaum, Member at Large  
Esther White, Planning District II

**Staff:**

Tatiana Niculescu – Archaeologist

**Absent:**

Georgia (Katy) Canady, Alexandria Historical Society  
Richard Owens, Friends of Alexandria Archaeology  
Edward (Ted) Pulliam, Alexandria Association  
Seth Tinkham, Historic Alexandria Foundation

**1. Call to Order:**

Elizabeth McCall, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

**2. Review and Approval of Minutes**

AAC members reviewed the March 20, 2019 minutes as presented by Esther White. Dylan Colligan moved to accept the minutes as amended and Janice Magnuson seconded the motion. All members agreed.

**3. Chair Reports: Elizabeth (Indy) McCall**

Indy reported on the Historic Alexandria Resources Commission (HARC) meeting relevant highpoints.

Al Cox, Historic Preservation Manager, Department of Planning & Zoning, reported to HARC that a CSO (Combined Sewer Overflow) meeting is planned for Wednesday, May 1.

Al Cox also briefed HARC on the proposed 5G network project that will involve the installation of three to six 35-foot high transformers per block. These "small cell facilities" must conform to new state and federal requirements and can be built on existing structures or require new installations. These installations present preservation, potential health and esthetics issues for Alexandria.

Indy reported to the AAC that Al Cox has reached an oral agreement and Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services that the Office of Historic Alexandria (OHA) will have more monitoring oversight of city streetscapes. The 1920 map will serve as the guide and the plans call for replacing concrete sidewalks with brick in historic areas, gutters and alleyways will be preserved and recorded, and standards set for replacing cobblestones. There is potential for archeological impacts.

Indy reported that Christ Church plans to redevelop the Ross building on Washington Street proposed the construction of an additional 55 feet on top of the existing structure, but this was denied by City Council. The developer also would like to have a cut-through to Washington Street, which violates the George Washington Memorial Parkway's facade within the Old and Historic Alexandria District.

OHA is involved in the Equal Justice Institute project to memorialize the history of lynching in America. OHA will lead the community effort in Alexandria which will probably start in June.

Indy reported that the discussions regarding the 619 South Lee Street construction plans postponed by City Council until the meeting on Tuesday, May 14.

Indy reported that the National Park Service (NPS), Department of Interior may change the rules regarding how properties are listed to the National Register to whichever entity owns the largest amount of land in the area has the greatest say as to what happens. The NPS also has recommended that only property owners be able to nominate a property to the National Register. Indy proposed writing a letter from AAC to NPS commenting on the rule changes. Jake Hoogland and Dylan will co-author the draft letter and Indy will finalize. Ann made a motion supporting the drafting of the letter, seconded by Ralph Rosenbaum, and all AAC members agreed.

Proposal at 10 Duke Street will be to dismantle existing structure and rebuild with same materials. The building is to be re-used as restaurant.

#### **4. Ben Brenman Awards**

Ann and Janice will again form the committee. The announcement is going out on Thursday, April 18.

#### **5. Waterfront Updates**

Waterfront Commission – The tall ship *Providence* will be in Alexandria in July. The second artist is being interviewed for a Waterfront Park installation.

Ship Committee – Presentation by Ivy and Esther on the draft results of the survey. There were 300 plus responses from the OHA and Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities e-news readers. The final report will be presented to the AAC in May or June and then submitted to City Council (through AAC).

African American Heritage Trail Committee – Indy reported that the committee is currently discussing and drafting the content of the stops along the trail. All of the signs will incorporate/reflect aspects of the Waterfront History Plan.

#### **6. Staff Reports**

May Meeting – Joint FOAA and AAC meeting.

VA Association of Museums has awarded Emma Richardson as Educator of the Year.

Ben defended dissertation on Frederick Douglas birthplace.

Tatiana Niculescu gave a summary of upcoming events in May for Historic Preservation Month.

Indy proposed supporting the grant application from Historic Alexandria Foundation to fund the construction of a backdrop for the ship model. Mark Ludlow made a motion in support of this, Esther seconded and all AAC members voted in support.

#### **Record Volunteer Hours**

Adjournment - Motion to adjourn made by Jake and seconded by Dylan and agreed to by all members.