

Alexandria Archaeological Commission (AAC)  
Minutes of September 18, 2019 Meeting - Draft

**Members Present:**

Elizabeth (Indy) McCall, Member at Large  
(Chair)  
Ivy Whitlatch, Planning District I (Vice Chair)  
Ann Davin, Member at Large (Secretary)  
Jacob Hoogland, Member at Large  
Mark Ludlow, Member at Large, Waterfront  
Commission  
Janice Magnuson, Planning District III  
Richard Owens, Friends of Alexandria  
Archaeology  
Edward (Ted) Pulliam, Alexandria Association  
Ralph Rosenbaum, Member at Large

Seth Tinkham, Historic Alexandria Foundation  
Esther White, Planning District II

**Excused:**

Georgia (Katy) Cannady, Alexandria Historical  
Society  
Dylan Colligan, Business Community

**City Staff:**

Eleanor Breen, City Archaeologist  
Gretchen Bulova, Director, Historic Alexandria  
Garrett Fesler, Archaeologist, Alexandria  
Archaeology

**Call to Order** – Elizabeth (Indy) McCall, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7: 20 p.m.

**Review and Approval of Minutes** – AAC members reviewed the July and August minutes. Jake Hoogland made a motion to approve the July minutes as amended, Ralph Rosenbaum seconded the motion and all members approved.

Ralph made a motion to approve the August minutes as amended, Seth Tinkham seconded the motion and all members approved.

**Membership and Nominations** – Ted Pulliam proposed the nominations of Ivy Whitlatch as Chair, Esther White as Vice Chair and Ann Davin as Secretary, and all members agreed. There were no other nominations. Indy's term ~~as Chair on the AAC~~ ends in February 2020.

**Chair Reports** – Indy reported that [the Historic Alexandria Resources Commission \(HARC\)](#) has two new members and one former member re-joining. HARC's primary focus is to support [the Office of Historic Alexandria \(OHA\)](#) and its activities.

The HARC's newly elected co-chairs are Danny Smith and Linda Lovell and the Secretary is Steve Stuart. The meeting's discussion focused on the historic Bank of Alexandria building at 133 North Fairfax Street, next to the Carlyle House. The 40 year lease with NOVA Parks is up and the building closed on Thursday, September 12. A Request for Proposal (RFP) went out for the sale or lease of the building. NOVA Parks, however, did not inform the City of their plans. HARC members are concerned that this National Register building be well-maintained and also would like to determine whether there is an easement associated with the property. Indy submitted a letter to City Council and Mark Jinks, City Manager, regarding the importance of the building and its preservation.

**Planning Updates and Reports (as needed)** – Indy reminded AAC members that at the July meeting there was a discussion about getting an informational packet together for City Council on the Commission, including the Waterfront History Plan. Indy has talked with some of the new City Council

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members and they have not seen the Waterfront History Plan. The City Clerk also needs to be reminded that we have been asking for a work session for four years.

Waterfront Commission – Mark Ludlow reported that the Waterfront Commission met yesterday morning. The Commission voted in favor of a waiver for special events to determine if there are objections by residents to back-to-back events along the Waterfront. Also discussed were flood mitigation plans, and underground utility work along the waterfront. The Commission is concerned about the long term maintenance of waterfront and have written a letter regarding this to City Council.

Ship Committee – Esther White presented a summary of the results of the committee's survey. The survey found that the Public is surprisingly aware of the ships and view their discovery as important for Alexandria. The committee is finalizing a report with one version tailored to City Council and another to the general public. There also may be a presentation of the results for the Public at the Lyceum.

RiverRenew – no update, no meeting.

African-American Heritage Trail Committee – no update. Indy reported that the northern trail is nearly ready and at that signage for at least seven stops has been completed.

Cemeteries - The Archaeology Museum received a \$10,000 grant to survey Douglas and Penny Hill cemeteries. Preliminary results will be announced at the next AAC meeting.

Ramsay Homes – The City is making progress, but is behind the timeline agreed to in the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The City should update the timeline and ensure compliance with the MOA.

Seth proposed that a letter be drafted addressing the need for the City to update the timeline in the MOA. Ralph motioned that Seth draft the letter to City Council, Indy seconded the motion and all AAC members agreed.

**Annual Report Preparation** – Indy reported that Community history is referenced in the Annual Report, which is currently being drafted.

**Ben Bremen Awards** – MacArthur Myers has enthusiastically accepted receiving the reward.

Wednesday, October 2 is the meeting at City Hall when the awards will be presented. Saturday, September 28 is assembly meeting for the awards.

**Staff Reports** – Portside history is scheduled for Saturday, October 12.

An adult education session on the ships is coming up at the Alexandria Bus Barn.

**Record Volunteer Hours** – Motion to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. made by Ralph Rosenbaum and seconded by Mark Ludlow and all members agreed.