

Alexandria Archaeological Commission  
Minutes of January 15, 2020 Meeting

**Members Present:**

Ivy Whitlatch, Planning District I (Chair)  
Ann Davin, Member at Large (Secretary)  
Dylan Colligan, Business Community  
Jacob Hoogland, Member at Large  
Mark Ludlow, Member at Large, Waterfront  
Commission  
Janice Magnuson, Planning District III  
Richard Owens, Friends of Alexandria  
Archaeology  
Ralph Rosenbaum, Member at Large  
Seth Tinkham, Historic Alexandria  
Foundation

Elizabeth Vehmeyer, Member at Large

**City Staff:**

Eleanor Breen, City Archaeologist

**Excused:**

Esther White, Planning District II (Vice  
Chair)  
Katy Cannady, Alexandria Historical  
Society  
Ted Pulliam, Alexandria Association

**Call to Order:** Ivy Whitlatch, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

**Review and Approval of Minutes:** AAC members reviewed the December minutes and a motion was made by Ralph Rosenbaum to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Jacob Hoogland. All members agreed.

**Chair Report – Ivy Whitlatch**

- Alexandria Archaeology Support Committee – Dick Owens reported that there were no updates.
- Community Outreach Committee - Mark Ludlow reported that he participated at the City Council meeting regarding the 2 King Street property, which roughly is the area of eight parking spaces and is part of the property acquired by the City from the Boat Club. Various options, such as whether the property will remain in the public domain or as a public/private endeavor, are being discussed. The process is likely to take several years as issues such as use, flood mitigation, and funding are resolved.

Commission members decided that the Community Outreach Committee will keep tabs on this property as discussions continue.

- Civic Engagement Committee – Dylan Colligan talked to the owner of Chadwicks Restaurant who will call if anything is found during renovations.

**Planning Updates and Reports (as needed)**

Waterfront Updates:

Eleanor Breen reported on the Museum's staff participation at the Society of Historic Archaeology Conference in Boston, MA, where the theme was Revolution. Eleanor reported that the Museum staff plan to organize a symposium centered on urban archaeology with a different theme every year.

Alexandria Archaeological Commission  
Minutes of January 15, 2020 Meeting

The next ship scanning session runs from Monday, January 27 to Wednesday, February 5. Texas & AM staff estimate that the scanning of the timbers will be completed by February 5.

Eleanor has been discussing with City staff the process of preserving the ships timbers in the Brenman Pond near the Beatley Library. The timbers will be moved from their current location at the Old Dash Building as soon as funding becomes available in June. Regular monitoring of the timbers is included in the budget.

Waterfront Commission – Mark reported that there were no updates as the Commission did not meet yesterday.

African American Heritage Trail Committee:

Eleanor reported that there will be a meeting of the committee next week. The northern part of the Heritage trail should be completed in April and the opening will include a public presentation. Visit Alexandria is very interested in this project and may contribute a sign and/or pamphlets. Visit Alexandria has a focus on African American History in the city and markets this history to visitors.

Freedom House Update:

Eleanor reported that the City has negotiated an agreement with the Urban League to purchase Freedom House with funding also coming from the State's budget. The agreement will go through City Council and is scheduled to wrap up in February.

Janice Magnuson moved that Ivy draft a letter of support to City Council, seconded by Dylan and approved by all AAC members.

Ramsay Homes Update:

Seth Tinkham reported that there were no updates. The report by Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority is due at end of month.

**AAC Membership:** ACC members discussed reaching out to Visit Alexandria staff to have a representative on the Commission. Also discussed amending the descriptions of representatives being from a specific historic organization to any historic group and/or perhaps add more at large positions.

**Ben Brenman Award Committee Selection:** Ann Davin and Janice will continue to be on the Ben Brenman Committee. Mark moved to approve, Ann seconded, and all members agreed.

**Staff Reports:**

- Volunteer Party, January 17 at Torpedo Factory.
- 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the commission is coming up

**Record Volunteer Hours**

Motion to adjourn at 9 p.m. made by Jacob, Ann seconded, and all members agreed.