

Minutes

Tuesday, October 17, 2017 7:00pm

Attendees: Maddy McCoy, Martha Harris, Danny Smith, Elizabeth McCall, Keith Moore, Krysten Moon, Linda Lovell, Bill Hendrickson, Jolande Goldberg, Nancy Tingen, McArthur Myers, Shawn Eyer, Laura Lieberman, Tobin Tracy, Gail Rothrock, John Dumsick

OHA: Lance Mallamo

Meeting called to order at 7:07pm.

Minutes from the September meeting were not available. Two points were confirmed: Martha Harris will be serving as Vice-Chair and that meetings will now begin at 7:00pm and will be held throughout the year.

Report of Minutes Keeping- John Dumsick has researched options for effective record keeping. There are pay sites and digital recorders available. Lance will check on remote attendance. A voice recorder is available for \$40 and minutes could be stored on department computer and posted online.

Gail Rothrock reported about the Historic Alexandria Foundation. A spinoff from the Alexandria Association, HAF focuses on urban renewal and education. The Alexandria Academy School was an early idea from George Washington who was interested in the education of African American and low-income children. Mac Myers shared stories when he attended. They had advocated for 517 Prince Street and support many restoration efforts in the city. They also recently recognized Lance Mallamo for his efforts.

Danny Smith reported on Gadsby's Tavern and the museum. Presidents have dined at Gadsbys as well as LaFayette. George and Martha Washington also celebrated GW's birthday with celebrations here. 's Birthnight. The 501 (c) 3 Friends organization helped sponsor the ice well restoration and with ongoing educational programs.

Elizabeth McCall reported on preservation efforts and a collaboration between HARC and OHA outlined in a meeting with Gretchen Bulova. This collaboration could assist the BAR (Board of Architectural Review) enforcement, advocacy and easements. The collaborative panel would work with the community. A motion to endorse this committee was made by Maddy with Laura and Jolande seconding. Inde will serve as the Program Officer.

A discussion was held regarding the NOVA Parks and their relation to the city with Carlyle House and Great Waves Waterpark. The Parks Authority had sent a letter to the City Council about the lease and the benefits of the Waterpark but had not mentioned the contributions of Carlyle House. A motion was made by Linda with a second by Mac to send a letter on behalf of HARC to the city supporting Carlyle House and the park and recognizing the historic value and significance, with other properties, to the city and to the outside area. Because of the ramifications of any withdrawal from NOVA Parks more research is required.

Discussion- how can we support OHA and related organizations. The creation of standing committees was proposed. Looking to influence City Council more effectively, to attend meetings on behalf of HARC, and to increase collaboration.

- a- OHA and planning support- to help and provide strategic support
- b- Advocacy and Preservation- like HAF, advise commission on items such as Ramsey homes
- c- Finance- funding and development
- d- Educational Outreach- expanding demographic impact by reaching out to museum educators
- e- Waterfront – link with the city

A motion was made by Laura in support of this effort and seconded by Gail.

Members are as follows:

- a- Linda, Gail, Laura- OHA and planning support
- b- Mac, Tobin, Martha, Gail, Bill- Advocacy and Preservation
- c- Keith, Indy, Martha, John, Danny- Finance
- d- Jolande, John, Keith- Educational Outreach
- e- Maddy, Inde, Shawn, Bill- Waterfront

Lance Mallamo spoke about OHA and transitions. The organizational assessment shows that OHA is over utilized and understaffed. More full-time staff are needed. One weakness is in communications throughout the department and another is in the turnover of front line staff who work mostly < 20 hours a week. The director of the Lyceum is retiring. Working on an easement with 420 South Lee. Urban League is in support of OHA working with the Freedom House. Gretchen Bulova will be the acting director of OHA and will be attending the next HARC meeting.

Updates:

John- Carlyle- recently had 500 people for a Saturday.

Gail- HAF – fundraiser November 18th

Tobin- Old Town Presbyterian- Cookie Sale \$10 a pound

Laura- Lee Fendall fundraiser success

Nancy- Alexandria Association - \$10,000 for frame repair and restoration at Lloyd House

Jolande- Torpedo Factory- Veterans Day events flyer

Linda- Mortar and Pestle event November 8th in a Dr. Craik house

Alexandria Historical Society has a talk October 25 at Lyceum

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Stuart

