

HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA RESOURCES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, May 15, 2018

PRESENT:

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| John Dumsick | Linda Lovell | Severiano Ortiz |
| Jolande Goldberg | Elizabeth McCall | Gail Rothrock |
| Martha Harris | Maddy McCoy | Danny Smith |
| William Hendrickson | Krystyn Moon | Monica St. Dennis |
| Elliot Bell-Krasner | Keith Moore | Stephen Stuart |
| Kelly Spradley-Kurowski | | Tobin Tracey |

EXCUSED: Laura Lieberman

ABSENT: Stephen Damm
Shawn Eyer
Nancy Tingen

CITY STAFF: Nicole Quinn, OHA
Al Cox, BAR
Apasrin Suvanasai, OHA

GUESTS: Hayatun Hamami, Center for Public Participation Development
Alissa Rode, Barefoot Leadership
Aizat Shamsuddin, Alliance for Inclusive Muslims
Quang Phat Khuat, Vietnam National University

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Danny Smith at 7:03 p.m. at Lloyd House.

Approval of Minutes for March 27, 2018 Meeting

On a motion by, Keith Moore seconded by Linda Lovell, HARC voted to approve the minutes from the March 27th meeting.

Approval of Minutes for April 17, 2018 Meeting

On a motion by Elliot Bell-Krasner seconded by Maddy McCoy, HARC voted to approve the minutes from the April 17th meeting.

Chairs Updates and Discussions:

Archaeology Waterfront Interpretation Committee

Elizabeth McCall opened the discussion. The Archaeology Waterfront History Implementation Committee (which is the full AAC) will combine HARC and Archaeology participation. Staff from OHA, DPI, and possibly Olin will be present from time to time as well. Interim King Street Park will be first on their agenda. They should give their first recommendations sometime in

June. The template for the interim park will then be used for the rest of the waterfront interpretation.

Waterfront Ships Status

Kelly Spradley-Kurowski announced that the National Park Service has awarded Alexandria City a two year (with potential for extension) \$97,117 grant for the Indigo Ship. Elizabeth McCall explained the Ship's Committee will help staff examine what the priorities are in terms of conservation and interpretation. Two of the three most recently discovered ships have already been retrieved. The largest ship partially sits underneath Wolfe Street; a few feet of the ship will be lost. Krystyn Moon expressed that more archival research is needed to determine how the ships fit into the global perspective.

Interim Park at Zero King Street – Waterfront History Plan Element

Martha Harris offered information on Art Commission's plans regarding the interim park at Zero King Street. Martha Harris believes HARC should be included as a stakeholder; offering input on the art installations. Danny Smith volunteered to reach out to Diane Ruggiero, Director of the Arts Commission.

Combined Sewer System – Option B+ Selected (tunnels)

Danny Smith reported that the selected plan has been sent to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. HARC should be included in discussions if the Option B+ plan is approved. John Dumsick will be the point of contact. Danny Smith will continue to stay informed about the haul routes. Barges will be used when excavation starts.

Providence Sloop

Danny Smith provided an update on the Providence. Scott Shaw, Chairman of the group has purchased the ship. The Providence Sloop will arrive by Spring of 2019. Currently, \$700,000 of the projected \$1,000,000 has been raised. So far, plans for the Providence Sloop are as follows:

1. Education opportunities - marine technology and colonial maritime activities.
2. Coordination with the Seaport Foundation – a character building program.
3. Catalyzing waterfront and maritime investment.
4. Berthing at Waterfront Park.
5. Private events will be held on board.

National Memorial for Peace and Justice; Legacy Museum

OHA staff is awaiting pick up, interpretation, and installation requirements for the “pillars.”

Freedom House Museum – Negotiations between City and NVUL

Elizabeth McCall explained that negotiations are still being made between NVUL and OHA. Gretchen Bulova has applied for the National Trust of Historic Preservation's Cultural Heritage Fund – Planning Grant. Elizabeth has sent a letter of support for this \$125,000 planning grant on behalf of HARC and the Archaeology Commission. If awarded, the grant will be used to fund a planning grant.

Proposal to Combine BARs

Danny Smith reported that City Council voted to study the idea of combining both the Parker-Gray and the Old and Historic Board of Architectural Review. Based from the City Council

meeting that Danny Smith attended, the community seemed to be in support of keeping the Parker-Gray BAR separate. HARC should monitor and discuss the situation before any definitive Commission action is taken. Al Cox confirmed that City Council initiated a text amendment to investigate which will include; community outreach, communicating with the two BAR's and reaching out to various preservation commissions. The first public meeting/listening session will be held in mid-June, another in late July. After the investigation and another community meeting, the issue will be brought back to City Council sometime in November. Elizabeth McCall expressed that HARC should stay involved with this topic.

Standing Sub-Committee Reports

Advocacy and Preservation

Martha Harris requested an update on the correspondence between OHA and the National Trust of Historic Preservation. Elizabeth McCall offered to get in touch with Gretchen Bulova.

410 S Fairfax Street

Gail Rothrock introduced an issue that she believes HARC should be involved with: 410 S Fairfax Street and the owner's plans to demolish and rebuild a 1950s edition, adding an extra ten feet to the house. The issues regarding these plans include; loss of the historic footprint, impact to the alley, changing the character of the alley, and possible issues of drainage. This is a private alley with multiple owners. Al Cox confirmed that the alley is not historic since it was constructed in 1952. BAR staff has communicated with the owner that any damage will need to be restored. There should not be any water damage. Linda Lovell and other HARC members requested further explanation. There was some discussion about whether the commission should get involved. Danny Smith expressed more research/information is needed before HARC can come to a decision.

On a motion by Martha Harris, seconded by William Hendrickson, HARC voted to stay current on the construction plans of 410 S Fairfax Street.

Potomac Town Hall

Bill Hendrickson notified HARC about Potomac Town Hall on Windsor Avenue in Del Ray. This building used to be a fire station and has been downgraded over the years. Hendrickson is concerned about what the city will make of the building. There may be a risk of it being sold; the exterior is iconic and should be preserved. Hendrickson volunteered to monitor the situation.

Educational Outreach

John Dumsick presented, expressing he would like to hear feedback on the easement workshop. He believes distributing copies of the workshop to Alexandria's house museums would be useful.

OHA Report

Nicole Quinn presented on behalf of Gretchen Bulova:

1. Strategic Planning Update - staff continues to work on revising the OHA Mission/Vision/Values and Strategic goals. Have 7 strategic goals and will share at the next HARC meeting.

2. Spring2action a tremendous success! Collectively raised over \$31,000 to support individual museum projects.

3. Black History Museum is opening a Doll House exhibit in June. "Our Community in Miniature - a selection of African American Dollhouses" of museum volunteers Sharon Frazier and Linwood Smith. Many of these represent African American sites that no longer exist. See the Carver School, the Robert Robinson Library and other familiar locations.

4. The Lyceum restoration is going well and is on time. The restoration includes stucco repairs, wood renewals, repair to the portico, and repainting. Note the new, more "sand" color next time your drive by!

5. Equal Justice Initiative Update - The students from the Duke Ellington School for the Arts had a powerful and moving experience at the new EJI museum in Alabama. They saw the Alexandria "pillar" to the claimed and sent a photo. The museum is not yet ready to release the pillars to communities and will be in touch with protocols and a time for their installations.

6. Preservation Month Continues! Please note upcoming programs:
May 16 Rosenwald Film Screening at The Lyceum (not to be missed!)
May 19 Workshop on paint removal at The Lyceum (by Al Cox)

OHA welcomed over 400 people at the Murray-Dick-Fawcett House in three programs - the Vernacular Architecture Conference tours of Alexandria, the annual Open House, and the first outdoor summer concert. Several members of HARC volunteered or were on the tours - thank you!

7. Gretchen attended a state-wide seminar on the 2019 Commemoration today in Richmond and will be reporting back on ways Alexandria can contribute to the commemoration. Sites from Alexandria are included in the state-wide app that can be downloaded from your apps store - Virginia History Trails.

8. OHA is participating in a region-wide marketing initiative to celebrate the Hamilton Musical in DC. #HamiltonDC. Gadsby's has several programs as does The Lyceum. There will be a lot of great programs going on at area museums, including the dueling pistols at the Postal Museum.

Commissioner Updates

Postponed until next meeting in June.

The Historic Alexandria Resources Commission meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Apasrin Suvanasai, OHA Staff to the Commission