

**HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
Tuesday, March 19, 2019

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**PRESENT:**

John Dumsick	Laura Lieberman	Deborah Osborne
Shawn Eyer	Linda Lovell	Severiano Ortiz
Jolande Goldberg	Elizabeth McCall	Gail Rothrock
Martha Harris	Maddy McCoy	Stephen Stuart
Bill Hendrickson	Keith Moore	Kelly Spradley-Kurowski
Richard Klingenmaier		

**EXCUSED:** Paul Mazzuca, Danny Smith

**ABSENT:** Monica St. Dennis

**GUESTS:** Larry Goldberg  
Patricia Washington, President & CEO of Visit Alexandria

**CITY STAFF:** Al Cox, BAR  
Apasrin Suvanasai, OHA

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**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman McCall at 7:06 p.m. at Lloyd House.

New member, Deborah Osborne was introduced and welcomed to HARC.

**Approval of Minutes for February Meeting**

On a motion by, Stephen Stuart seconded by Linda Lovell, HARC voted to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2019 meeting with edits.

**Chairs Update**

**619 South Lee:**

BAR voted to approve the proposed changes. Goes to City Council on April 13<sup>th</sup>. Various preservation groups are meeting to discuss their approach to City Council.

**Ramsey Homes:**

106 Process – MOA provided. Involves a genealogist, archaeology report, and a symposium (panel discussion.)

HARC should help facilitate the symposium. Will take place in March/April of 2020. John Dumsick and Linda Lovell volunteered to work with Gretchen Bulova.

Marker installed in front of Carver School:

HARC will recommend for a HAF Preservation Award nomination.

**Parking Kiosks:**

Limit kiosks to preserve streetscapes in Old Town.

### **Historic Marker Dedication:**

First Agape Baptist Church, Mt. Vernon Avenue. Saturday, March 23 at 9:45 a.m.

### **Opening of Waterfront Park – Patricia Washington**

Patricia Washington, President and CEO of Visit Alexandria presented on the King Street Corridor Initiative (available at alexandriava.gov)

Presentation included the following:

1. Goals/Plans – Beautification, Programming, and Regional Marketing.
2. Beautification, Programming, and Marketing Accomplishments.
3. Partnerships:
  - a. Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities – Jack Browand and Diane Ruggiero
  - b. Office of the Arts – Anne O’Dell, Regional Director of Events and Public Space Activations
  - c. Office of Historic Alexandria – Gretchen Bulova, Director
  - d. Private Sector Partners – Founding Funders who contributed \$175,000 in matching dollars.
4. Plans for Next Six Months:
  - a. New Waterfront Park Opening Celebration – Saturday, March 30
  - b. *Mirror Mirror* Public Art Installation – March to November
  - c. Portside in Old Town Festivals – Summer & Fall
  - d. Pop-up Beer Gardens
  - e. Tall Ship Providence – coming in July
  - f. Events with History Experiences – D-Day Commemoration, Arrival of the Tall Ship Providence, Seaport Day, and Portside in Old Town Festivals.
  - g. King Street Retail Activations
  - h. Culinary Activations
5. Plans/Strategies for Marketing
6. Public Relations and Content Creation
7. Metro Improvement Project Response:
  - a. Hotel Impact Forecast
  - b. Mitigation Plans – Travel Options Flyer and “Love Your Summer” Hotel Package

### **Christ Church Plans for Commercial Property – Keith Moore**

Keith Moore opened the discussion and handed out copies of the “Congregational Meeting Resolution Concerning 112 N. Washington Street Property: Approving Encumbrance of Church Property and Transfer of Certain Property Rights.” Ross lease expires January 31, 2021.

Proposed new use of building will be a combination of commercial, residential and church.

Martha Harris notes building has interesting architectural features. GW Parkway standards may set limitations on changes made to the building.

Al Cox and staff have determined the N Washington Street façade should be preserved.

Possibility of multiple stories added. Height limit on building was discussed.

On a motion by, Stephen Stuart seconded by Gail Rothrock, HARC voted to approve two preemptive letters be written: one to Christ Church expressing concern about development and one to City Council regarding the overall standards of development along GW Parkway/Washington Street corridor. Keith Moore abstained.

## **Board of Architectural Review Update**

### BAR Meetings:

March 20 –

- 600 Montgomery Street, Hanks Pasta Bar  
3<sup>rd</sup> floor rooftop deck
- 814 King Street, Radom Harvest on 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
Changing out store front windows.
- 210 S. Fayette Street  
Screened porch
- 106 S. Union Street  
New owners want to build a deck and glass canopy. Staff has recommended approval of the deck, but not awning. One component of the Waterfront Plan is restoration of alley so river is visible while walking down Union Street. Awning could block view to river.
- 904 Queen Street  
Too many vinyl windows were installed. Need to be removed.

April 3 –

- 400 Green Street, St. Mary's School  
Wants to connect old historic school building to the historic nunnery. Repaving parking lot. Installing iron and brick fence around the entire property for safety.
- 411 King Street, Tavern Square  
Re-study & new presentation/plan
- Rooftop deck over Irish Walk

April 13 –

- 619 South Lee Street  
Appeal

April 17 –

- 1300 King Street  
Concept review - Parking lots, Pines of Florence, and Comic Book Store

No date –

- 112 N. Washington Street, Campagna Center  
Rear addition for condos.
- 10 Duke Street, Old Historic Warehouse  
Community was promised restoration. Proposal is to demolish north wall, demolish and reconstruct a roof four feet above existing walls, raises first floor, builds new second floor, etc.  
Building has sunk. Foundation made from lime and has turned to sand. Currently debating possibilities on how to preserve and turn into usable space.

## **OHA Report**

### Museums:

1. Friendship Firehouse Museum's Hose Reel received first place in the Virginia Association of Museum's top endangered artifact contest this February. Have received a lot of additional press and visitation as a result. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row that OHA has won a top place in this contest, receiving \$4,000 each time.

2. Becoming American series, funded by a grant from NEH. Series of free documentaries that examine the U.S. immigration story, moderated by a scholar. 10 a.m. to noon every Saturday (started on March 16.)
3. Spring2Action is April 10<sup>th</sup>. Beneficiary this year is the Friendship Firehouse Hose Reel. Holding a pre-event tour on April 5/6 at the DASH bus barn on S. Quaker Street as a fundraiser – Fire and Water. Please join us for the Spring2Action Happy Hour starting at 6:30 p.m. on April 10<sup>th</sup>.
4. Looking ahead to May – Historic Preservation Month
  - Open the Murray-Dick Fawcett House for special tours on Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - Great speaker series including: Tom Mayes with the National Trust and Joshua Rothman with the University of Alabama.
5. Newest city branding signs: Friendship Firehouse, Fort Ward, Black History Museum, The Lyceum, and Gadsby's. Working on Murray-Dick Fawcett, Apothecary, and Archaeology next.
6. In process of hiring a new pool of new part-time visitor services staff members and program assistants.

#### OHA Projects:

1. Freedom House – staff has met with new leadership of the NVUL Board. They have OHA's proposed MOU and museum interpretation upgrades for consideration. RFP to create a business plan for a collaborative operation has been written and will go out once approved by NVUL.
2. Equal Justice Initiative implementation plan endorsed by City Council at the March 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. OHA will now begin hosting community meetings and establishing committees to claim lynching pillar.
3. June 1 – commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day. The festival is planned from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the new park with speeches, re-enactors, French market, children's activities, swing music, and a wine garden. We have invited guests from Caen as well as the French Embassy.
4. Received \$10,000 Historic Chocolate Grant to research the importation, sale, and consumption of chocolate in early Alexandria.
5. Added Alexandria to the list of state funding for historic African American Cemeteries.
6. Participated in the Visit Alexandria Bridal Show in February. Created a group brochure and a dedicated email for Historic Alexandria Museum rentals.
7. 2<sup>nd</sup> consolidated events brochure to market the historic sites and events to visitors and residents.
8. Nearing completion of upgrades to Union Station: interior painting, bench repainting, installation of historic photos and a text panel.
9. Hiring some temporary 6-month positions to help with the backlog of curatorial projects – finish the research on the Murray-Dick Fawcett House and Freedmen's Cemetery as well as process the Moss Kendrix collection and the Carlton Funn collection.

#### OHA Budget:

1. City Manager's Budget proposed to City Council. New FTE Division Chief of Administration.
  - CIP: \$35,000 for Fort Ward – gate repair, gun carriage, and revetment restoration.
  - \$300,000 for ship documentation
  - \$35,000 for the master plan for the MDF house
  - \$20,000 for EJI markers and pillar installation

\$125,000 for Waterfront History Plan Consulting

### **Commissioner Updates**

Gail Rothrock –

- Open Space Task Force – Planning Commission, April 2, 6 -7 p.m.  
Would like OHA to be more involved with historic preservation.

Laura Lieberman –

- New exhibit opens March 28. “The New Woman: Life in Progressive Era Alexandria, 1890-1920”

John Dumsick –

- American Alliance of Museums is completing their accreditation process for Carlyle House.
- Braddock Day, April 6.
- Receiving a replica French and Indian War cannon from General Society of Colonial Wars.

The Historic Alexandria Resources Commission meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Apasrin Suvanasai, OHA Staff to the Commission