

**Alexandria Archaeological Commission Meeting**  
Minutes of March 19, 2025

**Members Present:**

Ivy Whitlatch, Planning District I (Chair)  
Esther White, Planning District II (Vice Chair)  
John Oldfield, Member at Large (Secretary)  
Kim Abraham, Member at Large  
Dylan Colligan, Area Business Community Representative  
Ann Greer, Member at Large  
Edward (Ted) Pulliam, Alexandria Association Representative  
Robert (Scott) Vierick, Alexandria Historical Society Representative  
Paula Whitacre, Planning District III

**Members Excused:**

Michael Johnson, Society for the Preservation of Black Heritage (or equivalent organization)  
Richard (Dick) Owens, Friends of Alexandria Archaeology (FOAA) Representative  
Seth Tinkham, Historic Alexandria Foundation Representative

**Guests:**

Colton Nagel  
Kevin Nagel

**City Staff:**

Eleanor Breen, City Archaeologist

At 7 p.m., at the Lloyd House, Ivy Whitlatch, Chair, called the meeting to order.

AAC members reviewed the Wednesday, February 19 meeting minutes. Paula Whitacre moved to accept the minutes as modified; Scott Vierick seconded. Motion passed and minutes were approved.

**Chair Report:**

- Membership update: AAC welcomed new member Kim Abraham. AAC currently has two openings for a Member at Large, and efforts remain underway to fill the remaining seat for the Visit Alexandria Representative. Gilda Anroman submitted her resignation.
- Members discussed the implications of the FY2026 City budget. Funding (unspecified amount) is available for storage of the ship hull remnants when they are returned to the City of Alexandria.
- Ivy, Eleanor Breen, and Gretchen Bulova (Director, Historic Alexandria) met with the Alexandria City Manager who was excited about the National Historic Register nomination process for the Wilkes Street Cemetery Complex.
- AAC intends to apply for the 2025 Commission of the Year award.

**AAC Membership Reports:**

- **Historic Alexandria Resources Commission (HARC):** At its most recent meeting, HARC agreed to write a letter to Alexandria City Council to approve funding from the National Park Service for the restoration of the Jones Point Park Lighthouse.
- **Waterfront Updates:** At its most recent meeting, the Waterfront Commission discussed updates to the flood mitigation project and the development at Robinson Terminal North.

**Committee Reports:**

Cemetery Committee

- Paula briefed AAC on the progress and challenges with the National Historic Register

nomination process for the Wilkes Street Cemetery Complex.

#### 50<sup>th</sup> AAC Anniversary Committee and Advocacy Committee

- Scott briefed AAC on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee and Advocacy Committee.
- Efforts continue to identify publications to help tell the story of the 50 years of AAC. AAC members were interviewed recently by *Alexandria Times*.
- The AAC Advocacy Committee encouraged AAC members to attend more meetings in person, using the citywide calendar of events.

#### **Commissioner Reports:**

- Friends of Alexandria Archaeology (FOAA): No report
- Visit Alexandria (position vacant): Efforts are underway to identify a member from Visit Alexandria.
- Alexandria Association: On Monday, March 17, Lucinda Edinberg, Hammond-Harwood House Museum Curator, gave a lecture about the Hammond-Harwood House in Annapolis, Maryland.
- Alexandria Historical Society (AHS):
  - o John Rand will deliver the next lecture in the AHS Lecture Series on “*George Mason and the Tenth Amendment*,” on Wednesday, March 26, at The Lyceum.
  - o Michael Pope will lead a walking tour on Saturday, April 5: “*Byline Old Town: A Walking Tour of Early Journalism in Alexandria*”
- Society for the Preservation of Black Heritage or Equivalent Organization: No report
- Historic Alexandria Foundation: No report
- Business Community: No report
- Planning District Updates: No report
- Members at Large: No report

#### **Staff report:** - Eleanor Breen

- Eleanor provided a quarterly update on ongoing archaeological projects.
- Historic Interpretation Signage was added at the new Minnie Howard School.
- Interns at Alexandria Archaeology are engaged in lab work, archival work, installing -new collections drawers, and other projects.
- Events:
  - o Eleanor will deliver a lecture at the Old Town Civic Association meeting on Wednesday, April 9
  - o Spring2ACTion will take place on Wednesday, April 9; it will include a fundraiser for the Freedom House Museum.
  - o Eleanor will give a talk to the Archaeological Institute of America on Wednesday, April 16.
  - o There are multiple Career Talks and Science Nights ongoing.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m. The next AAC meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 16, at 7 p.m., at the Lloyd House