Alexandria Archaeological Commission Meeting
Minutes of October 21, 2026

Members Present:
Ivy Whitlatch, Planning District I (Chair)
Robert (Scott) Vierick, Alexandria Historical Society Representative (Vice Chair)
John Oldfield, Member at Large (Secretary)
Kim Abraham, Member at Large
Cindy Boren, Member at Large
Raymond (Chip) Eresman, Member at Large
Ann Greer, Member at Large
Richard (Dick) Owens, Friends of Alexandria Archaeology (FOAA) Representative
Edward (Ted) Pulliam, Alexandria Association Representative
Paula Whitacre, Planning District III

Members Excused:
Anita Winsor, Historic Alexandria Foundation Representative

Guest:
David Heiby

Members Unexcused:
Dylan Colligan, Area Business Community Representative

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, September 16 meeting minutes. Dick Owens moved to accept the minutes as written. Ted Pulliam seconded. Motion passed and minutes were approved.

Chair Report:

AAC discussed the forthcoming return of the conserved ship hull remnant, to the City of Alexandria, and the potential of it being displayed in the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Scott Vierick moved to submit a letter from the AAC Chair to City Council, at the earliest possible date, referencing AAC's advisory role to the City, and restating AAC's priority that the ship hull remnant returning to the city be displayed at the Torpedo Factory. Dick seconded. The motion passed.

The 2026 Ben Brenman awards were given to The Friends of Frederick Douglass Memorial Cemetery and the Social Responsibility Group at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, October 13.

Vacancies: The AAC currently has vacancies for Planning District II and for the Society for the Preservation of Black Heritage (or equivalent organization).

Waterfront Commission report: The Commission continues its efforts to make the river more accessible and usable while preserving the historic identity of the waterfront.

Commissioner Reports:
- Friends of Alexandria Archaeology (FOAA): FOAA is organizing a Fort Belvoir Archaeology Tour on Friday, November 6 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. The tour is free for

FOAA members.

- Alexandria Historical Society (AHS):
    - AHS will offer a Walking Tour led by Scott Vierick, featuring the story of "The Burning Bride," on Saturday, October 24.
    - On Wednesday, October 28 AHS will present "*What's New in Alexandria History*?" at The Lyceum at 6:30 p.m. The evening will feature presentations by three recipients of AHS's 2025– 2026 historical research and interpretation grants, who will share their work on new exhibits at the Lee-Fendall House and Woodlawn, along with a fascinating project exploring the 114-year history of the Alexandria Citizens Band.
    - On Saturday, November 7 at 10 a.m. independent historian and AHS Treasurer David Heiby will lead a tour of the historic Wilkes Street Cemetery Complex, exploring two-and-a-half centuries of African American history. The walking tour is entitled "*From Enslavement to Justice*."

Staff report: Eleanor Breen

- The Alexandria Archaeology Museum continues to accession new artifacts and send some out for conservation. Alexandria Archaeology has developed a scope of work for inventorying and rehousing its collections of over three million artifacts.
- Additional historical interpretation signage is being produced and installed across the city, including at 901 North Pitt Street.
- Eleanor provided an Archaeological Protection Code update on Alexandria Archaeology's continuing work across the city, including desk research, documentary studies, and test trenches at a variety of sites that likely include native American resources, Civil War history, African American history, and evidence of 19th-century rural communities.
- Alexandria Archaeology and the Alexandria Historical Society jointly hosted an Open House at Douglass Cemetery on Saturday, October 3, about how descendants, archaeologists, and historians are working together to preserve this historic site.
- The annual volunteer party will take place on Friday, January 22, 2027.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m. The next AAC Meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 18 at 7 p.m. at the Lloyd House.