

**Alexandria Community Remembrance Project
Steering Committee Meeting**

Meeting Notes

May 24, 2022

4:00 to 5 p.m.

Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington Street, Alexandria

Present: Gretchen Bulova, Audrey Davis, Rose Dawson, Mark Farkas, Michael Johnson, Jean Kelleher, McArthur Myers, Tiffany Pache.

Attending by conference call: Linda Howard

Members of the public: Adrienne Fikes, Corinne Baker

1. Audrey Davis called us to order at 4:05.
2. Updates:
 - a. April 23 McCoy Remembrance members shared thoughts about the event.
 - b. A recording of the event is being edited and we will be posted on the website.
 - c. Monday, August 8 Thomas Remembrance Planning
Recommend we have an evening program beginning at 6 p.m.
Ad hoc planning committee will begin meeting in June. Dates will be sent out soon.
Important to craft a different program from the last few.
Sound and Lighting is booked.
We need to book Market Square.
Outreach recommendations: Elks, Divine 9, Progressive Club.
Send a letter to the organizations ask for representatives to join us as the program will focus on the heroes.
Discussed event sponsorships, community tables.
 - d. Soil Collection Event
The evening of September 24 has been proposed.
Michael Johnson would like to make his property available for soil collection.
ACRP will need 10 gallons, 5 for each man.
Jefferson Houston teachers and students will design and build the vessel for the soil collection.
The Soil Collection Committee is planning to reach out to Smoot to request a donation of materials.
 - e. Update on the Pilgrimage to EJI (Oct 6-10, 2022).
ACHS will be joining ACRP on the pilgrimage.
 - f. Descendant Research we have some descendants for both men. We are forming a small committee to reach out and begin a conversation with them. We are hopeful we will have participants.
3. Committees That Will Soon Be Activated
 - a. Outreach
 - b. Fundraising for pilgrimage and possibly for scholarships.
 - c. September: Essay Contest (Subcommittee)
 - d. Ad Hoc Thomas Planning Subcommittee
 - e. In January: Spaces for Remembrance; Documentary
4. Public Meetings

- a. We intend to hold a public presentation on the pilgrimage (in-person and on zoom) in June or July, as soon as details are finalized.

Public Comment: Adrienne Fikes expressed concern that the program is moving too quickly to incorporate descendants. Corinne Baker expressed concern that Adrienne Fikes' concerns back to 2020 haven't been given due consideration. Congratulations on the grand reopening of Freedom House Museum.

5. Audrey Davis concluded the meeting at 5:45.
6. Next Steering Committee Meeting June 27, 2022.