

Alexandria Community Remembrance Project
Steering Committee Meeting
March 11, 2026
5:30 p.m.
Alexandria Black History Museum
Meeting Notes

Attending: Audrey Davis, Rose Dawson, Rev. Driskell, Paul Glist, Jean Kelleher, Michele Longo, Nigel Mease, Tiffany Pache, Heather Peeler, Jaquay Plumber, RaAlim Shabazz, Sarah Whelan, Judith Vaughn, Darrlyn Franklin.

Excused: Gretchen Bulova, Michael Johnson, Mark Farkas, Rev. Josette Franklin, Kennetra Wood, Kim Young.

Guest: Michele Longo

Audrey Davis called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

1. Sails on the Potomac Tall Ship Event, June 12-14
On behalf of the planning committee for this Alexandria250 event, Michele Longo (OHA Director of Education) shared plans for the event.
 - Ship tours 12-6 p.m., advance timed tickets or walk up availability
 - 250th history village will be open 12-6 p.m. Friday and Sunday, with extended hours on Saturday to 8 pm.
 - Annual Jazz fest is a part of the event.
 - Fireworks Saturday night, from a barge. Est time, 9:30 p.m.
 - Interpretation of Alexandria's history, to include Alexandria's full history, will be made accessible through activations in the history village, while visitors are in line to tour the tall ship, and through onsite signage.
 - ACRP will be represented in the 250th Exhibit at the Alexandria History Museum at The Lyceum.
 - Free Passports will be distributed to visitors to encourage visits to the local museums and historic sites.

Steering members expressed an interest in having a scavenger hunt that rewards learning the lesser known stories of African Americans in Alexandria with a completion reward worked out with a local business. This will be discussed further with the OHA Education Team.

2. Juneteenth Events:

- Annual Douglass Cemetery event will be followed by the Revels Concert at Shiloh Baptist Church and a program on the history of the Black Churches from Civil War forward.
- The Freedom House Museum will be open for visitors as regularly scheduled.
- A festival will be held in Wythe Street, between the Alexandria Black History Museum and Charles Houston Rec Center from 4 to 6 p.m. The festival will include vendors, food trucks, and music.
- City agencies in collaboration with a community committee worked together to create this Juneteenth celebration.

3. April 23, Remembrance Event for Joseph McCoy

- Locations: Roberts Memorial
- Time tables:
 - 5:30 p.m. set up
 - 6:30 p.m. gather for light refreshments
 - 7:00 p.m. program begins
 - 8:15 p.m. program ends
- Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Rodney Sadler, Jr.
- Inviting Mayor to say a few remarks
- April 24, possible NAACP sponsored Remembrance Event

4. Project Updates

- Faith Initiative
 - Next coffee is April 15, will discuss a future training for clergy and lay leaders.
- Remembrance Student Truth Tour
 - Next event Saturday, March 14.
 - Students will receive instructions for the competition on April 16. Steering Committee members will be invited to judge.
- Committee of Inquiry Update
 - Considering student/interested volunteer researchers (students would get credit) for 9 weeks this summer. (June 1 - Aug 7, with a week off for July 4 holiday)
 - We will send a description for academic programs who could provide credit to volunteers.
 - Steering Committee will spread among their networks.

5. Scholarship Update

- Tables of Conscience Series has completed for this year. We met our goal and raised a total of \$6,000.
- A \$10,000 donation from Church of the Resurrection was recently received.

- The Old Presbyterian Meeting House recently donated \$2,682, raised through their Alternative Giving Fair.
- Current Scholarship Total: \$66,390 (We will have \$60,390 on June 1, 2026.)

Meeting concluded at 7 p.m.

Next Steering Committee meeting May 13, 2026 at the Alexandria Black History Museum.