

Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee Minutes

Monday, March 9, 2026

Lloyd House

I. Welcome and Call to Order

In the absence of ACSCC Committee Chair Angelique Moss, ACSCC treasurer Stephen Hartka chaired the meeting. He called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. when there was a quorum present.

II. Approve February Minutes

Prior to the meeting, ACSCC Secretary Leslie Tourigny emailed the draft February 9, 2026, minutes to committee members for review. At the meeting, ACSCC member Michael Kutler introduced a motion, seconded by Stephen, that the committee approve the minutes as distributed. The committee approved the motion unanimously.

III. Ongoing Business

A. D-Day Commemoration and Lecture

ACSCC member Candace Harman, who is the D-Day Subcommittee Chair, said that we were close to finalizing the arrangement with Carlyle Square to hold the D-Day Commemoration there on May 31, 2026. We were just waiting for city insurance information to be sent to Carlyle Square.

Stephen asked if the subcommittee had a budget to vote on. It was decided to defer a vote until the next meeting because some of the costs had not yet been determined. Candace said that the DJ and sound system we would use at Carlyle Square cost much less than we paid in past years at Market Square. There was some discussion about whether or not we would solicit sponsorships again this year. Because ACSCC member Jennifer Reading has handled these in past years, Candace said she would follow-up with her for further information. Jim Holloway, the liaison to ACSCC from the Office of Historic Alexandria (OHA) said he could reserve some on-street parking. Candace also said that since our event is on a Sunday, she would contact Burke & Herbert Bank and see if they would let us use some of their parking for the event because they would be closed for business on Sundays. Also, arrangements have been made with the “Crepe Lady” to once again sell crepes at the event—she was very popular in past years.

B. Gadsby’s Tavern Game Night

Jim talked about this OHA-sponsored event, which was being held on March 27, 2026, beginning at 7 p.m. The theme is *To Lafayette! A Franco-American Game Night* and will feature games, trivia, and a themed presentation. No volunteers will be needed from ACSCC.

C. History Happy Hour (with Alexandria Sister Cities Committee)

Jim said that this will be scheduled for either July or August working with local bars and restaurants.

D. French Book Club

ACSCC member Timotheos Tan said that he had been back in touch with Old Town Books about a French Book Club. He said they committed to one session, in July or August, rather than a continuing club, which their staffing situation could not support.

E. Joint Sister City Specialty Liquor Tasting/Dinner

Tim reported that this is now scheduled for September 26, 2026, in collaboration with the

Alexandria Sister City Committee at the Lyceum. He is working on getting catering bids.

F. Conversation With Sister Cities of Nashville

ACSCC member Reed Van Beveren said that he spoke with Sister Cities of Nashville, who is also in a Sister City arrangement with Caen, about joint sponsorship of a virtual America 250th event that Caen would be able to access also. They haven't heard back from Caen about the proposal.

IV. New Business

There was no new business.

V. Open Floor and Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VI. Adjournment

Stephen adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

ACSCC Members in Attendance in Person

Kari Anderson
Candace Harman
Stephen Hartka
Juliette Haynie
Michael Kutler
Hannah Mazkour
Brianna Meyer
Jennifer Reading
Elizabeth Reister
Timotheos Tan
Leslie Tourigny
Eric Trimble
Reed Van Beveren

City of Alexandria Liaison to ACSCC

Jim Holloway, Office of Historic Alexandria

2026 Calendar

January – Alumni Party 1/3

February – Annual Meeting 2/9

March –

April –

May –

June – D-Day Commemoration 5/31; D-Day Lecture 6/4

July – << *No Committee Meeting* >>

August –

September – Joint Sister City Specialty Liquor Tasting/Dinner 9/26

October –

November –

December –

Leslie Tourigny, Secretary