



George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee (GWBCC) Alexandria, VA

Monday, July 15, 2024

7:00 PM

Lloyd House

220 N. Washington Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Attendance: Sue Johnson, Stephen Konya, Colin Elites, Bob Garbacz, Laura Packard, Jacque Martin, Patrick Wilson, Peter Duggan, Tyler Vanice, Edgar Bates, Nicole Quinn, Sandra Welch, Lauren Augustine, Kristen Eastlick,

Excused: Ally Collender, Carol Myers, Jeanne Jacob, Andrew McCarthy-Clark, Michele Longo

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.
2. The June 17, 2024, minutes were approved as received unanimously (Vanice moved and Garbacz seconded).
3. Reports
 - a) Parade Outreach Subcommittee: Jeanne Jacob was not present at the meeting. She will provide update at next meeting. Sue reported that Alexandria Living Legends may need an Alexandria Trolley Car in the parade.
 - b) Marketing & Public Relations Subcommittee: Sue reported that the Subcommittee met on July 8 to identify activities for a marketing plan that would accompany a GWBCC application for a Virginia Tourism Corporation grant. The Subcommittee also is developing potential new GWBCC logos; two of which will be submitted to the full Committee for review.
 - c) VA250 and Alexandria250: 250th Anniversary of signing of the Fairfax Resolve week of 15 July. Several events are being held in Old Town and other local venues, Gunston Hall and Mount Vernon Commemorating the 250th signing of the Fairfax Resolves, Main event will be Thursday 18 July 6 pm at Market Square with the reenactment of the signing of the Fairfax Resolves. The 200th Anniversary of Lafayette's visit to Alexandria is still scheduled for 16 Oct 2024, with several other events planned during the week.
4. Unfinished Business
 - a) 2025 Grand Marshal: Since the parade theme is "George Washington: America's Commander in Chief", military candidates were discussed. The Committee passed a motion by Patrick Wilson (seconded by Bob Garbacz) that identified potential military candidates as Grand Marshal. Wilson will send out the first invitation, and if needed, Edgar Bates will send out a second invitation. In addition, there was discussion about inviting local Olympians from 2024 Olympics to the parade as special guests. These Individuals may be authorized a car and signage for the parade.
 - b) Memo to Alexandria City Manager: (update): Per the city manager, there will not be any additional funding for his year's parade as the budget has already been determined. The city manager was agreeable to moving the 2025 parade to a Saturday if needed.

- c) Sponsorship: New Sponsorship package is on the web site. Sue encouraged GWBCC members with ties to previous sponsors/donors to encourage them to renew their donations in 2025.
- d) VA250 grant application: open 1 Aug thru 17 Sept. Grant will only cover marketing costs and not actual parade costs. When our grant application is completed, Office of Historic Alexandria (OHA) will review and submit our grant application.
- e) Old Town Business Donor Drive: Planning to start this drive early September to allow more time to revisit businesses prior to the parade.
- f) Potential fundraising events: Plans are to continue with annual Duvall House event; possible Parade Day Breakfast if parade is move to Saturday.
- g) 2024-25 officer elections: Nominations to date are Sue Johnson for Chair, Carol Myers for Vice Chair, and Ally Callender for Secretary

5. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Next meeting: Monday, August 19 at 7 p.m.