# Historic Alexandria Resources Commission (HARC) Ad-Hoc Research Street Name Committee Meeting Notes – April 14, 2023 Lloyd House, 220 North Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

## Attending:

Linda Lovell – Ad-Hoc Subcommittee Co-chair
Mark Farkas – Ad-Hoc Subcommittee Co-Chair
Shawn Eyer – Ad-Hoc Subcommittee member; HARC Chairman
Danny Smith – HARC member
Gretchen Bulova – Director, Office of Historic Alexandria
Dana Wedeles - City Manager's Office

# 12:02 PM – Meeting is convened

Reading by Mark Farkas of Mayor Justin Wilson's request of HARC to develop a list, with the support of the Office of Historic Alexandria, of individuals and locations, worthy of honor by the City, with special attention given to women, minorities, and events frequently overlooked by history. Additionally, the commission is requested to consider street names that had been previously retired.

Discussion with Dana Wedeles in Chy Manager's office clarifying the role of the sub-cmte and HARC in this process. Determined definitively the charge of the commission is to simply supply a larger list of names – approximately 50 total – for the City Council to choose from as potential replacements for 41 streets the mayor's office has determined the need change due to a 1952 renaming of them to honor confederate heroes.

#### Old Business

Discussion of two potential names on the list that already have streets named after them. Because of existing streets in the city already named after them, Ferdinand T. Day and Annie B. Rose were removed from list of names under consideration.

## **New Business**

The following names were read and will be put forth to the full HARC committee for an up or down vote on whether they will remain on the list of potential names for streets submitted to the City Council.

Ona Judge – Closest of Martha Washington's slaves makes a daring and successful escape

Julia Johns – Helped found Alexandria Hospital System

George Lewis Seaton – First African American from north of the Rappahannock to serve in the VA General Assembly

Patsy Ticer - First Female Mayor of Alexandria

Lillie Finklea – Modern Day Preservationist

Jean Keith – Helped saved the Lyceum from demolition

Samuel W. Tucker – Leader of Alexandria Public Library Sit-in

George W. Ford – Last surviving Buffalo Soldier from the original 10<sup>th</sup> US Calvary

Discussion by Dana Wedeles of City Manager's Office timeline for submission of names from HARC to City Manager. It was determined that HARC would supply list of names by end of August 2023.

## **Public Comment**

Mr. Fannon stated his opposition to the renaming of any streets at all. But then proffered that if any changes should be made, the city should take existing street names and just rename them for people with the same name who are known by the public. He used as an example – taking an existing Floyd Avenue and name it after George Floyd.

Mr. Paspatas submitted the names of 3 KIA Vietnam Veterans and graduates of Hammond High School for consideration by the subcommittee as potential names to pass on to the City Council. They are:

Harry Spangler – class of '64 George Barry Lockhart – class of '65 Richard Gray – also a graduate

# NEXT MEETING DATE MAY 5, 12pm Lloyd House

Meeting adjourned approximately 1pm Minutes respectfully submitted by Mark Farkas