

**HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**Lloyd House**  
**220 N. Washington Street, Alexandria**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
Tuesday, February 21, 2022

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**PRESENT: (in person)**

Carol Black  
Christopher Brownlowe  
Mark Farkus  
Sean Ferguson  
Sam Hoffman  
Linda Lovell  
Deborah Osborne  
Gail Rothrock  
Martha Raymond  
Steve Stuart

**CONFERENCE LINE:**

Tom Soule  
Ivy Whitlatch

**EXCUSED:**

Donna DeBlasio  
Shawn Eyer  
Michael Hobbs  
Laura Lieberman  
Catherine Weinraub

**ABSENT:**

Richard Klingenmaier  
Lisa Schumaier  
Danny Smith

**GUESTS:**

**CITY STAFF:**

Gretchen Bulova, OHA  
Mary Bramley, OHA  
Bill Conkey, Planning

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Sean Ferguson at 7:25 p.m. A quorum was not present.

**Approval of Minutes for January 17, 2023:**

Approval was delayed until the March meeting, no quorum present.

**Chairs Update:**

- Chair is unable to attend, due to a work commitment.
- Next month, special presentation on Public Open Space Text Amendment Change by Ana Vicinanza from RCPA

**Commissioner Updates:**

Carol Black – Old Presbyterian Meeting House

- Regarding the Masonic Memorial corner stone laying, added comments about the historical significance of the event the success of the ceremony.

Chris Brownlowe – Athenaeum/Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association (no updates at this time)

Donna DeBlasio – Planning District 1 (excused absence)

Shawn Eyer – George Washington Masonic National Memorial (excused absence)

Mark Farkus – Planning District 2 (no updates at this time)

Sean Ferguson – Public Records Advisory Commission (no updates at this time)

Michael Hobbs – Old Town Civic Association (OTCA) (excused absence)

Sam Hoffman – Planning District 1 (no updates at this time)

Richard Klingemaier – Alexandria Association (absent)

Laura Lieberman – Lee-Fendall House (excused absence)

Linda Lovell – Mortar & Pestle Society

- Portraits (John and Mary Leadbeater) in the Lloyd House dining room are recent donations to the Apothecary Museum by Leadbeater descendants.

- Offered the AHS report on behalf of Catherine, accepting applications for this year's history award. 2024 will be the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the AHS and events are being planned.

Deborah Osborne – Alexandria Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission

- 329 S. Washington Street has new owners, proposing to add one story addition
- 522 Queen Street wants to add a 3<sup>rd</sup> story (has scenic, open space easement), consolidating two lots
- Commission sending out notes to homeowners to remind them of easement requirements, to be proactive
- Panel on easements planned for April 19 at The Lyceum, comprised of real estate lawyer and city tax representatives
- Daingerfield House has a City easement, looking to transfer the easement to AHRPC
- Presentation by Eleanor Breen, City Archaeologist, at the last meeting

Martha Raymond – Planning District 2

- March 14, attending Rosemont Civic Association meeting

Gail Rothrock – Historic Alexandria Foundation (HAF)

- HAF planning a spring retreat

Lisa Schumaier – Torpedo Factory Artists (absent)

Danny Smith – Business Representative (absent)

Tom Soule – Planning District 3 (no updates at this time)

Steven Stuart – Planning District 3 (no updates at this time)

Catherine Weinraub – Alexandria Historical Society (excused absence, report offered by Linda Lovell)

Ivy Whitlatch – Alexandria Archaeological Commission (By phone)

- ACC and FOAA marched in the GW parade

**New Business:** Nothing at this time

**Old Business:**

- Annual Report, nearing completion (deferred, Danny Smith excused absence)
- New building height limits proposal (deferred, Danny Smith excused absence)
- Samuel Madden development (Gail Rothrock)

- Letter sent to the Planning Commission from HARC expressing concerns over the master plan amendment
- Gail spoke on February 7<sup>th</sup> to the Planning Commission on behalf of HARC
- Old Town Civic Association has the same concerns about not confirming to the original small area plan

### **Standing Committee Reports:**

Alexandria Community Remembrance Project – Mark Farkus

- EJI essay contest with ACPS Alexandria City High School students is ongoing through March 17. The winners will be selected by EJI and presented at a public meeting in City Council Chambers on May 20<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m.

Advocacy –Martha Raymond

- Thanked Gail for her tremendous work on the Samuel Madden project
- Confirmed that a letter was sent to the City Manager on January 31 regarding the TFAC National Register nomination.

Torpedo Factory Stakeholder Group – Martha Raymond

- Final meeting was held February 15, summary of branding, facility maintenance, and governance meetings
- Has budgeted \$1M for deferred maintenance in FY24
- City Manager thanked the task force – provided him with good information and guidance, understands that the facility is beloved, plans to tap into the expertise on the task force in the future
- All meetings can be viewed online
- Ivy took issue with the executive summary in the power point presentation prepared by the consultants, which highlighted the TFAC only as an arts center (no mention of history or archaeology)

OHA Support – Steve Stuart (no updates at this time)

Open Space – Sam Hoffman

- Attending first meeting next week
- Three focuses of the open space committee - evaluate existing public open space in City, define the acquisition plan/criteria, and how can open space be incorporated into new development

HARC Composition Committee – Michael Hobbs (deferred, excused absence)

Street Names Committee – Linda Lovell and Mark Farkas, Co-Chairs

- Held first meeting
- Developed a worksheet for proposed names and rationale
- Developed a response to public emails and letters regarding the street names

- Asked all HARC members to submit potential names and criteria
- Next meeting March 10 at noon at the Lloyd House

### **Introduction of Mary Bramely, new Development Officer for OHA**

- Mary gave an overview of her background and looks forward to working with members of HARC

### **Board of Architectural Review Update: Bill Conkey**

- A meeting of the Design Guidelines Committee was held this morning to continue updating the 1992 Design Guidelines. We have another meeting tentatively scheduled for March 21, 2023. We will publish this date once it has been finalized.
- With Spring weather approaching we are renewing our call for volunteers to help with the Digital Architectural Survey of the Old and Historic Alexandria District. Volunteers will be asked to help document properties within the historic district using photography and GIS mapping.
- 1101 King Street will be on the docket for the BAR on March 2, 2023. This is the conversion of the office building at the northwest corner of Henry and King Street into a multi-family residential building. The proposed modifications to the exterior are relatively minor and staff is supporting the proposed design.
- The third Section 106 Consulting Parties meeting for the Samuel Madden Redevelopment will take place on February 23, 2023 in person at the Charles Houston Recreation Center at 10:00 a.m.

### **OHA Report: Gretchen Bulova**

- Big news is that after more than 3 years, our departmental reorganization is now official and staff will be moving into teams by function rather than site. We have created a new division of African American History and Audrey Davis will be leading this initiative. Several positions will be advertised including the Deputy Director, Assistant Director for African American History, Curator for African American History, and Preservation Manager. This reorg creates new positions and moves several staff members to full time. It is within our same budget and FTE count.
- VAM (Virginia Association of Museums) Top 10 objects contest is now taking place. Between Feb 20 and March 3, please vote with your email address to help us win up to \$1000 in conservation prize money for ***“George Seaton's Bible,” 1853. It is currently on view at the Freedom House Museum.*** George Seaton was the first African American member of the Virginia General Assembly and an early educator for African Americans in Alexandria. Additionally, he was a member of the grand jury that indicted Jefferson Davis. His 1853 Bible with its burgundy velvet cover and clasped metal edging survives, but the velvet is worn and detaching on the spine. The front and back cover are also detached. Conservation will stabilize this tangible legacy of a groundbreaking African American leader.
- Master Plan for Freedom House will be starting next week with two workshops led by Smith Group. Donna DeBlasio will represent HARC in these meetings.

- Black History Museum will reopen this weekend, February 26th with a new exhibition, *Black Lives Remembered*. An open house on February 26 will take place 2 to 5 p.m. All are welcome and an rsvp to the museum is appreciated.
- We will know the results of our AAM re-accreditation on March 15 and will share the news with you.
- We will be launching Women's History Month activities in March and planning events for Historic Preservation Month in May.

**Public Comment:** Al Cox offered comments about the Samuel Madden development and shared his comments that were provided in a letter to the Mayor. Affordable housing and historic preservation should be complimentary moving forward.

The Historic Alexandria Resources Commission meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. The next meeting will take place on March 21, 2023, at the Lloyd House

Respectfully submitted,  
Gretchen Bulova, OHA