

**HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**Lloyd House**  
**220 N. Washington Street, Alexandria**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
Tuesday, July 18, 2023

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**PRESENT: (in person)**

Bailee Barfield  
Carol Black  
Donna DeBlasio  
Shawn Eyer  
Sean Ferguson  
Laura Lieberman  
Linda Lovell  
Deborah Osborne  
Martha Raymond  
Gail Rothrock  
Tom Schultz  
Danny Smith  
Roberta Stevens  
Steve Stuart

**CONFERENCE LINE:**

**EXCUSED:**

Christopher Brownlowe  
Mark Farkus  
Lisa Schumaier  
Tom Soule  
Catherine Weinraub  
Ivy Whitlatch

**ABSENT:**

**GUESTS:**

Al Cox  
Greg Paspatas

**CITY STAFF:**

Gretchen Bulova, OHA  
Bill Conkey, Historic Preservation, Planning

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Shawn Eyer at 7:03 p.m.

### **Approval of Minutes for June 20, 2023:**

A motion to approve the minutes as corrected was made by Linda Lovell and seconded by Danny Smith. The June 20, 2023, minutes were approved.

### **Chairs Update:**

- Welcome to Roberta Stevens, representing the Alexandria Association.

### **Presentation: Gretchen Bulova and Al Cox, Exterior Restoration Plan for 1315 Duke Street**

- Presentation on the plans for the exterior repair and restoration of 1315 Duke Street, to include brick repointing, window repair, wood renewal, roof repair, and returning the South façade to the period of significance.

### **Commissioner Updates:**

Bailee Barfield – Volunteer

- No report

Carol Black – Old Presbyterian Meeting House (OPMH)

- OPMH went to the BAR about lighting, project deferred for further work
- Attended the joint Council and Planning Committee meeting at the Durant Center, where bonus height issue was discussed

Chris Brownlowe – Athenaeum/Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association (Excused absence)

Donna DeBlasio – Planning District 1

- Eisenhower East meetings have been postponed

Shawn Eyer – George Washington Masonic National Memorial

- Working to reopen 7 days a week, now open Thursday through Monday

Mark Farkus – Planning District 2 (Excused absence)

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

- No report

Laura Lieberman – Lee-Fendall House

- Trivia Night on Saturday, July 21
- Storytime on Saturdays through August

Linda Lovell – Mortar & Pestle Society

- Annual meeting, July 26 at 7 p.m. at the Lyceum. Presentation on poisons in the Apothecary. Meeting includes elections.

Deborah Osborne – Alexandria Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission (AHRPC)

- No report

Martha Raymond – Planning District 2

- No report

Gail Rothrock – Historic Alexandria Foundation (HAF)

- Attended an oratory contest at the Elks Lodge.

Tom Schultz – Old Town Civic Association (OTCA)

- In the past OTCA has funded historic preservation projects and could be approached for projects

Lisa Schumaier – Torpedo Factory Artists (Excused absence)

Danny Smith – Business Representative

- Planning George Washington walking tours this summer, sponsored by the George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee (GWBCC)

Tom Soule – Planning District 3 (Excused absence)

Roberta Stevens – Alexandria Association

- Provided a \$40,000 grant to the Lee Fendall House Museum for a Historic Structures Report
- Provided a \$5000 grant to the Athenaeum for repointing
- The Alexandria Association website has been redesigned

Steven Stuart – Planning District 3

- No report

Catherine Weinraub – Alexandria Historical Society (Excused absence)

- Update provided by Linda Lovell on behalf of Catherine
- Annual meeting was held with four new officers
- Fall lectures on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month

Ivy Whitlatch – Alexandria Archaeological Commission (Excused absence)

## **New Business:**

### **Old Business:**

- HARC Retreat plans
  - Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
  - Venue: Masonic Memorial
  - Agenda to include: recognition of former HARC members, one guest speaker, identifying strategic priorities and action items
  - Guest speaker: Advocacy, someone who has experience with elected members
- Follow up discussion to June Presentation by Rod Kuckro, Town of Potomac on Preservation Virginia's Most Endangered Historic Places List of 2023
  - Request by Rod Kuckro for letter from HARC to the City Manager
  - Draft letter will be reviewed at August meeting
- Letter to City Council requesting update to HARC composition
  - Aim to have an update next month
- Letter from HARC, AAC, and PRAC to the City Manager on behalf of OHA to fund a new collections off-site storage facility.
  - Aim to get it submitted next month

### **Standing Committee Reports:**

Alexandria Community Remembrance Project – Mark Farkus

- August 8<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m., marker dedication, remembrance walk, and wreath laying ceremony planned to honor the lost life of Benjamin Thomas.

Advocacy –Martha Raymond

- July meeting discussion included height density issue, Housing for All concepts.
- Next meeting will be August 1 at 10 a.m. at La Madeline. New members encouraged!

OHA Support – Steve Stuart

- No report

Freedom House Master Plan – Donna DeBlasio

- Final stakeholder meeting in June, where worked on museum name and ideas to be included in the mission statement.

Ad-Hoc Proposed Street Naming Committee – Linda Lovell and Mark Farkas, Co-Chairs

- A new round of names was submitted to HARC for consideration. No objections were made.
- Full list of proposed names will be discussed at the August 15 HARC meeting.
- The names will be sent to the Naming Committee at the end of August.

- September 28 will be the Naming Committee Meeting, open to the public but not open to public discussion.
- Donna Deblasio made a motion to accept the names as submitted and Deborah Osborne seconded. Motion passed.
- Next (and final) meeting will be August 11 at the Lloyd House at noon.

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

- 301 N. Fairfax Street

On July 19, the BAR will be hearing the second concept review for the proposed redevelopment of the property at 301 North Fairfax Street. The applicant is proposing to demolish the existing office building dating from 1977 and replace it with a new multi-family building. The Board provided comments on the proposed design at the previous concept review and the applicant has made significant changes in response.

- EV Charging Pilot Program

At the July 19 BAR hearing, staff from T&ES will hold an informational session on a proposed pilot program to allow homeowners to charge electric vehicles parked on the street. This program will allow homeowners to extend charging cables across public sidewalks if they are in a brightly colored ramped enclosure to allow for an accessible pedestrian path. The cables must be removed when not in use. An alternative would allow homeowners to install a pedestal mounted charging station in the public right of way. Neither of these options would guarantee access to a public parking space. The BAR will be providing informal feedback on the pilot program at this time. The construction of any permanent charging equipment would require BAR approval.

- 720 King Street appeal

The owner of the salon at 720 King Street painted the lower half of the front elevation of the brick building without receiving the required prior approval. On July 6, the BAR denied the after the fact request for approval of the painting of the previously unpainted masonry. Since that denial, the building owner has submitted an appeal of this decision to City Council. We expect the appeal to be heard sometime in September.

- Samuel Madden certificate of appropriateness on July 26

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

- Friendship Firehouse Festival will be held on Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Restoration of the Fort Ward Ceremonial Gate is underway, with Oak Grove Restoration as the history preservation contractor.
- Basement interior painting is taking place at the Fort Ward and the Black History Museums. The fumes from the dry-loc paint have necessitated closing to the public.
- Recruiting for a new Public Information Officer for OHA, position is posted on the City's job board.

### **Public Comment**

The Historic Alexandria Resources Commission meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m. The next meeting will take place on August 15, 2023, at the Lloyd House.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gretchen Bulova, OHA