

**HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**Lloyd House**  
**220 N. Washington Street, Alexandria**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
Tuesday, October 15, 2024

---

**PRESENT: (12 for quorum)**

Christopher Brownlowe  
Donna DeBlasio  
Shawn Eyer  
David Kovalik  
Laura Lieberman  
Corrine Marasco  
Barbara Marvin  
John Patrick  
Rebecca Rose  
Tim Rose  
Gail Rothrock  
Tom Schultz  
Roberta Stevens  
Steve Stuart  
Ivy Whitlatch

**REMOTE:**

Carol Black

**EXCUSED:**

Bailee Barfield  
Mark Farkas  
Mia Mulrennan  
Russell Simonaro  
Rebecca Super

**ABSENT:**

**GUESTS:**

Nigel Mease (applying to represent AHRPC)

**CITY STAFF:**

Mary Bramley, OHA Staff

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**Approval of Minutes for September 17, 2024:**

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Donna DeBlasio and seconded by Steve Stuart. The September 17, 2024 minutes were approved.

**Commissioner Updates:**

Chris Brownlowe – Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association

- No Report

Donna DeBlasio – Planning District 1

- No Report

Shawn Eyer – George Washington Masonic National Memorial

- The library on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor has been closed for 20 years. Once funds have been raised for its reopening, the library will focus on Masonic topics.
- The centerpiece of the fundraising campaign and a “Turn the Page” exhibition in the library will be the display of George Washington’s 1792 family Bible, one of first Bibles printed in US. A sponsor for its preservation is being sought.

David Kovalik – Public Records Advisory Commission

- No Report

Laura Lieberman – Lee-Fendall House

- A new website to complement the recent repainting of the exterior has been launched.
- A fundraiser is being held on Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> for 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Museum. This year’s theme is “Jazz under the Stars” and will feature a Silent Auction. Tickets are available on the museum’s website.
- A special “Screams and Disease” tour is being offered the last two weeks of October focusing on the site’s history as a Civil War hospital.

Corinne Marasco – Houses of Worship

- The Smithsonian Associates is offering “Alexandria at War” tours on November 1 and 3. St. Paul’s Episcopal Church is one of the tour sites.

Barbara Marvin – Planning District 1

- No Report

Nigel Mease – Alexandria Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission (AHRPC)

- He introduced himself as the new AHRPC representative.
- The Commission is researching funding to support the easement program.
- An easement is being coordinated for the Swann-Dangerfield House.

Rebecca Rose – Alexandria Historical Society (AHS)

- Golden Grant applications in honor of the Alexandria Historical Society’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary closed October 6<sup>th</sup>. Eleven applications were received and finalists will be awarded later this year.
- AHS is holding a lecture on October 23 at 7 p.m. by Char McCargo Bah about those held in bondage by George Mason IV. The lecture will be held at the Lloyd House.

Tim Rose – Community Representative

- No Report

Gail Rothrock – Historic Alexandria Foundation (HAF)

- The Preliminary Information Form (PIF) for the inclusion of the Torpedo Factory on the National Register of Historic Places was sent to the Department of Historic Resources for consideration.
- HAF’s annual Toast of the Town fundraiser is planned for Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Athenaeum.

Tom Schultz – Alexandria Civic Association

- No Report

Roberta Stevens – Alexandria Association

- The Association’s first program of their 2024-2025 membership year will be held on November 18. The subject is “The Great Commoner Dethroned: William Pitt’s Rise and Fall (and Rise) in British and American Art. Refreshments are served at 7 p.m. followed by the lecture at 7:30 p.m.

Steven Stuart – Planning District 3

- No Report

Ivy Whitlatch – Alexandria Archaeological Commission (AAC)

- The annual Ben Brenman Archaeology in Alexandria Award was presented to Marian Van Landingham on October 8, 2024, at the City Council meeting to honor her work in the founding of the Torpedo Factory Arts Center.

**New Business:**

- No New Business

### **Old Business:**

- Jones Point Lighthouse Update:
  - Carol Black presented a draft letter to send to the City Council with specific information about deteriorating conditions at the Lighthouse site. The letter requested that Alexandria City officials do whatever they can to impress upon the National Park Service the urgency of doing something to immediately address the problems.
  - Discussion included past letters by HARC to the National Park Service and how to ensure that this letter is impactful.
  - A motion was made to send the letter to the City Council. The motion passed.
- The City Hall Renovation:
  - The City's Web page has a list of community meetings, the project timeline and an online survey. <https://www.alexandriava.gov/CityHall>
  - Discussion included HARC's role in this project and ensuring the history of the block is part of the design and interpretation process.
- HARC's FY24 Annual Report was submitted to the City Clerk on September 30, 2024.
- Section 106 for Waterfront Implementation Project: Alexandria's Department of Project Implementation has been invited to either the November or December meeting for a presentation that will also include the Alexandria Archaeological Commission.

### **Standing Committee Reports:**

Alexandria Community Remembrance Project (ACRP) – Mark Farkus, HARC Representative

- The documentary on Alexandria's lynching history can be seen on November 8<sup>th</sup> as part of the Alexandria Film Festival.

Advocacy – Gail Rothrock and Donna DeBlasio, Co-Chairs

- A meeting was held on October 1. Future meetings of the committee will be held only when there is an item they need to address.

OHA Support – Steve Stuart

- The commission's input was solicited on the question "What can we as HARC do to support OHA leadership? Discussion included understanding OHA's needs and identifying preservation issues.

### **Board of Architectural Review (BAR) Update: Bill Conkey**

City Hall Renovation

- The City is hosting a series of public engagement events to discuss the upcoming renovation of the City Hall building. Representatives from the renovation team will be located in the Old Town Farmer's Market in Market Square each Saturday in October from 9:00-11:00. In addition, engagement dates are scheduled for October 28 and 29.

Project updates are available on the City's website:  
<https://www.alexandriava.gov/CityHall>.

#### Design Guidelines

- The Design Guidelines committee is continuing to update the Design Guidelines originally written in 1993. On October 15, 2024, the BAR will see requested revisions to the previously presented window and shutter guidelines. In addition to the revised Guidelines for the Parker Gray District, the Board will consider similar modifications to the Administrative Review Policy for the Old and Historic Alexandria District.

#### 1101 King Street

- Construction has begun on the conversion of the commercial office building located at 1101 King Street into a multi-unit residential building with ground floor retail. The Board reviewed the revisions to the building which include converting much of the above grade parking into residential units. Alterations to the main building entry facing North Henry Street will also be included in this renovation.

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

- The Freedom House exterior restoration is making progress. In the next two weeks, the roof beams will be moved onto the 4<sup>th</sup> floor scaffolding by crane.
- This is a big week in Historic Alexandria, celebrating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lafayette's 1824 visit to Alexandria. Events include walking tours, a marker dedication, a book talk and an interpretive dinner. The delegation from Caen, Alexandria's sister city, has arrived for the event and will be touring City departments as well as tourism sites in DC.
- The annual Alexandria Cider Festival will take place at the Lloyd House on November 23 from 1 to 5 p.m. We are always looking for volunteers and ways to increase our ticket sales!

#### **Public Comment**

- No members of the public attended the meeting.

The Historic Alexandria Resources Commission meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m. The next meeting will take place on November 19, 2024, at the Lloyd House.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Bramley, OHA  
Roberta Stevens, HARC Secretary