

Alexandria Archaeological Commission  
Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2016 - FINAL

**Members Present:**

Elizabeth (Indy) McCall, Member at Large  
(Chair)  
Mary Jane Nugent, Friends of Alexandria  
Archaeology (Vice Chair)  
Ann Davin, Alexandria Association  
(Secretary)  
Georgia (Katy) Cannady, Alexandria  
Historical Society  
Jacob (Jake) Hoogland, Member at Large  
Mark Ludlow, Member at Large  
Janice Magnuson, Planning District III

S. Kathleen Pepper, Society for the  
Preservation of Black Heritage  
Edward (Ted) Pulliam, Member at Large  
Ralph Rosenbaum, Member at Large  
Rebecca Siegel, Planning District II  
Seth Tinkham, Historic Alexandria  
Foundation

**Members Absent: None**

**City Staff:**

Fran Bromberg, City Archaeologist

**1. Call to order:**

The AAC's Chair, Indy McCall, called the meeting to order at 7: 20 p.m.

**2. Review and Approval of Minutes:**

Voted to accept minutes as amended

**3. Chair Reports:**

HARC: Indy gave a brief summary regarding HARC's discussion at their last meeting regarding the Ramsay Homes and the proposed plans for the area. HARC wants a review of the preservation options for the Ramsay Homes by an independent group and have Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA) comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Federal Housing money is involved that triggers the Section 106 process. ARHA had requested rezoning the 74-year-old Ramsey Homes property to accommodate a 53-unit project for low- and moderate-income residents.

Discussion occurred around next step for AAC that focused on supporting HARC in their advocacy of the Ramsay Homes and to step in to assist them if necessary. AAC should provide HARC with information on the history and preservation value of the Ramsay Homes and the Section 106 process that HARC can use in their presentation to City Council and ARHA. A motion was made by Jake Hoogland that AAC become a consulting party in the Section 106 process and Seth Tinkham was designated as our agent to receive correspondence for AAC in this matter. Motion was seconded by Seth and approved by AAC members unanimously.

**4. Membership Issues:**

Outreach efforts to find new members for two open seats on commission continue.

**5. Strategic Plan – 2016-2020:**

Edits were made to the Strategic Plan as presented by Indy. A motion by Indy was made to accept the Strategic Plan with edits, motion was seconded by Janice Magnuson and approved by members unanimously.

## **6. Threatened Sites:**

AAC members decided to select a date in April for the forum on Threatened Sites to give people more time to plan and also to alert the nominees and public to changes in the forum's premise. There are enough nominees that if each were to speak for 3 minutes plus, that alone would take an hour and half and so would need to start earlier than 6 or 7 p.m. for a weeknight or hold the conference on a Saturday.

Commission members decided to email all nominees with the updated information and to send a press release to the public announcing the forum. The commission members organizing the forum will coordinate with OHA on logistics for the day and ask FOAA for assistance as well. Indy will get together with Kathleen Pepper to draft Press release.

In May there is a conference with BAR that includes cultural significance (Ramsay Housing), session on archaeology and the Archaeological Protection Code, and additionally the importance of historic wells to understanding local history and lifestyles. AAC members discussed that this type of conference should be done annually or bi-annually to keep up with current and future construction developments.

## **7. Meeting Locations:**

- Del Ray meeting off the calendar until new office manager hired for Del Ray Artisans.
- March meeting to be held at Archaeology Museum.
- FOAA members have suggested that we have a "Spring2ACTion Happy Hour" on Wednesday, April 20 – with AAC. Rebecca Siegel suggested having the joint meeting of AAC and FOAA at Gadsby's Tavern. She also raised the issue that FOAA needs more active members.

## **8. Staff Reports:**

- Arts Nights – commission members discussed sending written comments to Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities Department. AAC should have input into program, at least we can send comments to Recreation Parks & Cultural Activities.
- Fran Bromberg announced that there may be funding to hire a professional to write Old Town North (OTN) History Plan to accompany OTN Small Area Plan.
- Fran Bromberg also announced that Mark Ludlow, AAC member, will be giving a Java Jolt lecture, this Saturday, on amateurs and professionals using metal detectors.
- Fran Bromberg updated AAC regarding the boat - the Navy took a series of 3d photos and is feeding them into a computer. The result will be a 3d image that might be used to construct a model of the boat. Dendrochronology results may be available next week that may determine where the wood used in the boat construction originated. The longer length of 70 feet (as opposed to 50 feet) would influence what the boat was used for and how far it travelled. There is the possibility that it could have been an open ocean going vessel. OHA is going to support funding for preserving the boat. It is at the top of their list.

## **9. Record Volunteer Hours**

**10.** The meeting was adjourned at 10 p.m.