

Alexandria Archaeological Commission (AAC)
Minutes of January 16, 2018 Meeting

Members Present:

Elizabeth (Indy) McCall, Member at Large (Chair)
Ivy Whitlatch, Planning District I (Vice Chair)
Ann Davin, Alexandria Association (Secretary)
Jacob Hoogland, Member at Large
Janice Magnuson, Planning District III
Richard Owens, Friends of Alexandria Archaeology
Edward (Ted) Pulliam, Member at Large
Ralph Rosenbaum, Member at Large
Seth Tinkham, Historic Alexandria Foundation

Esther White, Planning District II

Staff:

Eleanor Breen, City Archaeologist

Absent:

Georgia (Katy) Cannady, Alexandria Historical Society, unexcused
Dylan Colligan, Business Community, Excused
Mark Ludlow, Member at Large, unexcused

Call to Order:

Indy called the meeting to order at 7: 04 p.m.

Review and Approval of Minutes

AAC members reviewed the November and December minutes and made edits to the minutes.

- Esther White moved to accept the November minutes as amended and Ivy Whitlatch seconded the motion, all members agreed.
- Richard Owens moved to accept the December minutes as amended and Ted Pulliam seconded the motion, all members agreed.

Chair Reports: Elizabeth (Indy) McCall

Easements

Indy updated Commission members regarding the meeting held with Department of Historic Resources and Preservation Virginia regarding preservation and open space easements in Alexandria. In attendance were representatives from the Historic Alexandria Foundation, Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR), Preservation Virginia and an assistant Attorney General. Discussions revealed a disconnect between BAR and VDHR over preservation issues, Certified Local Government (CLG) training and enforcement of easements. With new leadership there is an opportunity to re-open communications between the State and City agencies and to develop better relationships.

VDHR plans to update and strengthen the open space easements and will also include archaeology and other aspects not previously covered.

Ben Brenman Awards

AAC members voted to re-nominate Janice Magnuson and Ann Davin to the Ben Brenman Awards Committee.

AAC Membership

Indy has discussed with City Clerk's office and received permission for the internal re-arrangement of commission members. There are precedents from other City Commissions. Mark Ludlow applied to City

Council to be a member of the Waterfront Commission as a representative of the Alexandria Archaeological Commission .

Planning Updates and Reports (as needed)

Waterfront Commission

Ted Pulliam reported on an email from the Waterfront Commission that discussed City Council's long-range draft Strategic Plan for fiscal year 2020, and the wording regarding the Waterfront History Plan. Eleanor Breen, City Archaeologist, sees the Waterfront History Implementation process as being similar to the Fort Ward Interpretive Plan, but more complicated. Indy will consult with Gretchen Bulova, Director of Office of Historic Alexandria, and get her recommendations before drafting a response to the email.

The Waterfront Park will open in February and the Art installation will be up in March or April.

Planning Meeting

Indy McCall and Ivy Whitlatch reported that at the planning meeting the agenda for the Thursday, January 24 meeting was discussed. During the meeting, long-range planning for AAC was discussed, as well as a vision for Alexandria Archaeology and how it interplays with OHA and the City. Also discussed the competition for money and financing and the need for comprehensive approach to history and preservation.

Member Reports

Ship Committee

The Ship Committee Survey has gone live through e-News and is proving very popular. It will be active for two weeks.

The Ship Committee toured the Prince Street facility of the Washington Alexandria Architecture School Center, part of Virginia Tech. Staff of the school asked Alexandria Archaeology staff and the Ship Committee to participate in Spring Studio presentations. The presentations may provide some ideas for a maritime museum, but only on an ideas level.

The results of the Ship Committee survey and the next steps will be discussed at the next meeting. .

The Virginia Association of Museums (VAM)

VAM is hosting its Virginia's Top 10 Endangered Artifacts People's Choice Awards and the Friendship Firehouse Museum of Alexandria has nominated the 1858 Prettyman Hose Carriage which needs restoration.

FOAA

FOAA members are getting ready for the George Washington Birthday Parade. Dick Owens reported that the newsletter is being brought back in digital format. FOAA plans to reinvigorate JAVA Jolt with evening presentations and discussions.

Ramsay Homes

Seth Tinkham reported that the MOA Summary Progress Report is due at the end of January and had nothing else to report at this time.

Volunteer Party

Saturday, January 19, Volunteer party will have food and drinks donated from local businesses. Eleanor reported that there will be a show stopper after the awards presentations.

Record Volunteer Hours

Motion to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. made by Seth Tinkham, seconded by Jake Hoogland and agreed to by all members.