

Alexandria Archaeological Commission Meeting
Minutes of December 18, 2019

Members Present:

Ivy Whitlatch, Planning District I (Chair)
Esther White, Planning District II (Vice Chair)
Dylan Colligan, Business Community
Mark Ludlow, Member at Large
Janice Magnuson, Planning District III (Acting Secretary)
Richard (Dick) Owens, Friends of Alexandria Archaeology,
Edward (Ted) Pulliam, Member at Large
Ralph Rosenbaum, Member at Large
Seth Tinkham, Historic Alexandria Foundation
Elizabeth Vehmeyer, Member at Large

Members Excused:

Georgia (Katy) Cannady, Alexandria Historical Society
Ann Davin, Member at Large (Secretary)
Jacob Hoogland, Member at Large

City Staff:

Eleanor Breen, City Archaeologist

Call to Order: Ivy Whitlatch, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. following the holiday potluck.

Review and Approval of Minutes: AAC members reviewed the November minutes. Ralph Rosenbaum moved to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by Dylan Colligan.

Chair Report: Ivy introduced a new member, Elizabeth Vehmeyer, Member at Large.

- Ivy presented a draft of the Proclamation that will be presented to Elizabeth (Indy) McCall, previous AAC Chair and historical community leader, at the volunteer party. Various ideas were proposed as the best way to honor her.
- Alexandria Archaeological Support Committees
 - Museum Support – Dick Owens met with Eleanor Breen for ideas.
 - Civic Engagement – Dylan met with the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership (AEDP) to discuss opportunities to connect with local businesses.

Ralph asked if Alexandria Archaeology is participating with the American Institute of Archaeologists (AIA) meeting January 3, 2020. Eleanor said Emma Richardson will be attending.

- Ivy initiated a discussion of parking spaces on the Strand behind Mai Thai restaurant. Mark Ludlow will speak about this on behalf of AAC at the Waterfront Commission meeting on December 19. Dylan suggested that a statement be agreed on for presentation at the meeting. The agreed upon statement is “Keep the property within the City for future discussion of historical and interpretive opportunities”. Ivy moved to accept this seconded by Seth Tinkham.

Planning Updates:

- **Waterfront:** Scanning of the ship continues at the bus barn, work is on or ahead of schedule. Four hundred fifty timbers have been scanned representing about one and a half ships. Printing has begun from the first timbers scanned. It is one to twelve inch scaled. The final model of ship 3 will be very larger, estimated at 8 – 12 feet long.
- **Waterfront Commission:** Mark attended an informational meeting about closing of King Street (100 block) below Fairfax Street from Friday evenings through Sunday. He also learned that the Robinson Terminal North project will not go forward.
- **River Renew:** Ivy reported that lead has been found in the soil at Robinson Terminal North but it is not expected to be a problem with the construction of the diversion tunnel. There will be no further stakeholder meetings.
- **African Heritage Trail:** Eleanor said the release of the northern section should be released in April 2020 and will include a public presentation.
- **Ramsey Homes:** The City failed to meet a deadline for a programmatic agreement. That is acceptable as long as the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority provides the information in the December report.
- **Cemeteries:** Eleanor will provide a PowerPoint presentation for the January 2020 meeting. Seven hundred eighty graves were found at Douglass Cemetery and 2,075 at Penny Hill. The cemeteries were used about 200 years ago.
- Ivy described the new art installation for the foot of King Street. It will be installed in March 2020.
- Esther White suggested Freedom House be added to the regular agenda. She reported that the Commonwealth of Virginia Governor's budget included \$2.4 million for Freedom House.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m., moved and seconded by Dick and Ted Pulliam.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 15, 2020, at 7 p.m. at the Lloyd House, 220 North Washington Street.