

MINUTES
ALEXANDRIA HISTORICAL RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION COMMISSION
8:00 a.m.
Wednesday, July 8, 2015
Lloyd House, 220 North Washington Street

In Attendance: Barnes, Batey, Commisso, Edouard, Heiden, Murphy, Sennewald, Sprinkle, Yianilos
Excused:
City Staff: J.Lance Mallamo, Director, Office of Historic Alexandria
Catherine K. Miliaras, Urban Planner, Historic Preservation, Planning & Zoning
Department
Guests: Tim & Helen Lloyd, Laura Plaze, Deborah Nagle, Zorana Ilic, Thomas Byrne,
Charles Trozzo, Josh Nadas (NPS), Stephen Pisani (NPS)

Chairman John Sprinkle called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.
The Minutes of the June 3, 2015 meeting were approved unanimously.

ALEXANDRIA ALLEYS SURVEY

The next alley meeting will be July 16. The committee is seeking private donations to hire an intern to assist with the introduction, Adobe in-design and GIS applications.

POTOMAC YARD METRO STATION

John Sprinkle indicated that a sign indicating the location of the new Potomac Yard metro station has been installed. Lisa Edouard stressed that there will be no access from the GW Parkway.

WATERFRONT PLAN

Robert Sennewald discussed that there is an improvement in the implementation of the Waterfront plan regarding capital and infrastructure improvements, completion of flooding and drainage and Fitzgerald Square. This has prioritized a focus in the 20 year implementation of the plan.

There is a monitoring group set up to oversee construction activities associated with the Waterfront development.

Mr. Mallamo indicated that there will be a meeting this afternoon between Office of Historic Alexandria, Planning & Zoning and FPCA (Office of the Arts) on historic interpretation at the Robinson Terminal projects.

EASEMENTS

420 South Lee Street:

Thomas Byrne made a presentation on his research on 420 S. Lee Street that indicated it was originally built as a "Flounder" house in 1780. He is making an application to the BAR for a new wood picket fence along the Lee Street frontage. The fence would be 4' tall, 3 1/2" wide pickets, 2" apart, adding a 3' gate to the southern end with wooden posts every 6'.

John Sprinkle sought to clarify other issues on the site; window wells have been installed (except for the one at the rear); the porch has been constructed.

Carter Batey made a motion to prepare a letter stating that the applicant prefers a wooden fence.

The Commission has no objection to either a wood picket or iron fence per original proposal in 2001, provided that the width of the gate doesn't exceed 3' and that the temporary driveway should be removed. The motion was seconded by Lisa Edouard with 8 members in favor and 1 Abstention.

Two National Park Service representatives were introduced, a planner and historical Architect for the George Washington Memorial Parkway.

HARC REPORT

Mr. Mallamo indicated that HARC nominated the Ramsey Homes, Old Town Historic Alleys and 1800 Mt. Vernon Ave to a new 'Endangered and Threatened Buildings' list being established by the Alexandria Archaeological Commission.

OHA REPORT

Mr. Mallamo reported that there was nothing new to report.

PLANNING & ZONING REPORT

There will be two BAR appeals in September:

Ramsey Homes by ARHA

226 The Strand demolition - Old Alexandria Marine Building.

Lance Mallamo will email AHRPC a notice concerning the July 15 presentation on Ramsey Homes Redevelopment.

NEW BUSINESS

Ford House:

Helen Lloyd, current owner of 514 Crown View Drive, made a presentation seeking support of a measure to protect the house and neighborhood from future development. A group of 28 people has formed to explore the possibility of forming a historic district around the Ford House which is a national historic landmark. The development of the Clover neighborhood began in 1948 on the former Woodward. It was created by Mr. Rosie T. Beech, who designed and built each house and lived at the top of the hill.

Lots in that area were laid out in a larger size than others lower down to take advantage of the views to the Potomac River.

John Sprinkle indicated that this is the most important house in Alexandria. Catherine Milliaras stated that Planning & Zoning has met with representatives of the group and if more than 50 % of the neighbors are in favor of such designation, it would be seriously considered. No historic district has been established in the city since Parker-Gray was designated in 1984.

Michael Commisso suggested that 'Open Space Easements' would be another option for protection. Although the developer believes he is working within current coding laws, the neighbors are challenging that issue.

Mrs. Lloyd described her view that she is a curator for the house and that she has tried to retain the original features.

Lisa Edouard asked what the neighbor's "ideal" option that might meet the needs of both the developer and the neighbors would be?

Mrs. Lloyd would like to see the "Beecher's" parcel become public open space, a pocket-park or a very low new home. She also indicated that the Clover neighborhood is a curvilinear design, whereas College Park is laid out in a grid system.

Mr. Mallamo brought up that other resources nearby include the stone walls and horse trough that border Janney's Lane.

NEXT AHRPC MEETING DATE

The date of the next meeting was set for Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015, at 8 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
J. Lance Mallamo, Staff to the Commission
John H. Sprinkle, Jr., Chair, AHRPC