

MINUTES

ALEXANDRIA HISTORICAL RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION COMMISSION

8:00 a.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2015

Lloyd House, 220 North Washington Street

In Attendance: Batey, Heiden, Murphy, Sennewald, Sprinkle, Yianilos
Excused: Barnes, Commisso, Edouard
City Staff: J.Lance Mallamo, Director, Office of Historic Alexandria
Catherine K. Miliaras, Urban Planner, Historic Preservation, Planning & Zoning
Department
Guests: Charles Trozzo

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m.

No Quorum was achieved by the call to order so consideration of the September 9, 2015 meeting minutes was deferred until a quorum was achieved. Motioned by Patrick Murphy and seconded by Christopher Yianilos.

ALEXANDRIA ALLEYS SURVEY

Mr. Mallamo reported that the Alley Committee will make a presentation and an on-site "Walkabout" in Alexandria as part of the National Trust & Historic Preservation Conference in November.

POTOMAC YARD METRO STATION

John Sprinkle reported that he read a news article in which the Alexandria City Manager indicated that there would be a 6 month delay in the planning process associated with the new station.

WATERFRONT PLAN

Robert Sennewald reported on the ongoing heavy construction at the Hotel Indigo site on S. Union Street and distributed a letter from the “Carr City Center Team” to area residents concerning the construction schedule for the site. He also described a proposal now being considered for the Robinson Terminal South site. There is also a proposal taking shape for Robinson Terminal North and he suggested the Commission discuss this at the November meeting.

Catherine Miliaras reported that the plans for Robinson Terminal South are being reviewed by BAR and the color palette for the waterfront is being considered as part of that review.. She also reported that the “Gadsby” lampposts throughout Old Town are coming to the end of their useful and a new style, closer in appearance to original streetlight fixtures is being considered for installation. These would be installed first along the waterfront and later throughout Old Town, replacing the 1960’s era Gadsby lights. A prototype is being fabricated and will be installed shortly near City Hall for public inspection before the design is finalized.

RAMSAY HOMES

John Sprinkle reported that a lawsuit has being filed by HAF and a private citizen against the City concerning the approval of demolition of the Ramsay Homes in September. The suit alleges that the City improperly considered the issue beyond the legal date required and that improper issues were discussed during the long public hearing on overturning the Parker-Gray Board of Architectural Review (BAR) unanimous decision to deny demolition. Mr. Sprinkle further informed members that the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation had written a letter to the City on the matter and the necessary Sec. 106 process. Catherine Miliaras stated that the City will be notified when the Section 106 process begins and will notify the Commission if it chooses to become a participating party to the process..

EASEMENTS

Fitzgerald Warehouse Project

Catherine Miliaras stated that there was nothing new to report on this proposal at this time..

420 South Lee Street

Catherine Miliaras stated that the homeowner requested a deferral of his application one day before the scheduled BAR meeting.

Charles Trozzo reported a situation where refinements were added to a project under review by BAR at the last minute, preventing the public from having an opportunity to also review and comment on the changes. Catherine Miliaras stated & informed members that the decision in this case had been deferred and that a process to post last minute design refinements for public review is now being implemented.

Ariail House (Lord Fairfax House)

Mary Heiden indicated that she had received a call from Leslie Ariail concerning the easement on her former home on Cameron Street. Mr. Mallamo informed members that he had already contacted Historic Preservation Manager Al Cox about possible construction on the interior of the dwelling, which is covered by a preservation easement. Mr. Cox was aware of plumbing, electrical and tile work that was in process but indicated that BAR review was not necessary. Mr. Mallamo and he will keep apprised of any upcoming renovations for referral to AHRPC.

HARC REPORT

Mr. Mallamo reported that at the last HARC meeting a short discussion on Confederate issues was held and Christopher Yianilos suggested that this was an issue that the Commission should consider getting involved in. HARC is one of several commissions and organizations that will have one Appointment to the new Advisory Committee being established by the City and there are two open spots for city residents. HARC will meet on October 20 and the Commission will wait to hear who is selected to represent historical concerns.

OHA REPORT

Mr. Mallamo reported on the FY 2017 budget process and encouraged Commission members to attend one of the four Civic Engagement meetings being presented by the City over the next week. He will send a link to members concerning the Confederate Committee and the Civic Engagement meeting locations. He also informed members that new landscaping will be installed at Lloyd house on October 24 by a local Eagle Scout, using the design and plant list developed by AHRPC member Patrick Murphy who has worked many hours to provide an authentic 18th century garden landscape along the brick walls on Queen Street.

PLANNING & ZONING REPORT

Catherine Miliaras stated that there was nothing new to report

NEW BUSINESS

No new business

NEXT AHRPC MEETING DATE

The date of the next meeting was set for Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2015, at 8 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
J.Lance Mallamo, Staff to the Commission