

Alexandria Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission
MINUTES

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

8:00 a.m

Virtual Meeting via Zoom Webinar

In Attendance: Cindy Stevens, Susan Horne, Melinda Barnes, Deborah Osborne, Marie Smith, Michael Commisso, Taryn Anthony,
Excused: Carter Batey
Unexcused:
City Staff: Whitney Harris, staff, Office of Historic Alexandria
Dan Lee, staff, Office of Historic Alexandria

Guests:

1. Call to Order – Chairwoman Horne called the meeting to order 8:05 am
2. Reading of Virtual Meeting Notice - Harris read the notice language
3. Consideration and Approval of Minutes of January meetings as amended – Stevens motioned for approval, Barnes seconded, Unanimous Approval
4. Advocacy Updates – Question about Virginia Bill 1760, Batey will check for us with the proposer, who is from Loudon County
 - a. HARC Report- Osborne was chosen for another 2-year term as AHRPC rep to HARC. She needs to filled out required paperwork to make that official. Presentation on Historic Presentation
River Farm adjacent to Mount Vernon is up for sale, but not in Alexandria City limits
Old Hotel on Washington Street will be integrated into new structure, Liberty gas station
Is still not in compliance
Carlyle House is now open. Moving office to first floor of the Bank of Alexandria building.
The Apothecary Museum received designation as a National Historic Landmark
 - b. OHA Report – Lee encouraged members to attend Ramsey Homes Symposium on Feb. 11. Lloyd House renovation is still not complete. Freedom House is almost done, but is waiting for elevator replacement and end of COVID restrictions.
 - b. City Updates – Lee read report by Hellman, Commission expressed concern about Heritage Project development, There’s a lot of opposition from Historic Alexandria Foundation, question is about scale, not affordable housing, Question about number of members who can attend mentorship program

c.

7. New Business – Discussion about Easement policies after documents being sent out last week. Horne would like more clarity for new easements, especially for criteria for taking them. Osborne is concerned that easements can be amended in covenants, and that it's not clear enough. Horne wants clarification on financial benefits, Send out easement list, Be aware that other entities own easements on properties in Alexandria. Smith asked whether there was an easement on the Vowell-Smith House at 510 Wolfe. Horne said no, but she suggested reaching out to the owners and identifying other properties where the commission can send out information and then gauge interest in putting easements on the property.

8. Updates/Issues-

9. Next meeting March 10, 2021 at 8 a.m. (virtual)

10. Adjournment – Susan Horne adjourned meeting at 8.57 a.m.