

Alexandria Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission

MINUTES

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

8:00 a.m

Virtual Meeting via Zoom Webinar

In Attendance: Cindy Stevens, Susan Horne, Melinda Barnes, Deborah Osborne, Marie Smith, Carter Batey

Excused: Michael Commisso, Taryn Anthony,

Unexcused:

City Staff: Whitney Harris, staff, Office of Historic Alexandria
Dan Lee, staff, Office of Historic Alexandria
Susan Hellman, staff, Historic Preservation Office

Guests:

1. Call to Order – Chairwoman Horne called the meeting to order 8:06 am

2. Reading of Virtual Meeting Notice - Harris read the notice language

3. Consideration and Approval of Minutes of February meetings as amended – Stevens motioned for approval, Barnes seconded, Unanimous Approval

4. Advocacy Updates – Horne sent letters to two property owners asking them if they are interested in easements. Looking for other ideas as far as new properties. Smith asked about relationship between HAF plaques and easements.

Batey explained how Virginia Bill 1760 passed, and how it affects AHRPC. Discussion about intersection between Historic Preservation and Affordable Housing. This came to a head about the Heritage Project.

- a. HARC Report- Torpedo Factory meeting last night, HARC recommended that there be better signage at the building. Heritage Project update. BAR is not happy with size and design. Martha Raymond was concerned about fireproofing of materials in relationship to the Arlington fire.

River Farm adjacent to Mount Vernon is up for sale, but not in Alexandria City limits, the state is in support of the sale. The Horticultural Society rejected an offer from NOVA Parks, but they will rebid.

Hilco development plan is starting to want to meet with the community. There's an environmental impact plan.

The Elks Lodge is still raising money for preservation.

The Judge Black House is still having a hearing in April.

b. OHA Report – Three museums are reopening on March 25. Lloyd House renovation is still not complete. Freedom House is almost done but is waiting for elevator replacement and end of COVID restrictions.

c. City Updates – Explain 100YOB (and what that does). Must go through application process and be designated via Council ordinance. Have approx. 34 now. All outside historic districts, as those within HDs are protected. Exterior changes for 100YOBs must go to BAR and follow same guidelines as Old and Historic Alexandria District. As discussed, City Council approved the Heritage project at their February hearing. It will return to the BAR for a Certificate of Appropriateness. We do not have a date for that yet.

The 101 Duke Street project converting a parking garage to six townhouses returned to the BAR for a second concept review on March 3. They had made substantial changes based on the BAR's previous comments. A future concept review or Permit to Demolish/Certificate of Appropriateness has not yet been submitted.

We have not yet scheduled the virtual NAPC CAMP training and do not have full details as to attendance guidelines. We hope that AHRPC, HARC, HAF, and other groups may be able to send representatives. We do know that it will take place over two half days, with three topics covered per day. It will take place at some point in late April or May. I will let you know as soon as I have full details.

We are working with OHA staff on Preservation Month planning for May.

Ramsey Homes Symposium 3/11 now online.

215 N. Patrick cell appeal (prob 4/17)

d.

7. Old Business-A discussion about resuming easement inspections. Lee will provide list of properties that we still have to inspect. Horne requests that next month we present Purvi Irwin's presentation. We will have it available for next month.

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.

8. Updates/Issues-

9. Next meeting April 14, 2021 at 8 a.m. (virtual)

10. Adjournment – Susan Horne adjourned meeting at 9:02 a.m.