

## Alexandria Historical Society Board Meeting

May 9, 2017

### Alexandria Black History Museum

**Previously Announced Absences:** Mark

**Call to Order:** Debbie Ackerman at 6:30pm

Jim arrived 6:39pm

**Approval of Board Minutes: April Minutes:** Revised minutes sent out today (May 9, 2017).

Audrey made the motion to approve Minutes.

Tal seconded.

All approved.

### Board Member Reports

**Vice-President:** : Audrey Davis- Following up from the Awards ceremony - tickets to Mount Vernon were given to the High School students. They received 3 tickets. Adults received 2 tickets. Board members received 1 ticket. If Board Members chose not to take a ticket, it will be saved for later as a raffle or award for the general public.

Tal made the final payment to Mount Vernon for the House Tour/Whiskey Tasting in April. The event was considered successful, even though we did not make any money. Tal reminded us that the purpose was not as a money-maker, but to raise our awareness.

The next lecture is May 24<sup>th</sup> – Mark Tooley. Board members agreed that we should have it videotaped. Debbie will contact Jay Bartol, videographer.

Adrienne Washington will be the speaker on June 28 discussing the African American cemetery at Fort Ward.

Audrey confirmed members of Programs Committee – Mark and Debbie indicated an interest in participating.

AHS had considering partnering again with Ivy Hill Cemetery for a Teddy Bear picnic this summer. This is scheduled for July. However, AHS is not prepared and will be unable to participate, but we may consider an event later in the summer.

Discussion of possible collaborations – AHS, OHA, MV – Freedman's and Mount Vernon slave cemetery.

Consider getting a Bus Tour – 5/10 meeting at 10:00 am.

**Treasurer:** Tal Day – checking account is drawn down. Discretion needed for spending. We need to Operate out of operations

Didn't publish 1 Chronicle – need \$1600 more if publish 2

\$500 short of projections

Filing done, reg. mailed

Awards Ceremony-\$1203.43 without refreshments

Could OHA help if co-sponsored?

Collaborate

Investments continue to appreciate

General Fund – good any purpose

#### **Old Business:**

**Book Project**-- Tal – stated he hasn't talked to anyone about proofs.

Should have appeared in Chronicle

Offer opportunity to update/revise

Patrick expressed that the article about Washington's house on Cameron/burial was well done. Jim indicated the need to have Mt. Vernon involved in any publication that we consider.

Discussion about Editing phase – who would take on this task. Whether publication would be glue bound or soft bound? Have illustrations? How often we would publish -compiling essays every 5 years? Collecting bids for the cost; timeframe of two years to put it together. Tal believes cost would be about \$5,000 – the cost of the publication should be priced to make money. Jim noted that we settle on the price before we take on this project, e.g could we make it for \$8 and sell it for \$12? Patrick brought up whether we have the ability to do this. Jackie will check previous AHS publications which she has in her files. Tal will work with Linda Greenberg about the rights of publication. He noted that we must decide on what to pursue first

#### **New Business:**

**HARC** -- has vacancy

Debbie Ackerman stated that she asked our new Board member, Krystyn Moon, if she would like to fill this vacancy, She wants to become comfortable with being a Board member before she commits to anything else. HARC meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month and AHS representative would take notes and report back to the Board.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Membership**-4 new members

**The Chronicle**-Ginny Hamill discussion of working with Catherine to publish her article on the Fire of 1855. Ginny is also considering an article on the Alexandria Sewer system beginning in the 1830's being researched by Bill Dickinson. Ginny is also considering an article on the Fairfax area of Alexandria and when it was sold back to the original owners.

**Newsletter/Flyer**-Jackie Cohan – the Board slate and the amendment of the by-laws were not included in the May newsletter. She will include the information on the May vote in the June newsletter. The May newsletter will go out on May 12. She noted that only 10 newsletters are being mailed -almost all electronic now

**Website**-Caroline English- She has put the newsletters of the past two years on the website. She is working on putting the minutes up. The award winners are now on the website, but she needs their biographies. Discussion of getting rid of the hard book tab. Also discussed whether the newsletters and minutes should be open to the public or to members only. Caroline has also updated the videos.

Board discussed about getting a photo release from the student award winners' parents next year so that we could post their pictures on the website. City has a standard release that we could use.

**Publicity**-Jim Mackay – News releases went out on the 4th, 17<sup>th</sup>; banner will be put out on 18<sup>th</sup>. Dan Lee also sends out an email which includes our lectures. Jim stated that Mark Tooley will be contacting C-Span about covering the lecture. Regarding refreshments – there are two bottles of red wine leftover from April.

**Correspondence**-Patrick Ladden/Steve Kimbel– – Patrick showed Steve the duties of positions. Donations of postcards will be given to Special Collections.

**Alexandria Archaeological Commission**-Katy Cannady– A Ribbon Cutting ceremony is scheduled for May 13 at 8:30 AM at the Joe Reeder House on Prince Street – 18<sup>th</sup> century property recently acquired by the City through the efforts of Lance Mallamo. Tours will be from 9-12 a.m. A Reception will also be held on May 25<sup>th</sup> 5:30 – 7:30 – register on-line

Katy stated that nominations are still open for the Ben Brenman Award – history/archaeology background

**Hospitality**-Debbie Ackerman stated that Caroline and Ginny will set up for May. They will contact Patrick or Mark for instructions on getting the liquor license.

June lecture -Mark has volunteered and Debbie offered to assist.

**Awards Evening**-Julia Randle/Debbie Ackerman – Julia had conversations with Lance – noted decline in number of nominations for Adult award. He is willing to send an additional letter through city email. This could increase the number of nominations received. Discussion of whether we should add an award specific to city employees – someone not in the professional history field, but with an interest in this area. This nomination might increase our audience and bring in new people. Would we want to do it every year? Julia will come up with proposal.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Ginny; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve.

Adjourned at 7:54 p.m.