

Alexandria Historical Society Minutes

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Meeting convened at 6:30 p.m.

Watson Reading Room

Present: Krystyn Moon, Severiano Ortiz, Michael Reynolds, Spencer Mills, and Debbie Ackerman.

Absent: Tal Day, Audrey Davis, Catherine Weinraub, Nate Sleeter, Ginny Hamill, Fran Bromberg, Elizabeth Peckham, Steve Kimbel, and Katy Cannady.

1. Approval of November's Minutes
 - We will be delaying the vote on November 12's meeting minutes until the March meeting due to low meeting turnout.
2. Discussion with Andy Gilbert from Hogan and Lovells US LLP:
 - Andy is providing legal help to AHS to revise our by-laws and constitution.
 - We will be voting on various legal changes at the March meeting of the board.
3. Retirements/Appointments (Krystyn—Prez)
 - One retirement from the board—Elizabeth Peckham
 - Two officers plan to shift responsibilities—Krystyn Moon (stepping down as president) and Catherine Weinraub (stepping down as secretary)
 - Catherine will continue to work on programming
 - Krystyn's role is TBD
 - Michael Reynolds will also take on the responsibility of editing the *Alexandria Chronicle* next year
 - Tal Day's role is TBD
 - Will make an announcement in the March newsletter of open board member positions that need to be filled.
 - Will need to know of any additional retirements by March 1.
4. Awards Night Preparations (Debbie—Awards)
 - Awards night to take place on April 22nd at 7:30pm.
 - We discussed ideas for speakers.
 - Also need to obtain from previous board member how to solicit nominations for the community awards.
5. Publicity (Krystyn/Sev—Prez/Treasurer)
 - Need to reach out to inform local organizations/museums (Carlyle House etc.) that might be interested in Tom Foster's "Founding Fathers" talk.
 - Notify Alexandria Police Department about "Jewish Old Town Alexandria" talk on May 27th to in relation to heightened instances of anti-semitism in the US.
 - Will expect a large turnout for Masonic Memorial talk but will want to reach out to local Mason Lodges too.

6. Social Media (Spencer—Social Media)
 - Create events on Facebook with a link to Eventbrite
 - Look into using AHS funds to “Promote” Facebook and Instagram posts to audiences that currently don't follow AHS
 - Still need people to write Bios for AHS website
7. Upcoming Talks (Krystyn—Prez)
 - Looking forward to the fall:
 - Need to confirm Ben Skolnik’s September Talk
 - Need to find speaker for October 2020
 - Possibly ask Reverend Joe Thompson to discuss VTS’s reparations work
 - Possibly ask Ryan Ryft from the Library of Congress to give a talk on WWII military housing
8. Treasurer Report (Sev—Treasurer)
 - Financial statements (Income Statement and Balance Sheet) were sent out for Jul-Dec & Jul-Jan.
 - Everything is stable and doing well.
9. Correspondence (Steve—Correspondence)
 - Steve submitted his report via email.
10. HARC (Sev—HARC Rep)
 - Freedom House purchased by the city.
11. Alexandria Archaeology Commission (Krystyn—Prez)
 - Krystyn gave update using the Commission’s December 2019 minutes.