

Alexandria Historical Society Minutes

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

Meeting convened at 6:40 p.m.
Watson Reading Room

Present: Tal Day, Severiano Ortiz, Fran Bromberg, Elizabeth Peckham, Michael Reynolds, Spencer Mills, Steve Kimbel, Katy Cannady, Debbie Ackerman.

Absent: Krystyn Moon, Audrey Davis, Catherine Weinraub, Nate Sleeter, and Ginny Hamill.

Sev announced that he would be chairing the meeting because the President, Krystyn Moon, and Vice-President, Audrey Davis, could not be available.

1. October Board Minutes approved unanimously.

2. Awards Night in April – Sev

Brief discussion of speaker for the evening and request for considerations.

3. Board Vacancies – Sev

- Krystyn will be leaving as Board President in June 2020.
- Elizabeth Peckham will be stepping down as a board member.
 - Both of these positions will need to be filled.
- Tal will check with Ginny Hamill regarding her continuance on the board.
- Discussion of board assignments. Tal has taken on responsibility as editor of the “Chronicle.”

4. Revision of By-Laws – Sev

- A review of the by-laws was discussed including the separation of the Secretary’s duties into Recording Secretary and Correspondence Secretary, resulting in five officers on the Board. Also, discussion of separate board assignments for Membership and Website responsibilities alleviating overlap with the Treasurer’s responsibilities.

5. Lecture Series for 2020 – 2021 - Sev

- **March 2020** – Tom Foster - “Founding Fathers, Sexuality, and Public Memory”
- **May 2020** - Jewish immigration to Alexandria.
- Catherine has reached out to the Jewish Historical Society of D.C. for a speaker. Tatiana with Alexandria Archaeology was brought up as a future speaker.
- **June 2020** - Mark A. Tibbert’s “A Short History of Shuter’s Hill and the Construction of the

George Washington Masonic National Memorial”

- A “Members Only Event” on May 7 at 6 p.m. is being arranged by Catherine at Ivy Hill Cemetery. A second event will be at the Masonic Memorial (with access to 4th Floor) – June 2020 at 7 p.m.

6. Treasurer Report – Sev

- Review of accounts. Tal asked about bank fees.

7. Membership – Sev

- Discussion of maintaining non-profit status of Society for tax purposes.
- Suggestion of future Corresponding Secretary’s role to send thank you notes to Society members when renewing and to new members.

8. Publicity – Spencer

- Suggestion made to take pictures of Society’s events and post them on the website.
- Discussion of putting pictures of Board Members on website with accompanying mini-biographies.

9. Newsletter – Elizabeth

- Discussion of one-page Newsletter to be disseminated at the end of the year suggesting a year-end monetary contribution to the Society.

10. “Chronicle” – Tal and Michael

- Tal brought up the Website and the possibility of a student updating and adding creativity to the Society’s website for a school project.
- Tal suggested future articles for the “Chronicle”, such as Scandinavians working at the shipyard, Mid-Westerners’ settlement in Alexandria, or Swedish immigration.
- Tal indicated that Fran has been working on an article on the Quaker Cemetery which could be included in a future “Chronicle.”

11. Correspondence – Steve

- Please see report sent to Board Members under separate cover prior to meeting.

12. HARC – Sev

- Sev shared that parking spots off King Street. are being converted to expensive paid parking.
- A decision has not been made regarding the Old Rose.
- Freedom House is currently under negotiation for purchase by the City.

13. Archaeology – Katy Cannady

- Katy shared that one and one-half of three of the ships which were uncovered at the Alexandria waterfront have been digitally scanned thus far.

Meeting ended at 7:45 p.m.

Next meeting – Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. – Black History Museum