

Alexandria Historical Society Minutes
Tuesday, February 9, 2021

Meeting convened at 6:30pm
Video Conference via Zoom

Present: Severiano Ortiz (Treas), Fran Bromberg (Publicity), Stephen Kimbel (Corres), Catherine Weinraub, Chris Warren (Adult Awards / Social Media), Nathan Sleeter (Membership), Tal Day (Adult Awards)

Absent: Krystyn Moon (Newsletter), Mike Reynolds (Chronicle / Student Awards), Debbie Ackerman (Student Awards), Audrey Davis (Program / Adult Awards)

1. Past Board Minutes

- a. Discussed need to approve minutes from past board meetings. Nathan and Catherine working to finalize drafts for next meeting.

2. Motions Approved at Meeting

- a. Annual Meeting - Motion approved unanimously to set two Regular Membership Meetings to be held Tuesday, April 6, 2021 beginning at 6pm.
 - i. The purpose will be to adopt the Proposed Bylaws and Proposed Articles and to confirm our current and next slate of Board Members.
 - ii. Notice will be mailed to members by the end of February and posted in our upcoming newsletter.
- b. Adult Awards - Motion approved unanimously to forego Adult Awards until post-Covid times and instead issue a Special Award those responsible for the Alexandria African American Heritage Trail.

3. Other Business:

- a. Krystyn Moon informed the Board that she will not pursue reelection to the AHS Board of Directors following the completion of her term ending June 30, 2021.

4. Officer Reports:

- a. President Report –
 - i. No report provided
- b. Vice President Report – (Audrey Davis)
 - i. No report provided
- c. Treasurer Report – (Severiano)
 - i. Reported need to update signature authority on AHS's financial accounts, which will require updated corporate governance documents.

5. Committee Reports:

- a. Membership Report – (Nathan Sleeter)
 - i. Reported additional membership signups through website. Reported glitch in AHS website that has since been resolved.
- b. Publicity Report – (Fran Bromberg)
 - i. Reported advertising upcoming events in local newspaper and working to update AHS website for related content.
 - 1. Upcoming Events:

- a. March 24th – Virginia Seminary Reparations Lecture by Ebony Davis
 - i. Still need description for website
 - b. April 6th – Two AHS Regular Meetings to update corporate documents and ratify board members.
 - c. April 28th – Awards Committee
 - d. May 26th – Jewish History of Old Town Lecture by Mike Linvingston
 - i. Still need bio picture for website
- c. Correspondence Report – (Stephen Kimbel)
 - i. Correspondence over the period was much reduced from our usual volume. This is attributable to the holidays, in large part.
 - ii. Also, most of the inquiries were routine and answered by way of our usual response that refers writers to our website and the plethora of research resources available from the Office of Historic Alexandria, the Queen Street Library’s Special Collections and other organizations.
 - iii. The one exception was an inquiry involving an attempt to locate the gravesite of a colonial era relative. Our effort to assisted was aided by a former member of the AHS Board, Julia Randle.
 - iv. The request for assistance came from the Alexandria relative of Mary (Ross) Bird, who was born on February 4, 1739 at New Castle, Delaware and died on June 10, 1790 at Alexandria, Virginia. Her death occurred while giving birth to her son, Henry C. Bird, who also died shortly after his mother. Mrs. Bird had stopped at her brother-in-law’s Alexandria home while on her way to join her husband, Mark E. Bird, at Pendleton, North Carolina.
- d. Newsletter Report – (Krystyn Moon)
 - i. Report submitted via email from Krystyn
 - 1. Reported upcoming newsletter is on track and will include information about upcoming AHS meetings to ratify amended bylaws and articles.
 - a. Need language to include in newsletter
 - b. Awaiting additional information, but goal to send newsletter out at the end of the week
- e. Chronicle – (Mike Reynolds)
 - i. No report provided
- f. Social Media – (Chris Warren)
 - i. Reported that Chris has transitioned all account details from previous committee head, Spencer Mills who resigned from AHS at the end of October 2020.
- g. Program – (Audrey Davis)
 - i. No report provided
- h. Adult Awards Report – (Audrey Davis / Tal Day / Chris Warren)
 - i. Reported the postponement of any Adult Awards until post Covid times to instead issue a Special Award to those responsible for the Alexandria African American Heritage Trail

1. Need to confirm to whom to address formal recognition letter
 2. Since there will be no Adult Award, no need for an engraved platter
 3. Future award recipient could be those responsible for the digitization of the Alexandria Library Special Collection
- i. Student Awards Report – (Mike Reynolds / Debbie Ackerman)
 - i. Report submitted via email from Debbie
 1. Reported having contacted and received responses from the four teachers who will be electing the award winners from their schools.
 2. Since there will be no formal event at the Lyceum, AHS will purchase gifts, make notifications, advise teachers, and deliver items to award winners.
 - j. HARC – Historic Alexandria Resources Commission Representative – (Severiano Ortiz)
 - i. No report provided
 - k. Archaeology Representative –
 - i. No report provided
 - ii. Chris Warren is seeking to join the Archaeology Board as a representative from AHS.