

Alexandria Historical Society Minutes
Tuesday, March 9, 2021

Meeting convened at 6:30pm
Video Conference via Zoom

Present: Severiano Ortiz (Treas), Fran Bromberg (Publicity), Stephen Kimbel (Corres), Chris Warren (Adult Awards / Social Media), Nathan Sleeter (Membership), Tal Day (Adult Awards), Krystyn Moon (Newsletter), Debbie Ackerman (Student Awards), Audrey Davis (Program / Adult Awards)

Absent: Mike Reynolds (Chronicle / Student Awards), Catherine Weinraub

1. Motions Approved at Meeting

- a. Past Board Minutes Approval:
 - i. *September 2021 Minutes* – Motion to approve minutes passed unanimously.
 - ii. *November 2021 Minutes* – Motion to approve minutes passed unanimously.
 - iii. *February 2021 Minutes* – Motion to approve minutes passed unanimously.
- b. Save River Farm Campaign – Board approved endorsement of the Save River Farm Campaign via email prior to Board meeting with nine in favor, one abstention. Motion to reaffirm approval passed unanimously.

2. Other Business:

- a. Annual Meeting – Sev reported that Nate updated our website to include information about April 6th meeting. Sev also reported that member letters/notices were mailed out (post-marked March 2, 2021) to members with a member letter, and a copy of the proposed bylaw and article changes; Zoom webinar has been established to properly run the April 6th meeting with Login information provided in each member letter that was included in the physical mailing; Zoom Webinar will permit the use of polling to record member votes.
- b. Upcoming Board Elections –
 - i. Krystyn Moon reminded the Board that she will not pursue reelection to the AHS Board of Directors following the completion of her term ending June 30, 2021.

3. Officer Reports:

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

4. Committee Reports:

- a. Membership Report – (Nathan Sleeter)
 - i. Nothing new to report; noted several people on the membership list who were not current with their fees. Will draft an email to remind people to renew via the website or check.
- b. Publicity Report – (Fran Bromberg)

- i. AHS website is update for upcoming events
- c. Correspondence Report – (Stephen Kimbel)
 - i. Correspondence over the period was much reduced from our usual volume.
 - ii. All 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.
- d. Newsletter Report – (Krystyn Moon)
 - i. Newsletter was emailed out this week.
- e. Chronicle – (Mike Reynolds)
 - i. No report provided
- f. Social Media – (Chris Warren)
 - i. Publishing upcoming events on social media. There seems to be a positive response about our upcoming free lectures.
- g. Program – (Audrey Davis)
 - i. On schedule for March 24th at 7:30pm with Ebonee Davis event.
 - ii. Audrey also reported that Freedom House exhibit to open soon on three floors and Joshua Rothman’s book on Freedom House to be released soon.
 - iii. Russ Roberts as a potential speaker on the Beacon Field Airport history in the fall.
- h. Adult Awards Report – (Audrey Davis / Tal Day / Chris Warren)
 - i. At prior Board meeting Board decide to postpone any Adult Awards until post Covid times to instead issue a Special Award to those responsible for the Alexandria African American Heritage Trail. Still need to do the following:
 1. Need to confirm to whom to address formal recognition letter. Tal will make determination with Audrey.
 2. Since there will be no Adult Award, no need for an engraved platter.
 3. May also want to publish through local media in Alexandria as well as social media.
 4. Raised questions about having some sort of formal brochure.
 5. Reminder that 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. Debbie contacted all teachers in February; have not yet nominated anyone. Teachers from St. Stephens and St. Agnus are close to nominating students: Expectation is to mail check award to students.
 - ii. The engraved Jefferson cup, \$100 check, and student membership to AHS will be mailed to the recipients rather than presented in-person or via Zoom video call due to the logistics involved during the pandemic.
- j. HARC – Historic Alexandria Resources Commission Representative – (Severiano Ortiz)
 - i. Sev provided copy of recent HARC Board Minutes and provided an update on the Heritage Apartments and the River Farm Campaign.
- k. Archaeology Representative –
 - i. Chris Warren attended recent Archaeology Board meeting.