

AGENDA

Charlottesville Historic Resources Committee
Friday October 9, 2020; 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Remote meeting via Zoom

<u>HRC Members present</u>	<u>HRC Members not present</u>	<u>City Staff present</u>
Genevieve Keller, Co-Chair	Jordy Yager	Jeff Werner
Alissa Diamond, Co-Chair	William Clay III	Robert Watkins
Jalane Schmidt		
Sally Duncan		
Heather Hill		
Margaret O'Bryant		
Ellen Wagner		
Dede Smith		
Phil Varner		
Rachel Lloyd		

Call to order

11:00 AM: Genevieve Keller calls the meeting to order. Both returning and new committee members introduce themselves.

Keller opens the floor up for public comment:

Jim Hingeley, Commonwealth Attorney for Albemarle County, speaks in support of application for honorary name designation of 3rd Street NE for Gregory Swanson.

Kristin Szakos also speaks in support of application for honorary name designation to recognize Gregory Swanson.

The HRC moves to discuss a new chair and co-chairs.

Ellen Wagner nominates Rachel Lloyd for HRC chair. Margaret O'Bryant seconds the nomination.

Alissa Diamond nominates Phil Varner as co-chair. Heather Hill seconds.

Dede Smith nominates Sally Duncan as co-chair. Diamond seconds.

Committee votes (10-0) to approve the nominations.

Approval of meeting notes

Hill moves to approve the February 14, 2020 HRC meeting notes. Duncan seconds.

Committee votes (8-0-2, Lloyd and Varner abstaining) to approve the meeting notes.

Resuming committee activities

Staff updates committee on replaced Vinegar Hill banners and status of construction at end of the Downtown Mall, adjacent to the CODE building site.

Diamond reminds committee that HRC has permission to hang an additional 7 banners on construction fence. Construction will continue for another 6 or 7 months.

Members of Court Square subcommittee discuss progress made before shutdown. Even though things are in flux at Court Square, with shutdown and proposed renovation, subcommittee expressed desire to continue with project and strive for completion. Staff reminds subcommittee that they don't have the capacity to meet as often or regularly with current meeting conditions.

Jalane Schmidt expresses value of outdoor interpretation during the pandemic.

Before Hill leaves meeting, she relays Council's request that HRC provide input on City's current honorary street name policy.

Smith provides update from Walking Tour Map subcommittee. There is still lots of work to be done, and full committee should weigh in on structure of map and sites included. There might be opportunities to pull in map, Court Square markers, and other historic initiatives going on into a holistic effort.

Regarding honorary street names, Varner points out that not all street name proposals are related to historic resources. He raises the question of the policy HRC revise will limit itself just to historic-related names or all proposed names. Duncan reviews the research she had done on other cities' policies and circulated to committee. Keller suggests that conversation about names should encompass other venues, like parks, rooms, schools. Smith points out that color of honorary street name signs is used elsewhere – might be confusing. Varner recommends that Sister Cities and Tony Bennett street name proposals be sent back to Council.

Staff updates committee on GPR findings at Pen Park Cemetery. Smith recommends findings be shared with Central Virginia History Researchers. O'Bryant recommends working with Shelley Murphy at UVA.

Public Commemoration

Committee supports funding for Daughters of Zion Cemetery interpretation, but asks staff to clarify with Edwina St. Rose about two matters:

- Is an updated historic marker best route, or would another way of contributing be better?
- If committee funds updated historic marker, how can new text be resistant to any future updates that might be needed with further research?

Other Business

Staff updates committee on VLR and NR designation for Burley High School. Keller recommends future conversation to determine policy on HRC contributions for VLR/NR plaques.