

Meeting Notes

Charlottesville Historic Resources Committee^[1]_[SEP]
Friday, December 10, 2021; 11:00 a.m. – 12:50 p.m.
Remote meeting via Zoom

HRC Members present

Phil Varner, chair
Sally Duncan, Vice-chair
Dede Smith
Jalane Schmidt
Kay Slaughter
Margaret O'Bryant
Jessica Livingston
Heather Hill

HRC Members not present

Genevieve Keller

Staff present

Jeff Werner
Robert Watkins

1. Call to order:
 - a. Virtual introductions
2. Approval of the agenda: [11:05; 5 minutes]

Dede Smith moves to approve the agenda. Margaret O'Bryant seconds motion. Motion passes unanimously.

3. Public Comment

Richard Allan offers support for the Historic Resources Committee's work to memorialize Court Square. Mr. Allan asks two questions

- a. *Does HRC intend to use East Jefferson Street in front of 0 Court Square as a site for memorialization?*
- b. *Will HRC act promptly with necessary parties to remove parking spots at the site in question?*

4. Approval of meeting notes:
 - a. November 2021 HRC Meeting Notes

Smith moves to approve the November 2021 HRC meeting notes with amendments. Kay Slaughter seconds motion. Motion passes unanimously..

Smith offers thanks to Heather Hill for her service on the committee

5. Engagement of the Descendant Community for Court Square/Slave Auction Block site:
 - a. Plan progress report on project for new City Council

In January, HRC will present report to Council to update on Court Square progress, relay project timeline, and to also ask more formally for money.

Hill suggests that committee present at the once-a-month reports-only meeting for City Council (4:00 on Mondays). Phil Varner proposes that money for memorialization be allocated over a number of years through the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The necessary public engagement would use different funds, perhaps through HRC budget.

HRC hasn't yet used its own funds for engagement because all meetings have been virtual.

The initial engagement process will inform design process. Even if a design is not in place yet, money put into CIP will ensure that work is ultimately funded.

Maureen Spokes, a librarian with the Jefferson Madison Regional Library, joins call to express interest in working with HRC, especially to host Maureen Spokes for a lecture.

For library programs, the most successful events are held on weekday evenings.

Slaughter moves to allocate up to \$5,000 from the HRC budget to host Anne Bailey for a virtual lecture, co-sponsored with the library, as part of public and descendant engagement for Court Square. Smith seconds motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Varner will draft progress report with summary of comments made at meeting. He hopes to present progress report sooner rather than later to ground Council on work being done.

Varner responds to public comment received at the beginning of the meeting. He clarifies that the HRC is not currently in the process of designing a memorial, but is gathering information and building community support for a future design process.

6. Downtown Walking Tour Map Work Session:

- a. Updates from walking tour map subcommittee

Walking tour subcommittee (Slaughter and Smith) have decided to write more text for walking tour map before asking designer to make further edits.

There is already a lot of text from previous walking tour map and walking tour book. This existing text can be used to provide baseline information for stops on new map.

Subcommittee will start writing text, but during full committee reviews, other members can add text as necessary.

Subcommittee would like to have something ready by January.

7. Coordinate Agenda for January HRC Meeting:

HRC will hold regular meeting in January and annual meetings in February as necessary.

Varner would like to go through Blue Ribbon Commission recommendations and identify what's been done and what hasn't been done.