

Meeting Notes
Charlottesville Historic Resources Committee
Friday, March 11, 2022; 11:00 a.m. – 12:50 p.m.
Remote meeting via Zoom

HRC Members present

Phil Varner, Chair
Sally Duncan, Vice-chair
Margaret O'Bryant
Dede Smith
Kay Slaughter
Tom Chapman
Richard Wilson

HRC Members not present

Genevieve Keller
Jessica Livingston
Jalane Schmidt

Staff present

Jeff Werner
Robert Watkins

1. Call to order:

Robert Watkins calls committee attendance and HRC chair Phil Varner calls meeting to order.

2. Approval of the agenda:

Varner asks to add a discussion item about a contribution from Preservation Piedmont for an upcoming lecture to the agenda.

Dede Smith moves to approve the agenda. Richard Wilson seconds motion. Motion passes unanimously.

3. Approval of Meeting Notes:

- a. January 2022 Meeting Notes
- b. February 2022 Meeting Notes

Varner asks that meeting notes be un-italicized. Kay Slaughter moves to approve amended meeting notes. Smith seconds motion. Motion passes unanimously.

4. Public Comment

Richard Allen speaks regarding placing a state highway marker in Court Square to memorialize the sale of enslaved people. He asks if there is renewed interest in a highway marker from the Historic Resources Committee and asks HRC to review proposal for converting parking spots to memorial space next to Number Nothing.

5. Engagement of the Descendant Community for Court Square/Slave Auction Block site:

Varner offers update on the memo drafted regarding the Slave Auction Block site: memo was sent to Council along with graduate student researchers' work. No further updates regarding memo.

HRC is hosting Dr. Anne Bailey for a lecture on April 12 at Jefferson Madison Regional Library (Swanson Room). Dr. Bailey is a leading historian of the auctions of enslaved people.

Tom Chapman asks if there is a meeting to coordinate lecture planning. Chapman recommends Facebook Live streaming to draw in a larger audience.

Slaughter asks that people send interest group contacts to staff to spread word about lecture. Smith encourages people to continue trying to find additional partners.

Smith moves to approve Preservation Piedmont's contribution for the lecture. Slaughter seconds motion. Motion passes unanimously.

6. Downtown Walking Tour Map Work Session:

Slaughter reports on walking tour map. Slaughter and Smith participated in a walking tour led by Sterling Howell from the Albemarle Charlottesville Historical Society.

Slaughter and Smith intend to ask for guidance from map designer. The map is becoming more site-based, like the original map. Walking tour subcommittee intend to simply map, perhaps creating an explicit path that users could take.

7. Staff Updates:

Watkins offers update on new Albemarle County district courthouse and its review by the City's Board of Architectural Review in March. Jeff Werner clarifies that any future decisions regarding memorials at Court Square will be made by Council.

8. Coordinate Agenda for April HRC Meeting:

Varner asks that a small portion of the April HRC meeting be dedicated to revising HRC meeting procedures.

9. Announcements:

Smith congratulates City and ACHS staff for research conducted at Pen Park. Sam Towler is presenting genealogical research at upcoming Central Virginia History Researchers meeting.