

Fairfax County 250th Commission
September 28, 1-3 pm
Fairfax City Library, Conference Rooms A & B
10360 North Street, Fairfax

Approved Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Christopher Barbuschak	Virginia Room, Fairfax County Library	Present
Anne M. Barnes	Mount Vernon District	Absent
Joyce Gray Bellamy	Providence District	Present
Elliot B. Bell-Krasner	Human Rights Commission	Present
Matt Briney	GW Mount Vernon	Absent
Gretchen Bulova	History Commission	Present
The Honorable Michael R. Frey	Sully District	Present
Donald Hakenson	Lee District	Present
Carole L. Herrick	History Commission	Present
Patrick Lennon	Visit Fairfax	Absent
Elizabeth Maurer	National Museum of the US Army	Present
Subhi A. Mehdi	Dranesville District	Absent
Suzanne Moffitt	Hunter Mill District	Present
Beverly A. Schlotterbeck	Mason District	Present
Nancy Simmons	Braddock District	Present
Scott Stroh	Gunston Hall	Present
Paul Kohlenberger	Springfield District	Absent
Brent Feito	The Army Historical Foundation	Present

Staff present

Denice Dressel, Heritage Resources, DPD

Megan Riley, Heritage Resources, DPD

Camela Speer, Supervisor Storck's office

Welcome and Introductions

Scott Stroh opened the meeting, acknowledged that a quorum was present, and went over the agenda. The members introduced themselves.

Administrative Action Items

Approval August 3, 2022, Meeting Minutes

After a name clarification, Beverly A. Schlotterbeck moved that the minutes be approved as revised. Elliot Bell-Krasner seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Old Business

Approval of the Slate of Officers

Scott Stroh read the slate of officers that had been assembled at the previous meeting, namely

Scott Stroh, Chair
Elliot Bell-Krasner, Vice-Chair
Nancy Simmons, Secretary

No further nominations were made from the floor. Suzanne Moffitt moved the approval of the slate, Joyce Bellamy seconded the motion, and the slate was unanimously approved.

Update on Virginia 250

Scott Stroh gave an update on the activities of the Virginia 250 Commission. Among the items presented were:

- The state commission now has four staff members
- There will be at least three grant opportunities made available through the state commission. One will be a partnership with the Virginia Tourism Corporation, which will focus more on marketing; one in partnership with Virginia Humanities, which will focus more on program content; and one that will be directly from the state commission. It is anticipated that these will be awarded annually through 2026.
- The state commission is partnering with the Omohundo Institute of Early American History, Colonial Williamsburg, and the College of William & Mary to hold a series of conferences. The first event is planned for October 28-29, 2022.
- The state commission website is www.VA250.org, and its kickoff event is scheduled for March 10-12, 2023, in Williamsburg. There is an opportunity for each jurisdiction to link to the state commission website, which is sponsored by the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation.
- State meetings are public and are held at the Virginia Museum of History & Culture in Richmond.

250 Commission Budget Request

At the last meeting, an ad hoc task force was created to monitor commission expenditures and create a budget to present for approval. Gretchen Bulova gave an update from the task force committee. The county has given us an extension on the submission of our request for funding. The next meeting of this task force will be October 14, 2022, at Visit Fairfax. Other commission members of the committee are Suzanne Moffitt, Patrick Lennon, Scott Stroh, Subhi Mehdi, and Paul Kohlenberger.

Committees

Scott Stroh asked commission members to sign up for one or more of the commission's committees so that we can begin having committees meet and recruit members from outside the commission. Denice Dressel read the names of members who had volunteered at the last meeting. Nancy Simmons agreed to assemble a list of members by committee to distribute to all commission members so that it is clear where we need people. Members should notify Scott of their interests as soon as possible. The committees are Finance, Marketing and Communications, Inclusion, Youth and Family Engagement, Activity, Signature Event, and Outreach.

In addition to the committees, a work group was established at the last meeting to develop Fairfax-specific themes related to the Commonwealth themes. The current members are Subhi Mehdi, Carole Herrick, Elizabeth Mauer, Beverly Schlotterbeck, and Joyce Bellamy; this group should inform the Chair of its point of contact.

Bylaws

Nancy Simmons noted that the county attorney had sent revisions to the bylaws. Discussion ensued on how to address the comments. Denice Dressel agreed to send the attorney's copy to the entire board. They were asked to send any issues or comments to Scott Stroh or Nancy Simmons. Scott & Nancy will review the changes made and plan a meeting to discuss them with the attorney.

New Business

Critical Action Items

After an open discussion of actions that could be taken soon to further the commission's objectives and inform the agenda for the November meeting, Scott Stroh summarized that these appeared to fall into three areas:

- Infrastructure – actions to help organize the commission, such as a document sharing system, establishing social media platforms, and forming a website
- Partnerships - identifying partners, people, and sites in Fairfax with which we need to collaborate
- Promotion & awareness – actions to start getting the word out about the commission

Adjourn

Scott Stroh adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted by Nancy A. Simmons, Secretary