## **Fairfax County History Commission Monthly Meeting** February 1, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

The Fairfax County History Commission conducted a wholly electronic meeting on February 1, 2023.

#### Call to Order

## 1. Audibility of Members' Voices

The Chair called the February 1, 2023 meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. Before proceeding, she read the following script:

To conduct this meeting wholly electronically, the History Commission needs to make certain findings for the record to evidence our compliance with all applicable laws. These motions address this compliance.

First, I am going to conduct a roll call and ask each board member participating in this meeting to state your name and your location. I ask that each of you pay close attention to ensure that you can hear each of your colleagues.

**Location:** 

Springfield

Sully

City of Fairfax

Mount Vernon

Mount Vernon

Braddock

Braddock

Springfield

Franconia

Hunter Mill

Springfield

Dranesville

Colchester

McLean

Fairfax

Sully

Mantua

#### Roll Call

The Chair proceeded to conduct a roll call as follows:

## **Commissioners Present per Districts:** Lynne Garvey-Hodge, Chair, At-Large David Meyer, Vice Chair \* \*\* (!) Tammy Mannarino Esther McCullough Anne Barnes Tom Shoop Kevin Bradley Jenee Lindner Sue Koyach Shuman Steve Sherman\* Anne Stuntz, Secretary Jordan Tannenbaum Carole Herrick

Subhi Mehdi Robert "Bob" Beach\* \*\*

Cheryl-Ann Repetti\*\*

Sallie Lyons

#### **Commissioners Excused:**

Fairfax County History Commission | February 1, 2023 Page 2

Elise Murray Gretchen Bulova

\*Joined by phone (voice-only)

- \*\*Joined after roll call
- (!) Technical difficulties

## **County Liaisons Present:**

Laura Kviklys, Heritage Resources Branch, Fairfax County Department of Planning and Development; Stephanie Newman, Heritage Resources Branch, Fairfax County Department of Planning and Development; Dr. Elizabeth "Liz" Crowell, Archaeology and Collections Branch, Fairfax County Park Authority; Stephanie Langton, Heritage Conservation Branch, Fairfax County Park Authority; Jenna Gilbert, Heritage Resources Branch, Fairfax County Department of Planning and Development; Christopher Barbuschak, Virginia Room, Fairfax County Public Library,

#### **Staff Guests**

Laura Grape, Resource Management Division, Fairfax County Park Authority Kelsey Atwood, Museum and Archaeology Collection Branch

#### **Staff Present:**

Elliot Meyer, History Commission Clerk

At this point, the Chair passed the virtual gavel over to David Meyer that she might be heard to make the following motions:

I move that the History Commission certify for the record that each member's voice may be adequately heard by each other member of this Board.

The motion was seconded by Jordan Tannenbaum and passed unanimously.

## 2. Need for an Electronic Meeting:

Second, I move that the History Commission certify that the State of Emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic makes it unsafe for this Commission and the public to physically attend this meeting in person, and the usual procedures cannot be implemented safely or practically. As a result, I further move that the Fairfax County History Commission conduct this meeting electronically through a dedicated video - and audio-conferencing line, and that the public may access this meeting by calling 1-571-429-5982 and entering access code 993 767 333#.

The motion was seconded by Tammy Mannarino and passed unanimously.

3. Need to Dispense with FOIA's Usual Procedures to Assure Continuity in Government/Continue Operations:

Finally, I move that the History Commission certify that the matters on its agenda today relate to the COVID-19 emergency itself, are necessary for continuity in Fairfax County government, and/or are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations and the discharge of the History Commission's lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities.

The motion was seconded by Jordan Tannenbaum and passed unanimously. The gavel was passed back to the Chair.

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### Opening Announcements, Lynne Garvey-Hodge:

- Following a survey of the Commission, Lynne confirmed that the Commission is in favor of keeping the monthly meeting time at 7:30 PM and to remain in a virtual format.
  - Subhi Mehdi asked for clarification around the impact of federal and state policies for the County's public meeting formats.
  - Lynne, Cheryl and Laura explained that the Commission's virtual meeting policy is what allows the Commission to meet virtually. The policy states that the Commission's meetings, including Committee meetings, can be held virtually, but virtual meetings cannot be two consecutive meetings.
- Lynne Garvey-Hodge reminded the Commission to conduct their business with integrity and professionalism, and explained her preference for working through Committee matters through the Committee Chair, before bringing the matter to the full Commission.
- Lynne emphasized the importance of the Commission's business remaining in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).
- In celebration of African American History Month, Lynne reminded the Commission of the One Fairfax Policy and read the "Presidential Proclamation: National African American History Month, 2013."
- Lynne announced the appointment of a new Commissioner, Julianne Mueller of Falls Church, who will join the Commission next month.

#### **Minutes**

## Approval of the January 4, 2023 Minutes

A motion was made by Esther McCullough to approve the January 4, 2023 History Commission Meeting Minutes:

I move that the History Commission accept the minutes and pay the Clerk [Elliot Meyer].

Anne Barnes and Jenee Lindner seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

## Treasurer's Report

- Sue Kovach Shuman reviewed the Treasurer's report for the period ending January 26, 2023. See Attachment 1 for the January report.
  - Sue noted that the Commission's membership renewal for the National Trust for Historic Preservation was not processed and is working to get this straightened out with the County.

## **Staff Reports**

## Archaeology and Collections Branch (ACB), Dr. Elizabeth Crowell:

- Dr. Elizabeth Crowell, Fairfax County Park Authority, provided ACB staff, project, and program updates to the Commission. See Attachment 2 for the staff report.
  - Following the staff update, Liz introduced two new staff members of the Fairfax County Park Authority. Laura Grape, Director of the Resource Management Division, introduced herself and gave a summary of her role in the Division. Kelsey Atwood, Museum and Archaeology Collection Branch, introduced herself as well.

## Heritage Conservation Branch, Stephanie Langton:

• Stephanie Langton, Fairfax County Park Authority, gave project, program, and event updates regarding the Heritage Conservation Branch. See <a href="Attachment 3">Attachment 3</a> for the staff report.

## Virginia Room, Christopher Barbuschak:

- Christopher Barbuschak, Fairfax County Public Library gave program, collection, and staff updates regarding the Virginia Room. See Attachment 4 for the staff report.
  - o Anne Stuntz and others noted the Washington Post article on Chris and Suzanne's book release.
  - O Tammy Mannarino suggested that the History Commission consider sponsoring the purchase of ebook and audiobook editions of Tom Gjelten's *Nation of Nations* for the library system ahead of this year's conference. Chris agreed to look into it.

## Heritage Resources, Laura Kviklys:

- Laura Kviklys, Fairfax County Department of Planning and Development, gave projects, program, and staff updates. See Attachment 5 for the staff report.
  - Laura also explained that the issues around the Sharefile were due to an update to a new system.
  - Anne Stuntz asked what the timing is of the National Trust for Historic
    Preservation submission feedback for the Drover's Rest property. Laura noted
    that it is sometime in mid-March, and she will send Anne the exact date following
    the meeting.
    - Cheryl Repetti clarified that there will need to be a letter from either an individual Commissioner or a Committee, given that the National Trust

for Historic Preservation will be meeting before the next Commission meeting.

## Anne Stuntz made the following motion:

I move that the Fairfax County History Commission authorize our Chairperson and a small committee of her choice to read and comment on the Drover's Rest National Register of Historic Places nomination.

#### Carole Herrick seconded the motion.

- The floor was opened for a discussion of the motion:
  - Lynne Garvey-Hodge asked which Commissioners would like to serve on the adhoc committee.
    - Carole Herrick, Esther McCullough, and Cheryl Repetti volunteered.

#### The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **Unfinished Business**

## Dunn Loring School Demolition, Sue Kovach Shuman and Tammy Mannarino:

• Anne Stuntz summarized the discussion from the most recent Advocacy Committee meeting and the ongoing efforts from individual Commissioners to gain more information around the decision process to demolish the Dunn Loring School. Anne explained that the Committee is seeking to draft a letter for the Fairfax County School Board requesting more information about the decision-making process to demolish the building and the consideration of alternatives to preserve or recognize the history of the site. Anne gave the floor to Tom Shoop to read the motion from the Advocacy Committee.

## Tom Shoop made the following motion:

I move that the Advocacy Committee write a letter under the signature of the History Commission Chair to be sent to the School Board on the subject of renovation and potential demolition of Dunn Loring School to ascertain the status of the project and setting the expectation that the History Commission be included in the process moving forward.

#### Tammy Mannarino seconded the motion.

- The floor was open for discussion:
  - Sue Kovach Shuman raised a concern about the use of the word "demolition" in the motion as too presumptuous. Sue explained that her perception is that supervisors or board members may not be aware of this issue and may be in support of the building's preservation.

- O Tammy Mannarino underscored that the timeline of the process that Cheryl Repetti ascertained suggests that there was awareness of the limitations of the County's Inventory process and the project was moved directly to demolition, rather than consideration of alternatives (preservation, adaptive reuse, etc.).
- Tom Shoop re-read the motion and the Commission agreed that the word "potential" clears the concern about the implication of the word "demolition."

## The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.

## Renaming of Fort Belvoir, Tammy Mannarino:

- Tammy Mannarino gave a presentation regarding the renaming issue of Fort Belvoir, as well as the Commission's historical findings that add complexity and challenge to the official findings of the Renaming Commission. The presentation summary is as described below:
  - This issue is before the Fairfax County History Commission at the request of the Supervisors Storck, on behalf of the Board of Supervisors, who have requested an official interpretation from the History Commission.
  - Tammy summarized the background and process of the renaming effort at Fort Belvoir, as well as the complexity of interpreting the reasons for renaming the site. Tammy underscored the discrepancies between the official narrative presented by the Naming Commission and the evidence presented by the History Commission.
  - o In conclusion, Tammy emphasized the inherent tension between changing the name of the site from its original namesake and the challenges that could bring to interpreting the historical narrative at the site.

## Tammy Mannarino made the following motion:

I move that the History Commission write a letter to the Board of Supervisors taking the position that a fuller more accurate telling of local and national history is better served by retention of the name Fort Belvoir and allocation of funds and manpower to interpret the extensive, African American history on the Post. Appended to this letter will be a summary of the primary source evidence that supports a stronger interpretation of events alternative to that presented in the Naming Commission's Report.

#### Jenee Lindner seconded the motion.

The floor was opened to discussion on the motion:

- Jenee Linder further expressed her support to Tammy's research and the motion.
  - Due to technical difficulties, David Meyer was not able to speak directly to the Commission. However, he submitted the comment following the conclusion of Tammy's presentation:
    - "Tammy you are exactly correct. Hugh Fairfax, the younger brother of Nicholas Fairfax, the current Lord Fairfax and member of the House of Lords, has published a history of the Fairfax family. It is a good history.

Hugh makes clear that the Fairfaxes during the Revolution were born in the colonies and considered themselves Americans. In 2019, I had dinner with Hugh and Nicholas Fairfax at Nicholas' house in London and we discussed this issue specifically."

- Tom Shoop commended Tammy for her research and questioned whether the History Commission wants to take the position that the military should retain the name of a place where people were enslaved, regardless of its lack of association to the Lost Cause. Tom remarked that it was a tragedy that the post's name was reverted back from Camp Humphreys, given General Andrew Humphreys' leadership in the fight to end slavery. Lastly, Tom pointed out that the current lack of a historian or narrative of the enslaved on the site does not make for a strong case for interpretation to be kept in the same structure.
  - O Jordan Tannenbaum agreed with Tom's point that the history of the site can still be conducted and the changing of the name could also take place without there being dissonance. In Jordan's opinion, those two things would not be mutually exclusive. Jordan concluded his remarks by stating that he would not be in support of the Commission voicing their support or opposition to a name change, and that there needs to be a more formalized reconciliation of the two research efforts.
- Cheryl Repetti first reminded the Commission that Tammy's research effort was at the behest of the Board of Supervisors, as opposed to a personal endeavor. As such, the History Commission has been careful to avoid stating an opinion regarding the matter thus far. Second, Cheryl underscored that Belvoir is not an honorary namesake, but the name of the geographic place. She noted that are significant implications of a name change relating to the cost, but that is a political decision beyond the deliberations of the History Commission. Finally, Cheryl emphasized the core question that was before the Naming Commission - is there something in *the history* of the site that merits concern and a name change? Cheryl stated that the Naming Commission came to the conclusion that because the site was a favor for an infamous white supremacist, this was analogous to the memorials to the Confederates. That is the question that is posed to the History Commission, and upon review of the differences in the historical evidence, there could be a different conclusion. Cheryl concluded by making the distinction between changing the name on principle or changing the name based on a historical reason, by noting that if you based the name change on these historical reasons, it sets a challenging precedent for many more historic sites in their connection with slavery.
- Tammy Mannarino emphasized that her effort to do this research is to give decision-makers the best possible information to come to a conclusion. Her concern with the Naming Commission's findings is that it does not provide an accurate historical account.
  - o Anne Stuntz voiced her support for Tammy and Cheryl's points as stated above.
  - o Jenee Lindner also echoed her support to clearly distinguish the reasons to change a name and referenced her work on the Fairfax County Redistricting Commission.
- A question was recognized by Dee Dee Carter, a member of the public, who asked if anyone has contacted any African-American descendants from Belvoir and considered their perspective about the issue.
  - o Tammy Mannarino expressed her appreciation for Ms. Carter's excellent question and explained that one of the big problems here is that the research into the descendants of Belvoir has not been conducted. Tammy had suggested that the

Naming Commission refer to records from the Mt. Vernon League of Descendants as a proxy. From what she is aware of, that outreach did not occur.

- To conclude the discussion, Tammy suggested modification of the motion. The Commission began discussing the elements of the original motion.
  - Anne Stuntz and Esther McCullough discussed language in support of more research, which would be attached to the letter. A larger discussion of word changes ensued.
- Tom Shoop suggested language for the motion to address the issues in the phrasing of the motion that was being discussed. Tom suggested the motion reads:
  - "The History Commission write a letter to the Board of Supervisors taking the position that a full and accurate analysis of research into the history of Fort Belvoir be conducted before a decision is made concerning the facility."
- Tammy Mannarino and others agreed that the revised language is clearer. Tammy asked
  the Commission to add language in regarding the inclusion of the descendants, per Ms.
  Carter's prior question.
  - Jordan Tannenbaum suggested it state "all pertinent stakeholders," but then clarified that the letter will stipulate who those parties are. Additionally, Jordan requested the word "facility" be changed to "Post."

#### The final amended motion read:

I move that the History Commission write a letter to the Board of Supervisors taking the position that a full and accurate analysis of research into the history of Fort Belvoir be conducted before a decision is made concerning renaming the Post.

# Esther McCullough and Jordan Tannenbaum seconded the amended motion. The motioned passed unanimously.

• In conclusion, Tammy Mannarino thanked the Commission for their thoughtful deliberations over the past months on this issue and their seeking unanimity.

#### African-American History Inventory (AAHI) Database Project, Lynne Garvey-Hodge:

• Lynne Garvey-Hodge read a letter from former Commissioner Mary Lipsey about the AAHI Database. See <u>Attachment 6</u> for the letter to the Commission.

## 2024 Budget Requests and Budget Updates, Cheryl Repetti:

• Cheryl Repetti and Lynne Garvey-Hodge confirmed that Cheryl and Elise will communicate further on this matter.

## **New Business**

#### List of County History Groups, Subhi Mehdi:

• Lynne Garvey-Hodge commended Subhi Mehdi for her hard work and requested the Commissioners to review the list of groups in their districts.

• Subhi Mehdi added that the list is missing Providence and Mason Districts. Subhi also requested that the Commissioners follow the guidelines around what constitutes a history organization.

## **Committee Reports**

## Budget and Inventory, Lynne Garvey-Hodge:

- Due to Elise Murray's absence, the budget and inventory reports will be given next meeting.
- Tammy Mannarino brought forward one item regarding the inventory. The Randall Estates nomination is ready to go before the Inventory Committee, and the Committee is seeking a meeting between February 8-16. Tammy listed the members of the Committee (Elise Murray, Cheryl Repetti, Sue Kovach Shuman, Jordan Tannenbaum, Sallie Lyons, Anne Stuntz, and Tammy Mannarino) and noted that a quorum must be present to vote. See Attachment 7 for more information on the Randall Estates Nomination.

## History Conference and Awards Committees, Lynne Garvey-Hodge:

• Lynne Garvey-Hodge summarized the History Committee's prior meeting, which reviewed the 2022 History Conference and the preliminary plans for the 2023 Conference. See <a href="Attachment 8"><u>Attachment 8</u></a> for the Committee Report.

## Advocacy Committee and Annual Report, Anne Stuntz:

- Anne Stuntz reviewed the past meeting and noted the plans for the History Commission table at the upcoming Chocolate Lover's Festival. See <u>Attachment 9</u> for the Committee Report.
- Regarding the Annual Report, Subhi Mehdi explained the format and the timeline for the 2022 report. Subhi reported that there has been feedback that the length of the Commission bios in the 2021 report were far too long, comprising nearly half the report. Subhi recommended that the Commissioners should agree to keep their bios within 100 words.
  - o Lynne Garvey-Hodge asked if the word count be increased to 125 words.
  - Anne Stuntz suggested that longer bios would be more appropriate for the website.

#### **Subhi Mehdi made the following motion:**

I move that the History Commission have detailed bios in the website and limit the bios in the Annual Report to 100 words.

#### Anne Stuntz seconded the motion.

- Carole Herrick recommended amending the motion to "no more than 125 words."
- Sue Kovach Shuman recommended that there be permission given to Subhi and Anne to edit the bios accordingly. Esther McCullough clarified that all edits should be confirmed with the Commissioner before publication.

#### The amended motion read:

I move that the History Commission have detailed bios in the website and limit the bios in the Annual Report to no more than 125 words.

The question was called and the motion passed. Lynne Garvey-Hodge abstained from the vote.

#### Markers Committee, Cheryl Repetti:

• Cheryl Repetti is working to set up a meeting with the Committee to review the Merrifield Marker submission. Cheryl also gave updates on the six selected markers on the County's Marker project. See <a href="Attachment 10">Attachment 10</a> for the committee report.

## Ethnic and Oral History Committee, Esther McCullough:

• Esther McCullough gave updates from the January 17 meeting of the Ethnic and Oral History Committee noting that additional interviews will include Penny Gross and her instituted Kaleidoscope group and others. The next committee meeting will be on February 21 at 2:00 PM. Esther listed the members of the Committee (Tammy Mannarino, Sallie Lyons, Cheryl Repetti, Anne Barnes, Anne Stuntz, Subhi Mehdi, Jenee Lindner, and Esther McCullough). Lynne added that her name should be included and that the new Commissioner, Julianne Mueller will likely be interested in joining.

## Resident Curator Program, Bob Beach:

• Bob Beach did not have anything further to add to the Resident Curator Program staff updates.

## Bylaws Committee, Anne Barnes:

• Anne Barnes announced that the Bylaws Committee is planning to meet on February 28 at 7:30 PM.

## Fairfax City, Lynne Garvey-Hodge:

• On behalf of David Meyer, Lynne Garvey-Hodge reported that the 15 street names that were Confederate and Lost Cause related have been officially changed in the City of Fairfax.

#### Website Coordination, Cheryl Repetti:

• Cheryl Repetti clarified a few small details on the website with the Commissioners.

#### Announcements

- Sallie Lyons gave two announcements. First, Carole Herrick will be presenting before the Mt. Vernon Regional Historical Society on Sunday, February 19. Second, the Annual Archaeology Symposium will be coming up on March 4 at Gunston Hall.
- Bob Beach announced that the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial won two design awards.
- Tom Shoop announced that his book on the history of the Ilda neighborhood is under contract with University of Virginia Press.

Date: October 25, 2023

## Lynne Garvey-Hodge adjourned the meeting at 10:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

D. Elliot Meyer

Clerk, Fairfax County History Commission

Anne Stuntz, Corresponding Secretary
Fairfax County History Commission

#### **Attachments**

Attachment 1: Treasurer's Report

Attachment 2: Archaeology and Collections Branch Staff Report

Attachment 3: Heritage Conservation Branch Staff Report

Attachment 4: Virginia Room Staff Report

Attachment 5: Heritage Resources Staff Report

Attachment 6: African American History Inventory Update

Attachment 7: Randall Estates Inventory Nomination Status Update

Attachment 8: History Conference Committee Report

Attachment 9: Advocacy Committee Report

Attachment 10: Markers Committee Report

Fairfax County History Commission

Treasurer Report Feb. 1, 2023

Fairfax County Account reported by county on Jan. 26, 2023 -

Beginning balance: \$69,868.53

Budget adjustment: \$110.88

12/30/22 Pay clerk for November 2022 minutes \$450

12/30/22 FICA and Medicare for clerk \$34.42

12/30/22 Medicare \$6.52

12/31/22 Pooled Interest \$110.88

1/13/23 Pay the clerk for December minutes \$450.

1/13/23 FICA and Medicare for clerk \$34.43

Ending balance: \$69,121.44

NOT HERE: History Commission membership renewal the National Trust for Historic Preservation (Preservation Leadership Forum) for \$250. Submitted Jan. 8. County did not reply to email asking why. Resubmitted Jan. 27.

(Treasurer has requested county tax-exempt form to distribute to all commissioners for any 2023 expenses (history conference, advocacy, other). Good only for Virginia purchases. If not used, you will not be reimbursed for tax.)

Submitted by Sue Kovach Shuman

FCHC Treasurer

#### HC Update 1/30/2023

The Archaeology and Collections Branch has been receiving applications for the assistant laboratory manager position. Candidates will be selected for interviews in February with the hope of a late February selection and early Spring start date.

Staff met with members of Pohick Church to assist in the development of a scope of work to conduct archaeological studies prior to the construction of an accessibility ramp at the historic church. Staff with further assist the Church in their search for archaeologists to conduct the work as scoped in accordance with the ARB's request and HOD guidelines.

#### From our friends at VDHR:

Department of Historic Resources Announces Launch of Grant Program for Historic Preservation of Resources Associated with Virginia's Black, Indigenous, and People of Color Communities

RICHMOND – The Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) is announcing the launch of the Virginia Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Historic Preservation Fund, a grant opportunity established by the Commonwealth's General Assembly in April 2022 with the intent to support Virginia's historically underserved and underrepresented communities through protection of their associated cultural and historical sites. This fund will provide grants for the acquisition, protection, and rehabilitation of tribal lands and historic and archaeological sites of significance that are associated with Virginia's Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities.

DHR will be hosting a series of virtual and in-person workshops on the grant program in late spring with those dates still to be determined.

The BIPOC Grant Fund was established under Virginia Code § 10.1-2202.5 and will distribute \$5 million across eligible projects over a two-year period. All eligible applicants must request at least \$50,000 in grant funding, but no more than \$1,000,000. Applicants can apply for more than one project across application rounds, but grant awards per applicant will not exceed \$1,000,000 in total. For more information about the BIPOC Grant Fund, please visit <a href="here">here</a>. General information about funding programs administered by DHR is available on our website under the Grants section.

## **Heritage Conservation Branch**

## **Resource Management Division**

## **History Commission Updates**

## February 2023

## **Location:**

## **Operations and Maintenance**

 Work for repairing termite damage at Dranesville Tavern is nearly complete, and will soon move into the next phase. Updates are posted on the Resident Curator website.
 Resident Curator Program | Park Authority (fairfaxcounty.gov)

## **Historic Sites Volunteer Corps**

- Staff are working on outreach for local colleges and high schools for HSVC 2023.
- Staff are finishing the tentative calendar of events for HSVC, with the first event occurring in March.

## **Resident Curator Program Updates**

• Interior demo at **Ellmore Farmhouse** has been completed. Construction permits are pending.



## <u>Fairfax County Public Library's Virginia Room</u> Staff Report to the Fairfax County History Commission

## February 2023

#### **Programs**

- Staff Suzanne LaPierre and Chris Barbuschak introduced their newly published book *Desegregation in Northern Virginia Libraries* at a library launch party on Saturday January 14th. Over 60 people attended.
- The Fairfax County History Book Club held its inaugural virtual meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup>. There were 14 attendees. We will be reading *Fairfax County*, *Virginia A History* over the next 8 months.
- The Virginia Room partnered with the Fairfax County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution on January 30<sup>th</sup> and gave a virtual program on how to access and use online genealogy resources.
- The Virginia Room provided a tour of the library to the McLean Newcomers Club on January 31st.

#### **Donations**

- Gretchen Bulova donated nearly 20 years of newsletters (2001-2019) from the Middleridge neighborhood in Fairfax.
- Paul Overberg donated several reports from Tysons Tunnel Inc. from the early 2000s. The reports document engineering proposals and potential environmental impacts for construction of a tunnel to extend Metro through Tysons.

Fairfax County History	Commission	February	1,2023
Page 16		_	

Pending

Mary Lipsey

<christopherlipsey@verizon.net>

Wed, Feb 1, 2023 at 9:32 AM

Reply-To: Mary Lipsey <christopherlipsey@verizon.net>

Phyllis and Mary met with GMU library staff in reference to the AAHI Database.

George D. Oberle III, PhD MLS, History Librarian, Director, Center for Mason Legacies, Assistant Term Professor Department of History and Art History, Alyssa Fahringer, Digital Scholarship Consultant for George Mason University Libraries' Digital Scholarship Center

#### The discussion included:

- In all our advertising/ communications, we will use the GMU logo, not the GMU seal.
- GMU would like to have a copy of any fliers we distribute.
- GMU will be engaged in advertising and using the database with GMU courses.
- GMU Staff will handle any editing, additions, or changes for the database.
- Mary will be the contact person to send any edits etc.
- Mary will send the additions as a group, not one at a time.
- GMU will be responsible for the monitoring and maintenance of the website.
- For now, the URL will remain as is.

We all agreed what a valuable tool the database is.

Thanks goes to Barbara Naef who started the AAHI initiative and to all the commissioners who helped in the process. We should be proud of our hard work.

Mary

## Status of Randall Estates Nomination for Inventory of Historic Sites

Submitted by: Tammy Mannarino February 1, 2023

The Revised Nomination is being finalized and will be provided to Committee Members for an Inventory Committee Meeting between February 8-16. <u>It is essential that we have a quorum</u> for the meeting in order to evaluate the revised nomination and vote.

#### **Timeline for Randall Estates Historic District Nomination**

2-7 Feb — Committee review of revised Randall Estates Historic District Nomination 8-16 Feb — Inventory Committee vote on Randall Estates Historic District Nomination

If approved by the Inventory Committee, then....

17-28 Feb – History Commission review of revised Randall Estates Historic District Nomination 1 Mar 2023 – Fairfax County History Commission vote on Randall Estates Historic District Nomination

Subject: Summary of 1/25/2023 FCHC Conference Planning Committee

Excused Absent: Anne Barnes, Mike Irwin, Sue Kovach Shuman

Hello, Team!

Thank you for gathering this Wednesday evening last.

After opening with the formal COVID protocol script, We were able to have an evening of fruitful, creative lively discussion. We immediately

voted and all agreed on the date of 11/4/2023 for the conference. Other conversation centered around:

 $^{\star}$  "Lessons Learned" from the 2022 Conference. Lynne shared a very detailed email sent from Sue (w/added info. From L.) that focused

4. Sue's perspective that the speakers were good & engaging.

We do need to be clear how to orchestrate honorariums - & coordinate same with the PA Finance team

2. An abundance of food was the result of last minute orders & others who had needed final #'s earlier in the week prior. We had

about 70+ people present (including Channel 16 & their team in the cable truck parked in the parking lot)

5. Using a new Jason's location & new poc, resulted in cross communication & coffee w/o milk, sugar & napkins.

Pricing seemed a bit high, but included items for juice & lunch.

- 4. Concerns over food being left out &, again, an over-abundance of same.
- 5. Distribution of flyers for marketing purposes how many & costs of same.

Lynne offered to discuss same with the Advocacy Committee on 1/26/2023.

We did receive a lovely center fold article in the Mt. Vernon Gazette about the conference thanks to Glenda Booth.

- "Connection" journalist Mercia Hobson has also offered to help promote the FCHC this year.
- \* We then engaged in more conversation about the content of the conference/speakers. Author of "A Nation of Nations", Tom Gjelten will

serve as our Keynote, & Penny Gross, Mason District Supervisor – especially due to her experience as Supervisor during Fairfax County's

significant rush of new immigrants into her district— a situation which she handled brilliantly. We discussed a panel discussion of immigrants

- based on noted people in Gjelten's book, people Penny might suggest or even members of Fairfax County's social services that stepped

up to accommodate the influx of new and diverse community members.

We agreed that the following committee members would be reaching out asap to suggested speaker contacts/other assignments:

David Meyer contact Mark Keam; also confirm 11/4/2023 for the conference with the Sherwood Community Center ASAP

**Jordan Tannenbaum** contact the highly successful restauranteur located on Rt. 1 – w ho is a well-known immigrant **Cheryl Repetti** contact GMU & see about a speaker from their "Immigrant Studies" program &/or their Student Affairs program

(to expand beyond the scope of the book); Gjelten does provide a thorough look at the dynamics of different immigrant families – especially those that come with specific skills/abilities vs. those that were not well-educated before arriving to America;

Mixed families – where one or two parents might have come here first & then bringing the children from back home later; the mixing of

second generation immigrants with one another as FAR more accepting & successful than Caucasian people **Lynne** to make a list of key people in Gjelten's book that might serve as speakers, SME's or panel members & to contact Chairperson McKay & Congressman Gerry Connolly asap to get the conference on their November calendars

Three of the GREAT challenges that Fairfax County had before itself was the reality of 9/11 & the quickly growing Muslim

population; the reality of the growing Asian population and the reality of the growing Latino population, unfortunately mixed in with the many

members of the El Salvadorean community and the MS-13 gang members. We want to make sure to ask that BOS Chairperson Jeff McKay

also share in his opening conference remarks much of the same commentary he shared at the 1/20 "Thank You to Volunteers" gathering -

that the tremendous diversity allowed Fairfax County to workwell together in creating an even stronger community over the past few years

Fairfax County History Commission | February 1, 2023 Page 20

in handling significant challenges and that  $w \in did$  so successfully – perhaps the most successful example in all of America!

Please feel free to get back with me directly, if I have left anything out.

We will next meet on Wednesday, 2/22/2023 - 7:30pm - via Teams. Thank you all, again & looking forward to another fantastic conference this year! All good things,

## Lynne Garvey -Hodge

Fairfax County History Commission, Chairperson Historian I, At-Large Commissioner & Annual Conference & Awards Chairperson https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/history-commission/events PO Box 110, Clifton, Virginia 20124, cp – (703) 862-5154

## Advocacy Committee Meeting Minutes Fairfax County History Commission Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 7 pm

(total members = 9 so 5 is a quorum)

#### Attendance

1.	Carole Herrick	Dranesville/McLean
2.	Lynne Garvey Hodge	At Large
3.	Tammy Mannarino	Mount Vernon District
4.	Subhi Mehdi	Dranesville Dist
5.	Tom Shoop	Braddock District
6.	Cheryl-Ann Repetti	Centreville
7.	Sue Kovach Schuman	Providence District
absent		
8.	Anne Stuntz	Vienna/Hunter Mill District
9.	Jordan Tannenbaum	Springfield
absent		

## And Invited guests to discuss specific topics:

Advisory members Mary Lipsey and Phyllis Walker Ford to discuss AAHI. HC Member Bob Beach to discuss Dunn Loring School

County Liaison/s Present: Stephanie Newman Heritage Resources and Planning Development Div,

#### **AAHI**

- Mary and Phyllis presented update on AAHI upcoming meeting with GMU's George Oberly on Tuesday at 10:30 am. Topics will cover administrative part of the AAHI database.
- Mary is organizing all the additions since the database was handed over in April and will pass along for addition by GMU.
- Tammy brochure that Ffx Co Staff created; she will send it again so it's fresh. Might need to take
  off GMU logo. Discussed possibility of demonstrating AAHI database for BOS etc: Wouldn't
  February be ideal?
- Discussed how get the word out about AAHI? Traditional Media, Social Media. Each of us should send information to our district Supervisors, ccing School Board, so they can include in their February district newsletters. Tammy will send committee members a suggested script. Each of us could pull out some district specific information for that notice.

Thank you to Phyllis and Mary for attending.

#### **Dunn Loring School**

Tammy gave a summary. We don't have an answer on how far this process has gotten. Is it a done deal that DLS will be demolished.? How do we find out.

Elise suggested earlier to look up what the other objections to the project are. McLean stated that the schools all around the location were under subscribed. So why is the county building a new school? Tammy sent an email in Dec to her SB member. She passed her off to Elaine Thoren. She passed to Carl Frische. No one is eager to answer the questions.

What steps if any have been taken to address preservation?

Tammy wanted to talk to Sue before talking to Carl F. It's her district. Don't understand lack of answers.

Do we want to write a letter and cc the BOS? Ask those two questions.

When Jeff Clark spoke to us, LG says it's a long project. Won't happen overnight.

Bob Beach is very knowledgeable about adaptive reuse. If anyone had been down to Arena Stage. 2-3 preserved, very creative. One way, to encapsulate. Save a part and build around it. But there is no point in offering design advice till know where we are in the process.

#### Tom Shoop made this motion, as modified by friendly amendments:

TS-I move that the AC write a letter under the signature of the History Commission Chair to be sent to the School Board on the subject of renovation and potential demolition of Dunn Loring School to ascertain the status of the project and setting the expectation that the History Commission be included in the process moving forward.

Carol.2<sup>nd</sup>, the motion passed.

Tom suggested the letter be distributed to other interested parties

#### Outreach

#### 1. Events

Tammy provided an inventory of the brochures in hand.

Subhi was tasked at a previous meeting with putting together calendar of events. Working with Patrick Lennon.

As soon as finish inventory of history groups. First draft is almost done. Maybe a google sheet.

Upcoming Events in February.

- Saturday Feb 4, Chocolate Festival Fairfax, Historic Courthouse: Anne, Sue, Cheryl, Subhi
- Saturday Feb 11 Mt Vernon Town Hall Meeting

#### 2. Beyond Presence at Events

- Display Case Govt Center Laura K has figured something for now. Met with archeology, they removed everything. Black Af Am historical markers.
- Event on the 7<sup>th</sup>. During BOS recognizing the winning markers. HC invited...Lynne needs to be invited....Stephanie to send. 14 semi finalists.

#### **Tablecloth**

We will get solid blue with Commission seal, similar to what Sup Storck's office has. Anne to send Subhi and Tammy the graphic.

## **Annual Report**

Follow last years model.

Ask for input from committee chairs, due by the end of Feb. 2019/2020 may be together.

#### **Next Meeting**

February 23, 2023, 7 pm

History Commission Marker Committee report December for meeting held December 13, 2022

The Marker Committee met on December 13, 2022. The meeting was attended by a quorum of the members.

Discussion focused on having the marker address either the history of the geographical place or focus on the person, George Merrifield. It was noted that there is more documentary information about Mr. Merrifield.

The Committee returned the proposed marker for Merrifield to the applicant for further revision.

A meeting is being scheduled for sometime in February to consider the revised text.

Submitted 2/1/2023 by Cheryl Repetti, Marker Committee Chair