

**Fairfax County History Commission
Monthly Meeting**

February 5, 2025, 7:00 p.m.
Virtually via Microsoft Teams

The Fairfax County History Commission conducted a virtual meeting with all remote attendees on February 5, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Call to Order

1. Audibility of Members' Voices

Before proceeding, Vice Chair, Subhi Mehdi, ensured mutual audibility for the Commission members attending online. Commission members joining virtually confirmed their audibility and location accordingly.

Attendance

Commissioners Present per Districts:

Subhi Mehdi, *Vice Chair*
Tammy Mannarino, *Secretary*
Brian Heintz, *Treasurer*
Anne Stuntz
Sue Kovach Shuman
Jordan Tannenbaum
Margo Coleman
Cheryl-Ann Repetti
Jenee Lindner
David Meyer**

District:

Dranesville
Mount Vernon
Braddock
Hunter Mill
Providence
Springfield
Mason
Sully
Springfield
Fairfax City

Commissioners Excused:

Gretchen Bulova, *Chair*
Elise Murray

Commissioners Absent:

Anne Barnes

County Liaisons Present:

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

Staff Present:

Keisha Strand, History Commission Clerk

Special Guests Present:

None

***Joined after roll call*

Minutes

A motion was made by Anne Stuntz to approve the January 8, 2025, History Commission Meeting Minutes and the History Commission pay the Clerk [Keisha Strand].

Jordan Tanenbaum seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Cheryl-Ann Repetti offered a friendly amendment to reflect Jenee Lindner as the Cemeteries Committee Chair.

Sue Kovach Shuman seconded the amended motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

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Treasurer's Report

Brian Heintz reviewed the Treasurer's report for the period ending February 1, 2025. (See **Attachment 1**). He shared that there was only one expenditure related to the \$7500 allocated for Randall Estates. This was a partial payment and the other half will be settled next month.

There was a discussion regarding unresolved payments from the 2024 History Commission Conference. Elise Murray will continue to work on settling the payments.

A motion was made by Jordan Tanenbaum to accept the February 2025 Treasurer's Report.

Sue Kovach Shuman seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

250th Commission and History Commission Collaboration

Subhi Mehdi gave a presentation to the commission which included the following: (See **Attachment 2** and **Attachment 3**)

- History Commission 250th Committee

- 250 Video Series: A Documentary
 - Theme - Revolution of Ideas
 - To focus on people's voices
 - Oral History Interviews
 - The History Commission's 250 Committee will partner with the Oral History Committee (internally) and Channel 16 (externally)
 - Subhi Mehdi (250 Committee) and Sue Kovach Shuman (Oral History Committee) will co-lead the series

- Examples of Revolutionary Ideas.
 - Natural Rights and Equality
 - Popular Sovereignty
 - Republicanism
 - Separation of Powers
 - Individual Liberty and Freedom
 - Economic Freedom and Free Enterprise
 - Federalism
 - Rule of Law

- From Idea to Execution: Next steps
 - Identify interviewees
 - Design the documentary based on draft background paper
 - Write background scripts

Sue Kovach Shuman shared that there was a meeting on Monday, and it was discussed to have commission members interviewed in the studio. Channel 16 wants to do 25, and there is an idea to do a podcast with a few people, especially those who may not feel comfortable on camera. A message will be ready by the next meeting to share with supervisors.

There was a discussion among the Commission regarding the list of topics initiated by Jordan Tanenbaum. The committee agreed to be mindful that the concept of inclusiveness means different things to different people so the use of discernment is necessary.

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New Business

- 2025 Workplan, Subhi Mehdi
 - Executive committee met and decided to create a workplan. Each committee chair is asked to provide the following; (**See Attachment 4**)
 - A one to two sentence mission statement of the committee.
 - High level annual meeting schedule.
 - Top level priorities for the year.
 - Estimated expenditure needs.

There was a discussion about the history of the oral and ethnic history committee name.

- Annual Report Aligned with Fiscal Year
 - Discussed later in the agenda during Committee Reports.

Old/Unfinished Business

- **2025 Committee Assignments and Committee Descriptions**
 - Subhi Mehdi shared that the most recent version of committee assignments is in Egnyte, and that Chairman Gretchen Bulova is still working on it. **See Attachment 5**
- **Dunn-Loring School Update, Tammy Mannarino**
 - The commission voted at the January 2025 meeting to send a letter to the Planning Commission ahead of their January 15th meeting. That letter was submitted and is available in Egnyte (**See Attachment 6**). The Planning Commission acknowledged they received it, and voted to approve the proffers as well as to recommend rezoning of the Dun-Loring School.
 - Tammy represented the history commission at the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting. The main message was that the commission felt there is a lack of respect for the inventory. She also shared the recommendations below with the BOS.
 1. Make early communication with the Architectural Review Board (ARB) and History Commission mandatory when demolition of an inventory site is contemplated. The BOS acknowledged this and implied that the outcome may have been different had these groups been consulted.
 2. To look at Dunn-Loring School in the body of the historic schools in Fairfax County, and perhaps make a multiple property nomination for National Register. The BOS did not speak on that recommendation.
 - The BOS did vote to rezone the school, and it will be in the hands of the School Board to decide when this will be built.

Sue Kovach Shuman mentioned that the BOS thanked the commission and the ARB several times. Chairman McKay said to staff that he wants the first recommendation to be implemented, and Supervisor Jimenez also encouraged the School System to not be dismissive of the History Commission. She expressed to the commission that it is imperative to make sure that happens before more schools are lost. Sue suggested that the commission stay on top of the matter and maybe reach out to staff to work with them on the language.

There was a discussion about sending a follow up letter to the BOS.

A motion was made by Tammy Mannarino to write a letter to the Board of Supervisors, as a result of the History Commission meeting on February 5th, reiterating its recommendation.

Sue Kovach Shuman seconded the motion, which was followed by a discussion.

There was a discussion among the commissioners regarding the letter; ensuring that the commission does not thank BOS for something that has not yet been done, that the commission not only reminds the BOS of the recommendations but also stresses the importance that they be implemented.

A amended motion was made by Tammy Mannarino to write a letter to the Board of Supervisors summarizing the History Commission's recommendations from the February 5th meeting and their responses.

Margo Coleman seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- **Franconia Community Center Renaming due January**
 - Subhi Mehdi shared that Chairman Gretchen Bulova spoke with Supervisor Lusk, and he wants the commission to write the text labels for the 3 conference/community rooms. Phyllis Walker Ford is assisting in this work, and the initiative is in Egnyte. **See Attachment 7**

- **Cartersville Baptist Church, Citizen Information Request**
 - Subhi Mehdi shared that there was a query from a couple of citizens about some discrepancy in the inception date of the church.
 - The executive committee asked Stephanie Newman to do some research on at least three historic churches to see how it's been done for them so that we can respond properly to this citizen query. **(See Attachment 8)**
 - David Meyer shared that he had done some research for a book he authored, and that this information is available in the Virginia Room. He will share his research with Stephanie.

Staff Reports

Heritage Resources Branch, Laura Kviklys:

- Laura Kviklys, Fairfax County Department of Planning and Development, gave projects, program, and staff updates. See **Attachment 9** for the staff report. She included the following topics: Modern Countywide Survey, Gum Springs Study, Post-Modern Survey, Mount Gilead Documentation and Demolition, Sunnyside/DeBell House, Dunn Loring Rezoning, Staff Work Request Forms and the ARB Administrator, Planner III Position.

Archaeology and Collections Branch (ACB), Elizabeth Crowell

- Dr. Elizabeth Crowell, Fairfax County Park Authority, provided ACB program and project updates to the Commission. See **Attachment 10** for the report.
 - Because of the weather ACB is focusing on some projects on indoor activities such as laboratory processing of artifacts from the Phase II archaeological survey of the Fairfax Arms site.
 - Monticello asked ACB to provide artifacts from a site we have called Accotink Quarter, which had ceramics that were produced by enslaved people. Those items have been sent them as materials out on loan that they will be incorporating into their work.

- ABC will be doing a ground penetrating radar survey near Mount Gilead House to ensure that they know the locations of associated archaeological features there.
- In the process of updating ACB standard operating procedures, and are working with a consultant. They met for a two-hour meeting earlier in the day to discuss converting the artefact database into a Geo database that can be used with GIS.

Heritage Conservation Branch (HCB) and Resident Curator Program, Stephanie Langton

- Stephanie Langton provided HCB project and program updates to the Commission on behalf of HCB staff. See **Attachment 11** for the staff report.
 - She reported that the roof project continues at Mount Gilead House. The curators are looking forward to moving in the spring. Staff is awaiting the demolition permit for the carriage house. The documentation has been completed and everything will be taken care of before the curators move in. A resident curator lease signing will be coordinated with the completion of these projects.

Anne Stuntz asked that staff rename their staff reports to Heritage Conservation Branch Update so that it stands out in the Egnyte folder.

Virginia Room, Christopher Barbuschak

- Christopher Barbuschak, Fairfax County Public Library, provided staffing, program, collection, and archive updates. See **Attachment 12** for the Virginia Room staff report. He mentioned recent donations to the Virginia room including items from the descendants of the Coffey Family of Burke, VA. They gifted the Virginia Room with family papers, clothing and an antique sideboard. The sideboard was in the Virginia Room until 1975 when it was loaned to the Lee-Fendall House Museum in Alexandria. The museum is now reorganizing their space, and after fifty years, they decided to return it to the library. It is currently in the staff workroom.

Committee Reports

Advocacy Committee, Anne Stuntz:

- Anne Stuntz shared the committee met earlier in the week. See **Attachment 13** for the report.
 - The committee discussed running the annual report on the Fiscal Year versus the Calendar Year.

A motion was made by Anne Stuntz that the History Commission change its annual report to cover fiscal years moving forward.

Tammy Mannarino seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- The committee also discussed the below upcoming events:
 - Mount Vernon Town Hall this Saturday
 - April 26 Fairfax “HisTree” Day at Historic Blenheim and Earth Day Festival at Sully
 - Juneteenth Celebrations at Gum Springs, Fairfax, and maybe Sully

- Anne encouraged the commission members to notify the committee of other events in their districts.

Ethnic and Oral History Committee, Sue Kovach Shuman:

There was no additional update for the Ethnic and Oral History Committee. See **Attachment 14** for the report.

History Conference Committee:

The Park Authority is working on reconciling payments.

Markers Committee, Cheryl-Ann Repetti:

- Cheryl-Ann Repetti shared the committee met on January 22, 2025. See **Attachment 15** for the report.
 - The committee discussed Dolley Maddison and James Milton Goins markers See **Attachments 16 and 17.**
 - The committee voted to bring a motion to the full commission to approve funding for the markers.

There was a discussion addressing Dolley Madison, on whether it was respectful to identify her as Dolley or Mrs. Madison. The Committee came to a consensus that the general public knows her as Dolley, therefore identifying her in that way is respectful.

A motion was made by Cheryl-Ann Repetti that the History Commission allocate up to \$2100 to produce and install the Dolley Madison marker in, or near McLean Central Park.

Anne Stuntz seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Cheryl-Ann Repetti that the History Commission support the production and installation of the Goins marker in the vicinity of the corner of Laura Bell Lane and Zion Drive.

Tammy Mannarino seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- **Cheryl-Ann Repetti** also noted that the cost of the markers had gone up by \$200, therefore the new price for markers is \$3,145.

250th Commission, Gretchen Bulova:

Discussed earlier in the meeting during the presentation. (See **Attachment 18** for the report)

Update on AAHI Project, Updates from Mary Lipsey:

- Subhi Mehdi stated that Mary Lipsey is working with students who are creating then and now posters of several county historical sites.
- She reminded the Commissioners that Mary Lipsey continues to add new material to the AAHI inventory.

Commissioner Reports

Architecture Review Board (ARB) Liaison, Elise Murray:

- No Report.

Announcements/ News to Share (See Recording)

- Brian Heintz shared that the Marine Corps Museum, the weekend of the 20th has 7 Iwo Jima Veterans that are returning for the 80th anniversary and so you can check out their website for details.
- Tammy Mannarino, The Mount Vernon Town Hall is 8 to 10AM on Saturday at Mount Vernon High School. If anyone wants to come work the booth they are welcome.
- Tammy Mannarino, shared that she is going to be part of a panel on February 22nd for the Augusta Resolves celebrating the 250th Anniversary of that set of resolves in Augusta County.
- Anne Stuntz, shared that there is an article about Phyllis Walker Ford in the Fairfax Independent. It includes a picture of the History Commission's Luther Jackson marker. It sites her oral history and the AAHI
- Jenee Lindner shared that The Fairfax Public Schools Black History Month event scheduled for this week was postponed until the 19th of February Unfortunately, there were students from Woodson High School that were in the fatal plane crash in Washington D.C., and they are going to wait out of respect.
- Jordan Tannenbaum shared that on February 25th at 2PM, The Advisory Council has a free webinar on preserving historic black business districts as part of their "Preserve the Past, Build for the Future" webinar series.
- Sue Kovach Shuman shared that she will be a guest lecturer again at a class on historic preservation at Northern Virginia Community College. This will be the year third year that she has done this and that she is delighted that people are interested in what we do.
- Margo Coleman, shared that there would be an honorary renaming of Little River Turnpike 236. It was scheduled for the 5th of February, but now it's been changed to the 19th.
- Cheryl-Ann Repetti, shared that there is a Fairfax County Black History event to take place at the Government Center on the 21st at 5PM.
- David Meyer, shared that The City of Fairfax, is the owner of the Old Town hall, which is in this the historic district and they just completed the Chocolate Lovers Festival. The Old Town hall is going to be closed for over a year, for a \$3,000,000 renovation of the interior. The front portico was restored last year at a cost about \$800,000 and now the building itself is going to undergo it's most significant restoration since it was built in 1900. It will include all electrical HVAC window restorations, new elevators, and restrooms.

Subhi Mehdi adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Keisha Strand
Clerk, Fairfax County History Commission



Tammy Mannarino, Corresponding
Secretary Fairfax County History
Commission

Date: April 08, 2025

Attachments

- Attachment 1: Treasurer's Report, January 2025
- Attachment 2: 250 Video Series Presentation
- Attachment 3: 250th Video Series Background Document
- Attachment 4: FCHC 2025 Workplan
- Attachment 5: History Commission Committees Assignments
- Attachment 6: Dunn-Loring Letter to Planning Commission
- Attachment 7: Franconia District Room Naming
- Attachment 8: Cartersville Baptist Church Work Request
- Attachment 9: DPD Heritage Resources Branch Staff Report
- Attachment 10: Archaeology and Collections Branch Staff Report
- Attachment 11: Heritage Conservation Branch Staff Report
- Attachment 12: Virginia Room Staff Report
- Attachment 13: Advocacy Committee Report
- Attachment 14: Oral History Committee Report
- Attachment 15: Marker Committee Report
- Attachment 16: Dolley Madison Marker Text
- Attachment 17: James Milton Goins Marker Text
- Attachment 18: 250th Committee Report

Attachment 1

**Fairfax County History Commission
Treasurer's Report for February 5, 2025, Meeting**

January

Beginning balance: \$61,420.54

Expenditure:

Will Janney Invoice Payment (1/13/25) - \$5,917

FCPA-History Conference*

Ending Balance: \$55,503.54

* Status of History Conference expenditures?

Submitted by Brian Heintz

FCHC Treasurer



Fairfax County History Commission



FAIRFAX COUNTY
VIRGINIA₂₅₀
AMERICAN REVOLUTION

250 Video Series

Our Response to a Broader Mandate

- The United States Semiquincentennial Commission was established by an act of Congress in July 2016 to **commemorate** the 250th independence of America.
- Virginia's American Revolution 250 Commission was established in 2020.
- The Fairfax 250 Commission was established on July 27, 2021, and will remain effective till June 30, 2027.



250 Video Series: A Documentary

Theme: A Revolution of Ideas

Guiding principles:

- People-focus
- Past, present, and future
- A more perfect union

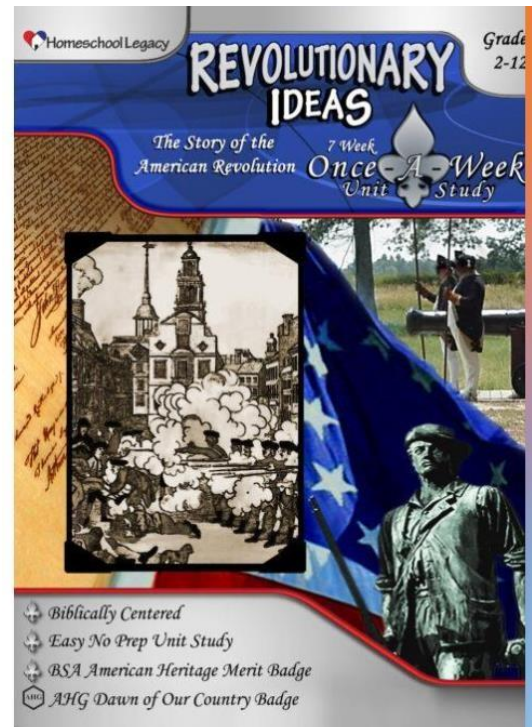
Format: Oral history interviews

Partnership: Channer 16 (external)
Oral History Committee (internal)



Examples of Revolutionary Ideas

- Natural Rights and Equality
- Popular Sovereignty
- Republicanism
- Separation of Powers
- Individual Liberty and Freedom
- Economic Freedom and Free Enterprise
- Federalism
- Rule of Law





From Idea to Execution: Next Steps

- Design the documentary based on the draft Proposal
- Select a few “revolutionary ideas” and key questions
- Identify and contact interviewees
- Reserve studio time with Channel 16
- Write background script
- Conduct interviews
- Air documentary (September 2025 – July 2026)

Attachment 3

Fairfax County 250 Commission Channel 16 Video Series Background Document

The Fairfax 250 Commission was established on July 27, 2021, and will remain effective till June 30, 2027. With founding fathers George Washington and George Mason calling Fairfax County home, the jurisdiction has hosted central actors and events in our nation's history. As part of the United States' 250th commemoration, the Commission will partner with Channel 16 to document public sentiments on this historic milestone of the nation.

The **guiding principles** of the documentary will be:

People-focus: Fairfax County is a vibrant, demographically diverse, and pluralistic place. Focusing on its people's views on America's 250 will yield a rich narrative of our complete story and role in shaping the nation. We will pay special attention to the county's youth voices.

Past, present, and future: The semi-quincentennial is simply not about our past. Our founders knew there was more work required two hundred and fifty years ago, and work remains to be done now. Let's hear what the people have to say about the state of the county and its future.

A more perfect union: Documenting our citizens' experiences in Fairfax County intends to inspire future generations to uphold their civic duties and continue building the county's preeminence in the national capital region as the best place to live, work, learn, and invest.

The documentary will be centered around a set of interview questions:

The revolutionary ideas upon which the Founders built the United States fundamentally challenged prevailing 18th-century norms. These ideas emphasized individual rights, limited government, and the assertion that political power derives from the will of the people rather than from a divinely anointed monarch or from a hereditary elite class. See Attachment A for details

Here are some **sample** questions related to the most influential revolutionary concepts:

1. Natural Rights and Equality

- Can you explain what the Founding Fathers meant by "unalienable rights" in the Declaration of Independence? How do you see these rights being upheld or challenged today?
- The idea of equality was revolutionary for its time. In your view, how well has the United States lived up to the promise of equality for all its citizens?
- What challenges does our society face in ensuring that all individuals have access to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness"?

2. Popular Sovereignty

- How do you interpret the idea of "government by the consent of the governed"? Do you think that U.S. citizens today feel adequately represented in their government?
- What mechanisms do you believe are most important in ensuring that the people maintain control over their government? Are there areas where the people's consent is ignored?
- In the context of electoral integrity, how can we better protect the principle of popular sovereignty?

3. Republicanism

- The founders envisioned a republic where representatives were elected by the people. Do you think the current political system reflects this ideal, or has it evolved in a way that challenges it?
- What role do you think civic education plays in maintaining a healthy republic? How can we encourage citizens to engage more actively in the political process?
- Given the rise of political polarization, do you think the idea of a representative republic is under threat? How can we strengthen it?

4. Separation of Powers

- Why do you think the founders felt it was so important to separate government powers into different branches?
- In recent years, there have been debates about the balance of power between the executive, legislative, and judicial branches. Do you think any branch has grown too powerful? Why or why not?
- How does the system of checks and balances protect democracy, and are there areas where you believe it has failed?

5. Individual Liberty and Freedom

- How do you think the Bill of Rights reflects the revolutionary commitment to individual liberty? Are there particular freedoms that you think are most at risk today?
- Free speech and freedom of the press are fundamental U.S. values. How do you reconcile these freedoms with the rise of misinformation and the role of media in shaping public opinion?
- How can we protect religious freedom while also ensuring that laws and policies are fair and non-discriminatory for all citizens?

6. Economic Freedom and Free Enterprise

- How do you think the founders' vision of economic freedom has shaped America's development as a nation?
- Do you believe the current economic system offers equal opportunity for all our citizens? What reforms, if any, would you suggest to create a more equitable system?
- In your opinion, what role should the government play in regulating free enterprise? Can too much regulation undermine the founders' commitment to economic freedom?

7. Federalism

- The U.S. is built on a federalist system that divides power between state and federal governments. Do you think this system still works effectively in the modern age?
- How should federal and state governments balance their powers, especially when dealing with crises like natural disasters, pandemics, or civil rights issues?
- Do you think federalism allows for innovation and diversity across states, or does it lead to disparities and inequalities?

8. Rule of Law

- The idea that no one is above the law is a cornerstone of American democracy. Do you think this principle is always applied equally today? Why or why not?
- How do we maintain the rule of law in times of political crisis or public discontent? What role do the courts and law enforcement play in upholding this principle?
- In your opinion, what can be done to restore public trust in the legal system, particularly in communities that feel marginalized or underserved by the justice system?

Methodology: The documentary will be centered around a select set of interview questions.

Option A:

- Identify 52 interviewees, for one interview to be aired per week. See Attachment B.
- Select one or two questions from each of the seven revolutionary idea categories.
- Assign one revolutionary idea category per 7 interviewees.

Option B: ?

Attachment A: The American Revolution was a *revolution of ideas*

The revolutionary ideas that America was built on are rooted in principles that fundamentally challenged the existing norms of the time, particularly those of monarchy, aristocracy, and colonial rule. These ideas were enshrined in key documents like the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. Here are some of the most influential revolutionary concepts:

1. Natural Rights and Equality

- **Idea:** All people are born with certain inalienable rights (life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness), as famously stated in the Declaration of Independence.
- **Revolutionary Impact:** This idea was a direct challenge to the traditional belief that monarchs had a divine right to rule over others and that people's rights were granted by governments or rulers. The concept of universal human rights suggested that all people were inherently equal.

2. Popular Sovereignty

- **Idea:** The authority of government is derived from the consent of the governed.
- **Revolutionary Impact:** This shifted the source of political power from kings and elites to the people themselves. The American colonies rejected the idea of being governed by a distant monarch without their input or representation.

3. Republicanism

- **Idea:** The belief in a government where citizens elect representatives to govern on their behalf, as opposed to hereditary monarchy or aristocratic rule.
- **Revolutionary Impact:** This concept helped shape the idea of a republic in which leaders were chosen by citizens rather than through birthright. It was a radical departure from European models of governance at the time.

4. Separation of Powers

- **Idea:** Government power should be divided into separate branches (legislative, executive, judicial) to prevent tyranny and abuses of power.
- **Revolutionary Impact:** This principle, heavily influenced by Enlightenment thinkers like Montesquieu, formed the foundation of the U.S. Constitution and established a system of checks and balances that was new to the world at that time.

5. Individual Liberty and Freedom

- **Idea:** Every individual has the right to freedom of speech, religion, press, and assembly, as well as protection from arbitrary government actions.
- **Revolutionary Impact:** These freedoms, later enshrined in the Bill of Rights, were considered essential to a free society and contrasted sharply with the restrictions common in monarchies and authoritarian regimes.

6. Economic Freedom and Free Enterprise

- **Idea:** People should have the freedom to engage in economic activities with minimal interference from the government (property rights, free markets).
- **Revolutionary Impact:** This encouraged the development of capitalism and private enterprise, challenging the mercantilist system where the economy was tightly controlled by the state.

7. Federalism

- **Idea:** A balance of power between a central national government and individual states.
- **Revolutionary Impact:** By creating a federal system, the framers of the Constitution designed a new form of government that allowed for local governance alongside a unified nation, an innovation compared to the centralized governments of Europe.

8. Rule of Law

- **Idea:** The law applies equally to all individuals, including those in power, and no one is above the law.
- **Revolutionary Impact:** This principle helped dismantle the notion that rulers were above the law or that justice could be arbitrary. It was a foundational concept for the development of American democracy and legal systems.

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Attachment B: Interviewees

1. **Rose Powhatan** (Pamunkey/Tauxenent, Native American Historian, and Lecturer)
2. **D. Brad Hatch, PhD**, author of *Eel Pots and Carp Pens: Contemporary Links to Patowomeck Indian Fishing Traditions*. Pamunkey ancestors.
3. **Judge Rohulamin Quander**, a Retired Senior Administrative Judge for the District of Columbia. Judge Quander traces his family history to the 1670s, and spoke on *Seed and Blood: Slavery and the Violence of Cotton Capitalism*.
4. **Marion Ransell Cohen** was born into the once beautiful and thriving African American community of The Pines. She is a well-known ethnographer, oral historian, public speaker, educator, and living history interpreter. She spoke on *Fairfax Virginia: A Seventh Generation, African American Story*.
5. **Linneall Naylor**, local historian, and descendant of numerous African American bloodlines hailing from Clifton, Manassas,
6. **Maura Keaney**, who proactively involved her students in the Juneteenth 2021 unveiling of the Ona Judge Historical Marker adjacent to the grounds of the Mount Vernon Estate. This marker is evidence of Ms. Keaney's passion for educating and including students in the study of the history of Fairfax County, our community, state, and nation. Ms. Keaney was recognized for being a life-long promoter of the history and preservation of Fairfax County's vast and rich history in the United States of America.
7. **Jeff Clark**, for his prodigious portfolio of work completed in the past 21 years as the Video Producer/Director of Communication and Community Relations for the Fairfax County Public School (FCPS) system. Considered the "official historian" of the FCPS, Mr. Clark's body of work includes: over 200 videos describing the names and histories of the FCPS and Centers; a series describing the de-segregation of the FCPS in articles, papers and YouTube videos; presentations on the FCPS's first African American high school, the Luther Jackson High School; a website documenting the history of the FCPS and the district schools of the FCPS: Centreville, Dranesville, Falls Church, Lee, Mt. Vernon, Providence, the Schools of Burke, the Crouch School, the Laurel Grove School and the Navy School; and the presentations on *Forgotten Fairfax: Lost Towns and Communities*, *The Forgotten "33" Fairfax County Schoolhouse Survivors*, and *Confederate Names of FCPS*.
8. **Commissioner Esther McCullough**, author of *The Earliest African American Churches and their Communities in Fairfax County*.
9. **Dr. Martha Claire Catlin** is an author and currently the historian for the Alexandria Quaker Meeting House at Woodlawn.
10. **Dr. Eric Larsen** The Germanna Foundation's Director of Archaeology spoke on the history of the now lost to time, Germanna Colony. Germanna was an 18th century German settlement near present-day Fredericksburg, settled in two waves, in 1714 and in 1717. Today, The Germanna Foundation maintains a research library, a memorial garden, and plans interpretive walking trails to various historic and archaeological sites

11. **Shawn and Susan Dilles** recently published an Arcadia book, *The Jewish Community of Northern Virginia*. In her presentation, Ms. Dilles provided an overview of the Jewish community that has resided in Northern Virginia for over 175 years.
12. **John Murphy**, the Charter President, Fr. Corby Division of the Ancient Order of the Hibernians located at St. Mary of Sorrows Roman Catholic church in Fairfax Station, member of the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum and a retired attorney, spoke on Fairfax County's Earliest Irish Citizens. Mr. Murphy is the grandson of Irish immigrants and has extensively studied Irish immigrations of the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries.
13. **Dr. Martha Pallante and Dr. Donna DiBlasio**, Youngstown University shared research done for their presentation *Looking beyond the 'Big Apple: Investigating the Immigrant Experience in Understudied Communities*. Their focus was on the Italian immigrants of Fairfax County and the United States.
14. **Honorable Abrar Omeish**, Fairfax County School Board Member, shared her family's story as immigrants to Fairfax County and her own experiences as a second-generation Libyan -American.
15. **Honorable Kathy Tran**, Virginia House of Delegate (42nd District), spoke about her family's experience coming to Fairfax County as Vietnamese refugees.
16. **Honorable Mark Keam**, former Virginia Delegate of the 35th District, also noted that Fairfax County was one of the few places that would have given him and his mother opportunities to succeed when they first immigrated to the region from Korea with no money and no connections.
17. **Josie Ballato** is a local historian from Mason District. Ms. Ballato's monograph described the first female County Supervisor, Edith Rogers (Dranesville), elected in 1935. Edith also served as a principal at Herndon and Forestville High Schools and was dairy farmer.
18. **Gibran Parvez**, first generation immigrant and an amateur historian who maintains "Dulles Online", an information portal on the history of the development around Dulles Airport.



Fairfax County History Commission

2025 Workplan



Goal: Process the backlog of projects, including markers and inventory nominations, and prepare for the nation's 250th commemoration.

Committee	Project	Status	Watch Color
Administrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roles and Responsibilities for committees, chairs, and commissioners • Minutes schedule and process • Egnyte file upload schedule • Update commission binders • Nametags, name plates for new members 		In progress
Annual Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report • Presentation to BOS 		Plan
Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dunn Loring School • Event booth 	Referred to BOS	Watch
Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY26 Awards 	Convene Committee	Up to date
Bylaws	No updates needed		Up to date
Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY26 Submission 	FXCO budget season	Watch
Cemeteries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role for the commission defined 		Watch

Oral History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 250th collaboration 	Coordination	Watch
Financial Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly Review 	Once new Treasurer is up to date	Watch
Fort Belvoir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As needed role 		Up to date
History Conference	FY25 Wrap Up Report, Payments	In process	Watch
Inventory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Franconia Community Center Names • Inventory of Schools • Nominations to review 		Needs Action
Markers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proffer markers • Goins • Dolly Madison • Maintenance of existing markers 		In progress
250 th Anniversary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Channel 16 programs • Collaborate with Oral History Committee 		In progress
ARB liaison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly report • Transition to new liaison for fall 2025 		Up to date
Citizen Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cartersville Baptist Church date on marker question 	Work request to Stephanie for research	Request made
Ad Hoc Intra-County Collaboration (David Meyer, Chair)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication coordination with County, FCPA, Libraries 	Need to convene meetings and create plan	Needs Action

2025 Fairfax County History Commission Committees

Standing Committees:

Executive Committee

Gretchen Bulova (Chair)
Subhi Mehdi (Vice Chair)
Tammy Mannarino (Secretary)
Brian Heintz (Treasurer)

Awards

David Meyer (Chair)
Elise Ruff Murray
Jordan Tannenbaum
Brian Heintz

Budget

Subhi Mehdi (Chair)
Elise Ruff Murray
Anne Barnes
Anne Stuntz

Bylaws (as needed)

Anne Barnes (Chair)
Elise Ruff Murray
Subhi Mehdi
Anne Stuntz

Financial Review (once a year)

Cheryl-Ann Repetti (Chair)
Anne Stuntz
Subhi Mehdi
Elise Ruff Murray

Nominating Committee

To be appointed at Sept meeting

Ad Hoc Committees:

250th Committee

Gretchen Bulova (Chair)
Tammy Mannarino
Subhi Mehdi
Brian Heintz

Fort Belvoir Advisory

Tammy Mannarino (Chair)
Subhi Mehdi
Jordan Tannenbaum
Jenee Lindner

Committees:

Advocacy

Anne Stuntz (Chair)
Tammy Mannarino
Subhi Mehdi
Cheryl-Ann Repetti
Sue Kovach-Shuman

Cemeteries

Jenee Lindner (Chair)
Cheryl-Ann Repetti
Anne Stuntz
David Meyer

Oral History

Sue Kovach-Shuman (Chair)
Anne Stuntz
Anne Barnes
Tammy Mannarino
Jenee Lindner
Margo Coleman

History Conference

Open (Chair)
Anne Barnes
Committee member needed
Committee member needed

Inventory of Historic Sites

Tammy Mannarino (Chair)
Elise Ruff Murray
Sue Kovach Shuman
Anne Stuntz
Tammy Mannarino
Cheryl-Ann Repetti

Markers

Cheryl-Ann Repetti (Chair)
Anne Barnes
Tammy Mannarino
Elise Ruff Murray
Brian Heintz
Sue Kovach-Shuman



Fairfax County History Commission

10360 North Street
Fairfax, Virginia 22030-2514
fairfaxcounty.gov/history-commission/



January 14, 2025

By Email

Phillip A. Niedzielski-Eichner, Chairman
Fairfax County Planning Commission
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 552
Fairfax, VA 22035

Chairman Niedzielski-Eichner,

As Chair of the Fairfax County History Commission, I want to convey our appreciation for your careful handling of Fairfax County Public Schools' application regarding historic Dunn Loring Elementary School. The Planning Commission has been put in a difficult position given FCPS' refusal to consult with county experts for nearly two years of this project's lifespan. The lack of respect shown to the history of Dunn Loring School and its designation on the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites has been alarming. While FCPS' recent actions are a step in the right direction, your commission is left with the difficult decision of whether to reward their circumvention of county processes and approve the destruction of an irreplaceable historic asset that potentially could have and should have been preserved in whole or in part.

The Fairfax County History Commission agrees with the Architectural Review Board that the proffers proposed at the Planning Commission meeting are insufficient and fail to adequately reflect the site's historical and cultural importance. We understand that FCPS has modified its proffers to reflect some of the concerns enumerated in the ARB's December 19, 2024 letter. This is also a step in the right direction but cannot repair the damage done by the lack of serious preservation analysis early in the process. Please note FCPS' three-page Applicant's Analysis of Repurposing the Existing Building at Dunn Loring Elementary School Site dated July 15, 2024 - produced 16 months after the History Commission's first request for this documentation.

At various points in this process, the Fairfax County History Commission, the Architectural Review Board and even Fairfax County Public Schools have noted that while there is historical information on individual schools in the county, we lack a broader understanding of the built environment of our remarkable school system. This information would be helpful in a comparative analysis of Dunn Loring School with other extant schools of the period in Fairfax County. Unfortunately, Fairfax County lags behind other jurisdictions in the Commonwealth in providing this type of vantage point for preservation decisions. We strongly recommend that the proffers for Dunn Loring Elementary School include adequate

contextualization so that the school's place in Fairfax County education history, within Public Works Administration efforts, and within the body of work of architect Raymond V. Long can be fully understood.

The Fairfax County History Commission also recommends that the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors defer or deny this application until revised proffers are implemented that adequately reflect the heritage value of this site with a long-term goal of minimizing the likelihood that historic schools in Fairfax County could be treated in such a cavalier fashion in the future.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Gretchen Bulova
Chair, Fairfax County History Commission

Cc: Members, Fairfax County Planning Commission
Members, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors
Tracy Strunk, Fairfax County Department of Planning and Development (FCDPD)
Kelly Atkinson, FCDPD
Cathy Lewis, FCDPD
Suzanne Wright, FCDPD
Denice Dressel, FCDPD
Laura Kviklys, FCDPD
Stephanie Newman, FCDPD
Members, Fairfax County History Commission
Members, Architectural Review Board
John McGranahan, Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP
Dr. Michelle Reid, Fairfax County Public Schools
Karl Frisch, Chair, Fairfax County School Board
Members, Fairfax County School Board

Attachment 7

**Fairfax County History Commission
Franconia District Government Center
Conference Room Naming Initiative
To Support Supervisor Rodney Lusk, Franconia District**

Board Matter Request to History Commission: July 16, 2024

Request to History Commission as of January 21, 2025:

1. Provide text for small plaque outside three conference rooms
 - a. Dana Kauffman
 - b. Laurel Grove
 - c. Combined Jasper and Walker Families
2. Provide an image, if possible, to accompany the text
3. Memo to Supervisor Lusk with final product
4. Deadline: March 6, 2025

Attachment 8

**Fairfax County History Commission
2025 Staff Work Request Form**

Date of Request: January 27, 2025

Project Description:

1. To research the practice of dating the “inception” of historic churches in Fairfax County and providing examples from three churches:
 - a. Date of the first congregation, or
 - b. Building of the church.
2. Prepare a draft response to Supervisor Alcorn to pass along to Hon. Ken Plum and Ms. Carmen Powell.

Requestor: Gretchen Bulova

Committee: Inventory of Historic Sites

Anticipated Number of Staff Hours: 8

Requested Due Date: February 25, 2025

Additional Notes/Background: On January 7, 2025, Hunter Mill District Supervisor Walter Alcorn’s Staff Aide, Gwendolyn Minton, requested DPD to resolve a discrepancy on the date of the inception of the Cartersville Baptist Church in Vienna.

Supervisor Alcorn’s office received a request from former Delegate Ken Plum and former History Commission member Carmen Powell regarding the date of inception of the Cartersville Baptist Church currently reflected in the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites. The church came together as a congregation in 1863; however, the inventory cites its inception as 1903 (the date of the church’s first building). The History Commission installed a marker several years ago stating that the date of inception of the church was 1863.

Supervisor Alcorn’s office recommends that the Inventory of Historic Sites be corrected to reflect the date of the congregation formation, that is 1863.



This section is to be completed by the Fairfax County History Commission Chair prior to monthly meeting with Staff.

_____ Date received by History Commission Chair

Priority number ____ for the month of _____



This section is to be completed by Staff

_____ HR Branch Chief Approval Date

_____ Date completed by Staff

Attachment 9

February 05, 2025, History Commission Meeting
Department of Planning and Development/Heritage Resources Branch (DPD-HRB) Update
Page 1 of 3

Ongoing Projects and Studies:

- **Modern Countywide Survey:** The final draft of the Modern Architectural Survey Report has been completed and was submitted to the county. In total, eight historic districts and 143 individual resources were recorded during this effort. Of those, 43 are recommended as potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as individual resources or historic districts under Criteria A and/or C. The final report will soon be made available on the webpage: [Midcentury Modern Historic Resource Survey | Planning Development \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](#). For questions, contact Laura Kviklys, laura.kviklys@fairfaxcounty.gov.
- **Gum Springs Heritage Resource Study:** The consultant, Commonwealth Preservation Group (CPG), has submitted the transcribed oral histories to participants which were performed on October 16-17, 2024, and is now completing archival research. The consultants are developing a draft historic context and survey report. On January 15, 2025, CPG met with DPD-HRB staff and members of the Gum Springs community leadership team to present a preliminary outline of the historic context, preliminary data from the architectural survey, and a preliminary bibliography of archival resources identified, to date. Feedback received from the county and community members' will be incorporated into the project deliverables. CPG will also be completing a feasibility study of preservation planning tools for inclusion in a final management document. The final report will be presented to the community in October 2025. For more information on the project, or to sign up for newsletter updates, visit: [Gum Springs Heritage Resources Study | Planning Development \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](#), or contact Laura Kviklys, laura.kviklys@fairfaxcounty.gov with any questions.
- **Post-Modern Historic Context and Directed Survey:** DPD-HRB staff met with representatives from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) and the consultant, Robinson and Associates, to kick off the Post-Modern Historic Context and Directed Survey, which is being funded, in part, through the VDHR Cost Share Program. The project will include the development of a historic context for Post-Modern era resources in Fairfax County, and a directed survey of approximately 40 pre-selected buildings. The survey will include resources constructed between 1970 and 1995. Contact Laura Kviklys, laura.kviklys@fairfaxcounty.gov with any questions.
- **Centreville Suburban Area Study, Historic Resource Survey and Outreach Project: No update.** The architectural survey and data entry have been completed. Draft plan text for the Heritage Resources subsection is currently in development. DPD-HRB staff will present the survey findings to the Centreville Suburban Area Study Task for and the Architectural Review Board in the spring. For more information on the study, please visit: [Plan Amendment 2022-III-BR1 | Planning Development \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](#), or

contact Laura Kviklys, laura.kviklys@fairfaxcounty.gov

- **DHR Certified Local Government (CLG) Grant - National Register Nomination and Historical Marker for Randall Estates Subdivision:** The consultants, WJE, Inc, have completed the survey fieldwork and archival research are working to complete VCRIS data entry (VDHR's database) and will begin drafting text for the National Register nomination. Contact Stephanie Newman, Stephanie.Newman@fairfaxcounty.gov with any questions.
- **Black/African American Historical Marker Project: No update.** The next marker installation is scheduled for April 5, 2025, at West Springfield High School, for the West Springfield 16. The marker was nominated by students from the Applied History Class taught by History Commissioner Brian Heintz! For more information visit: [Black/African American Historical Marker Project](#), or contact Stephanie Newman, Stephanie.Newman@fairfaxcounty.gov.
- **Mount Gilead Carriage House Demolition and Documentation:** FCPA contracted Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE) to complete Historic American Building Survey (HABS) documentation on the building prior to demolition. The photographs and documentation will be submitted to the National Park Service (NPS) HABS program for inclusion in the HABS database, which is hosted and maintained by the Library of Congress. DPD-HRB has received confirmation of the documentation being complete and copies have been provided to the Virginia Room.

Current Development Cases:

- **Misión Evangélica, Sunnyside/DeBell House, (SP 2022-SU-00144, 6321 Old Centreville Road, Centreville), Sully District:** The Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) hearing was conducted December 4, 2024, in the Government Center Board Auditorium for the Special Permit Application which would result in the demolition of the Sunnyside in Centreville. The BZA deferred a decision to allow the applicant time to liaise with the community and perform a feasibility study for incorporating the extant building into development plans. The applicant has agreed to provide \$5,000 for a historical marker if the building is demolished. The next BZA hearing is currently scheduled for February 26th. Contact Stephanie Newman, Stephanie.Newman@fairfaxcounty.gov with any questions.
- **Dunn Loring Elementary School (RZ-2023-PR-00018), Providence District:** The application was presented to the Planning Commission and was approved on January 15, 2025. The resubmitted application contains proffers recommended by DPD-HRB staff and the ARB which include:
 - Phase II Intensive Level Documentation, in accordance with Virginia Department of Historic Resources *Guidelines For Conducting Historic Resources Survey In*

Virginia, October 2011, Revised September 2017, provided to the Heritage Resources Branch. This report will contain, at a minimum: historical information (date of construction, architect, ownership history builder/supplier, original plans, and any alterations or additions), historic context narrative, architectural description (architectural character, description of exterior, description of interior, site description), and a bibliography containing sources of information.

- Large format photography of the historic core and additions which meet the Historic American Buildings Survey standards
- An interpretative historical exhibit that explains the history and evolution of the site and the existing building, including ethnographic research of the local community members and descendants of those historically connected to the Property. The interpretive exhibit will attempt to incorporate the salvaged pediment and most or all of the associated entranceway to the existing historic school, and some of the existing exterior bricks. Materials which are compromised (e.g. decayed wood that cannot be used), will not be incorporated.
- Preservation of the historic WPA Plaque to be incorporated into the historical exhibit
- The final design plan for the interpretative historical exhibit, including the incorporation of all or such portions of the pediment, associated entranceway and salvaged bricks, will be submitted to the Heritage Resources Branch, the History Commission and the ARB for review and comment prior to the installation of the interpretative historical exhibit.
- An interpretive wayside marker or an historical County marker, to be located on-site, to commemorate the family who conveyed the Property to the Applicant and the history of the Dunn Loring School.

The case will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on February 04, 2025 at 3:30. Contact Laura Kviklys, laura.kviklys@fairfaxcounty.gov with any questions.

Other Items

- **DPD-HRB Staff Work Request Forms:** In partnership with the Executive Leadership



requesting
This form is intended to
contact the FCHC Chair
tions.

- **Architectural Review Board Administrator, Planner III Position-** DPD is seeking to fill a Planner III position, which will also serve as the Architectural Review Board Administrator. For more information visit: [Planner III | Job Details tab | Career Pages](#); the application submission period ends February 18, 2025.



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



MEMORANDUM

Date: January 29, 2025
To: Fairfax County History Commission
From: Aimee Wells, Senior Archaeologist, Stewardship and Planning Division
Subject: February Staff Report

Given the weather in January, the Archaeology and Collections Branch focused its efforts on indoor activities such as laboratory processing of artifacts from the Phase II archaeological survey of the Fairfax Arms site.

Additionally, staff and volunteers have been working on the second phase of a loan to Monticello of artifacts from the Accotink Quarter site. <https://secure.wetlandstudies.com/newsletters/2013/august/AccotinkQuarter.html>

Field work will get underway at Rabbit Branch near [Royal Lake park](#) for a trail connector project as soon as it is dry enough to do so. This project fulfils our responsibility to [park](#) policy requiring archaeology for ground-disturbing activities.

ACB received a draft report of the ground-penetrating radar survey at the Mount Gilead house at Historic Centreville Park. Initial findings are still under review and will be finalized in February.

This is the time of year when we review our internal standards of practice, methods, training and safety documentation. Several of these documents have been updated to reflect best practice in the field. We continue to work to improve our documentation and data retention to best attempt to "future-proof" our work.

Finally, ACB continues to work with a contract firm to convert our artifact database into a geodatabase so that artifact information can be spatially related using GIS. This process has been ongoing for quite some time, but will greatly improve our understanding of inter and intra-site analysis within the county.

For more information on the Park Authority's Archaeology and Collections Branch, please see: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/archaeology>

Heritage Conservation Branch
Resource Management Division
History Commission Updates
February 5, 2025

Historic Sites Volunteer Corps

- HSVC is currently on their winter recess and will resume events in early spring of 2025

Resident Curator Program Updates

- The lease for residential curatorship of the Ash Grove house is being drafted for internal review. The process for lease approval includes a BOS public hearing.
- The RCP is accepting applications for Lahey Lost Valley. Once staff receives an application, a deadline for additional applications will be set for 30 calendar days following the date the initial application was received.
- The roof project continues at Mt Gilead house. Staff is awaiting the demolition permit for the carriage house. A resident curator lease signing will be coordinated with the completion of these projects.



**Fairfax County Public Library's Virginia Room
Staff Report to the Fairfax County History Commission**

February 2025

Programs

On January 31st, the Virginia Room hosted a "Establishing a Genealogy Filing System" program. Patrons brought their physical and digital files to this working session run by Hanni Nabahe. She gave a presentation on essential tips and tools for organizing and then led a workshop for patrons to apply what they learnt.

Beth Sansbury, a docent at Sully Historic House, donated her research materials for her book *Searching for Sully's Enslaved*.

New Finding Aids Published

Dulles Area Chapter of N.O.W. Collection, 1981-1997

This collection consists of NOW News and Woman Power monthly newsletters (1984-1991), membership rosters (1983-1997), a two-volume scrapbooks documenting "The First Ten Years" of the organization, and an outreach table runner. The collection spans 1.88 linear feet and highlights the events and activities of focus for this formerly active N.O.W. chapter and its allies.

Digitization Efforts

Sometime later in February, the Library of Virginia will upload our digitized microfilmed newspapers to Virginia Chronicle. Included will be:

- Herndon-Chantilly Times (1958-1962)
- The McLean Providence Journal (1944-1973)
- The Springfield Independent (1953-1987)
- The Fairfax Journal (1953-1955, 1958-1959)

New Acquisitions

- Beth Sansbury, a docent at Sully Historic House, donated her research materials for her book *Searching for Sully's Enslaved*.
- The widow of Robert Stoy, a longtime resident of McLean, donated his collection of multi-media to us. Included are 10 8mm film reels dating from 1938 to 1950 which his father took depicting McLean baseball games, family gatherings, sleigh riding down Elm Street and other scenes.
- Gibran Parvez donated a scrapbook from the 1890s assembled by members of the Halley Family of Burke, Virginia. Included were several FCPS postcards for William Halley and his sister Susan Halley. Halley is the namesake of William Halley Elementary School in Fairfax Station.

- On January 16th, a unique piece of furniture was returned to the Virginia Room after 50 years! In October 1964, descendants of the Coffey Family of Burke, VA, gifted the Virginia Room with family papers, clothing and an antique sideboard. Thomas Coffey, a prominent vestryman of Pohick Church, supposedly invited George Washington to join him for an after-church beverage at his home one Sunday afternoon and allegedly served him from this sideboard which has been dated to c. 1785-1800. The sideboard was in the Virginia Room until 1975 when it was loaned to the Lee-Fendall House Museum in Alexandria. The museum is now reorganizing their space, and after fifty years, they decided to return it to the library. It is currently in the staff workroom.



Coffey Sideboard

Sauces County, Va., 1890

School No. 1, Lee District

Monthly Report of Wm. F. Halley of the
Sixth Grade for the Month ending Dec 19th 1890

Present 8 times; Absent 12 times; Late 0 times; 3 dis-
missed early; has broken the Rules 1 times slightly, 0 times grossly,
0 times severely. General average Standing in class
of 13

	Perfect	Nearly Perfect	Good	Fair	Perfect	Nearly Perfect	Good	Fair
Spelling,	8							
Reading,	8							
Writing,	8							
Arithmetic,	8							
Grammar,								
Geography,	8							
History, Va.								
History, U. S.								

Wm. F. Halley PARENT. R. H. Hancock TEACHER.

William Halley Report Card, Ox Road School, December 19, 1890

Attachment 13

**Advocacy Committee Meeting
Monday February 3 2025
Freeman Store and Museum
131 Church Street NE Vienna, VA 22180**

MINUTES

(total regular members = 5 so 3 is a quorum)

Attendees

In Person: Sue Kovach Shuman, Tammy Mannarino, Anne Stuntz

Teams: Cheryl Repetti, Subhi Mehdi

Annual Report

Calendar Year vs Fiscal Year.

The History Commission has always used the Annual Report to summarize the previous Calendar Year. Since the county's fiscal year is different: July 1-June 30, calendar year reporting creates a disconnect between the report and the next budget request, which is due in the fall.

Tammy made this motion: **"I move that the History Commission change its Annual Report to cover fiscal years moving forward. This will necessitate changing the timeline within the Annual Report Policy to reflect fall deadlines"**

The motion passed in committee, to be brought to February 5 Commission meeting.

The change would mean that the next Annual Report cover 18 months: the 12 months of calendar year 2024, plus the last 6 months of FY 2024 to June 30 2025.

At the next committee meeting we will revise the Annual Report Policy, particularly the timing.

We also discussed the 2019/2020 Annual Reports. They will be combined into one document.

Upcoming Events

Mount Vernon Town Hall this Saturday

April 26 ~~Historic~~ Day at Historic Blenheim and Earth Day Festival at Sully

Juneteenth Celebrations at Gum Springs, Fairfax, and maybe Sully

We urge all Commission members to let us know of outreach opportunities in their districts.

Activity Booklet

We'll talk about it at next meeting. Basic principles are shelf life and age group.

Next meeting

In principle, meetings will be on the afternoon of the first Monday of every month. Next meeting is therefore March 3, details to be determined

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE REPORT -Feb

(MINUTES) from Sue Kovach Shuman

Feb. 3, 2025 In-person meeting, City of Fairfax Regional Library

Attendees: Sue, Margo Coleman, Anne Stuntz, Tammy Mannarino

(Jenee was sick)

The committee discussed the number of interviews, the demographics, and questions to ask based upon "revolutionary ideas" and the 250th committee's "Channel 16 Documentary – A Proposal." This document provides a way to explore the topics that underpin our governing process. Sue and Subhi Mehdi will meet at Channel 16 with key people there and with Visit Fairfax to discuss the actual logistics of doing interviews.

Sue said a script and questions will be provided for commissioners to use if they do oral histories. It is unclear whether Channel 16 will do most of the interviews. This will be cleared up.

There will be training and examples for commissioners who want to do oral histories.

The committee will ask each commissioner to approach their supervisor to suggest people to interview, but Sue asked that no promises be made about who is interviewed. Sue will send a few sentences that commissioners should use to approach their supervisor.

The committee will meet to discuss a balanced approach to those interviewed, with a focus on reaching all demographics (age, gender, race, etc.). Sue will compile a list, and each commissioner will be asked to research a little about the background of the person in their district and share that at the next committee meetings.

The committee also was asked to look at the 250th document cited above and propose ways to phrase questions.

Meetings likely will be at 1 p.m. the first Monday of the month.

Attachment 15

Marker Committee Report for January 22, 2025

Anne Barnes absent; Brian Heintz, Elise Murray, Sue Kovach Shuman, Tammy Mannarino, Barbara Peters and Cheryl Repetti present (Commissioner Murray appeared virtually, all other present commissioners were in physical attendance)

A quorum being present, the Marker Committee first reviewed the proposed text for "Dolley Madison's Flight from Washington." After making some minor edits, the committee unanimously approved the following text for the Dolley Madison marker:

Dolley Madison's Flight from Washington

Dolley Madison Boulevard is named for the former First Lady, wife of James Madison, fourth President of the United States. During the War of 1812, the British invaded the City of Washington. On August 24, 1814, Dolley escaped into Virginia crossing the Chain Bridge. She stopped at Rokeby, the home of friend Matilda Lee Love, then located along the Potomac River, while the British set America's capital city ablaze by igniting fires in the White House, Capitol building, and Treasury. The following day, she traveled through what is now McLean, uniting with her husband at Wiley's Tavern near Colvin Run Mill.

The committee then took up the text for "James Milton Goins (1918-1990)." After making some minor edits, the committee unanimously approved the following text for the Goins marker:

James Milton Goins (1918-1990)

Nearby stood the home of James M. Goins, civil rights activist and resident of the historic African American Sideburn community. Goins fought racial discrimination to obtain road paving, streetlights, and water and sewage systems for Zion Drive residents. He was president of the Sideburn Civic Association, organized development of the David R. Pinn Community Center, and acquired funding to build affordable housing for minorities in the Sideburn area including Goins Manor. Goins' activism earned him accolades including the 1985 Fairfax County Federation of Citizen Associations' Citizen of the Year, 1989 Governor's Award for Volunteering Excellence, and the nickname "Godfather of Zion Drive."

On behalf of the Marker Committee, I am making two motions:

I move that the History Commission allocate up to \$2100 to produce and install the Dolley Madison marker in or near McClean Central Park.

I move that the History Commission allocate up to \$2100 to produce and install the Goins Marker in the vicinity of the corner of Laura Belle Lane and Zion Drive, near the entrance to Goins Manor.

As a point of information for the Commission, the cost of markers has increased. They are now \$3145. The Committee will review a submission for the McClean Community center at its next meeting which will be on Wednesday, February 26th at 7 pm.

Dolley Madison's Flight from Washington

Dolley Madison Boulevard is named for the former First Lady, wife of James Madison, fourth President of the United States. During the War of 1812, the British invaded the City of Washington. On August 24, 1814, Dolley escaped into Virginia crossing the Chain Bridge.¹ She stopped at Rokeby, the home of friend Matilda Lee Love, then located along the Potomac River,² while the British set America's capital city ablaze by igniting fires in the White House, Capitol building, and Treasury.³ The following day, she traveled through what is now McLean, uniting with her husband at Wiley's Tavern near Colvin Run Mill.⁴

101 words

1. Report of General William Winder. *American State Papers*. Page 558. Charles Ball. *Slavery in the United States: A Narrative of the Life and Adventures of Charles Ball, A Black Man*. Page 468. Paul Jennings. *A Colored Man's Reminiscences of James Madison*. Page 10. Map of Dolley's route. Robert Alden. *The Flights of the Madisons*. Note, the name "Chain Bridge" was in use at the time of Dolley's flight, however,

2. The house named "Rokeby" was originally built near the Potomac River. That "Rokeby" burned down a couple of years after Dolley was there. It was rebuilt closer to Chain Bridge Road roughly in an area near the CIA where the Immanuel Presbyterian Church is today. It too burned. A third "Rokeby" was built facing Chain Bridge Road in 1843. It is still there today across from the gas station at Kirby Road. Many confuse today's "Rokeby" with the house Dolley stayed in. Personal communication with Carole Herrick. See also Cazenove Gardner Lee, Jr. *Lee Chronicle: Studies of the Early Generations of the Lees in Virginia*. "Recollections of Matilda Lee Love." Page 291-292.

3. Captain James Scott. *Recollections of a Naval Life*. Sir Henry (Harry) Smith. *The Autobiography of Lieutenant General Sir Harry Smith*. Chapter XX. George Gleig. *The Campaigns of the British Army at Washington and New Orleans*. Page 71.

4. Mordecai Booth. *The Capture of Washington in 1814*. Dolley traveled what today is called Chain Bridge Road, a major route through Fairfax County leading from Chain Bridge through the county ending at the Occoquan. The community of McLean developed along Chain Bridge Road. Dolley used this road until it

James Milton Goins (1918-1990)¹

Nearby stood the home of James M. Goins, civil rights activist² and resident of the historic African American Sideburn community.³ Goins fought racial discrimination to obtain road paving, streetlights, and water and sewage systems for Zion Drive residents.⁴ He was president of the Sideburn Civic Association,⁵ organized development of the David R. Pinn Community Center,⁶ and acquired funding to build affordable housing for minorities in the Sideburn area including Goins Manor.⁷ Goins' activism earned him accolades including the 1985 Fairfax County Federation of Citizen Associations' Citizen of the Year,⁸ 1989 Governor's Award for Volunteering Excellence,⁹ and the nickname "Godfather of Zion Drive."¹⁰

102 words

¹ James M. Goins funeral program, July 18, 1990, p. 1.

² Jean Dempsey, "Black Power: The Success of James Goins," *The Connection* (Fairfax, VA), February 27, 1986, v. 9, p. 9.

³ James Goins, interview by Jean Dempsey, 1985, p. 1.

⁴ *Ibid.*, pp.1-2; James Goins funeral program p. 1; Ina Lee Selden, "Jim Goins: Zion Drive's Advocate," *The Washington Post* (Washington, DC), June 14, 1979, p. 1.

⁵ Jane Sims, "The 'Godfather' of Zion Drive," *Fairfax Journal* (Fairfax, VA), August 22, 1974, p. A1.

⁶ James Goins, interview by Jean Dempsey, 1985, pp. 3-4.

⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 4-5.

⁸ Dempsey, "Black Power," p. 10.

⁹ Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Resolution Presented to the Family of Mr. James Milton Goins, September 24, 1990, p. 4.

¹⁰ James Milton Goins memorial program, July 19, 1990, pp. 1-2.

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James M. Goins funeral program, July 18, 1990. Mary Goins Roots Collection 1858-2017, Series 3: Coffey, Goins, Jeffrey, Pearson, and Wright Families 1915-2011 Boxes 4-5 held at the City of Fairfax Regional Library Virginia Room.

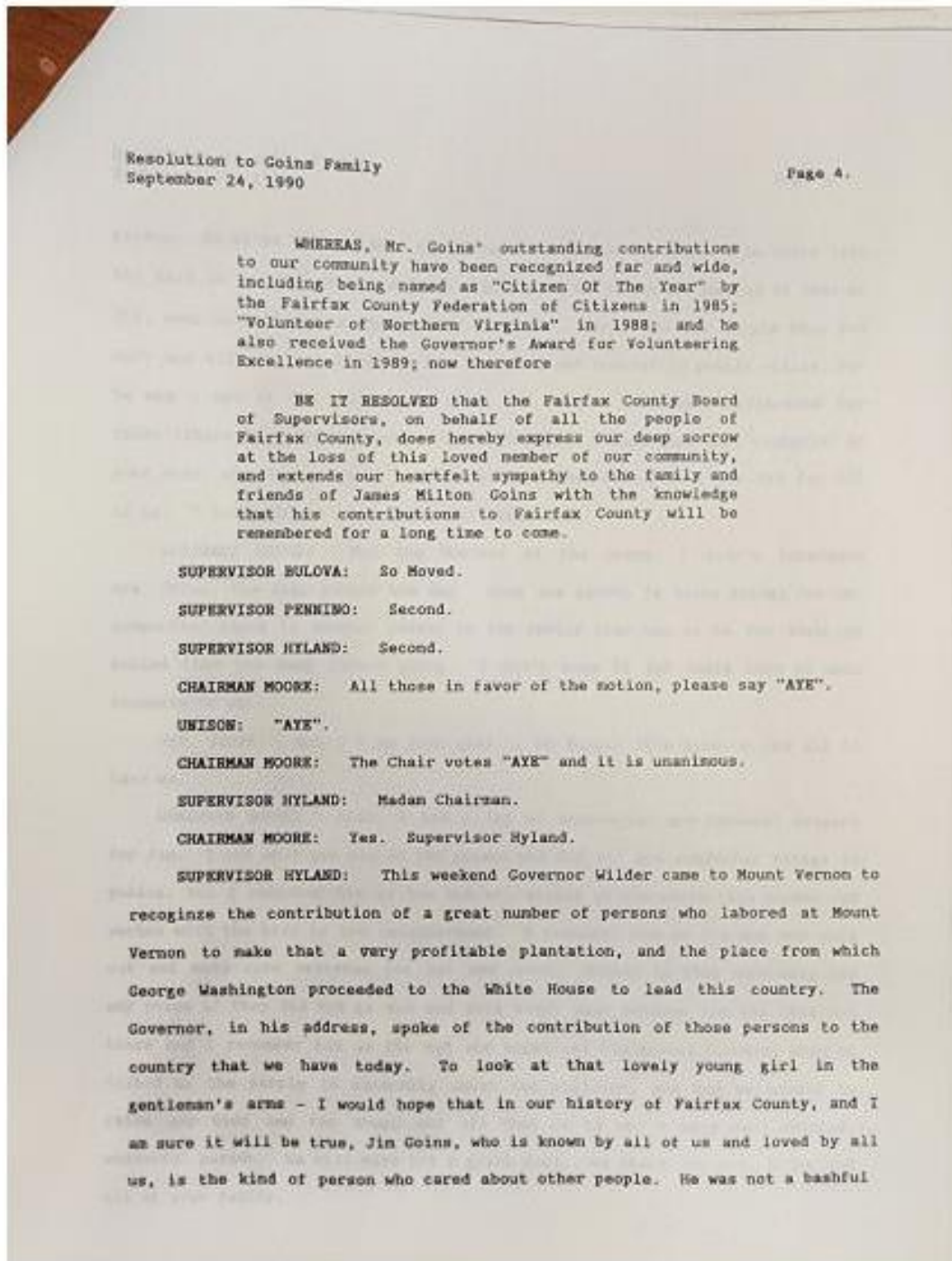
James Goins, interview by Jean Dempsey, 1985, Mary Goins Roots Collection 1858-2017, Series 3: Coffey, Goins, Jeffrey, Pearson, and Wright Families 1915-2011 Boxes 4-5 held at the City of Fairfax Regional Library Virginia Room.

James Milton Goins memorial program, Jul 7 19, 1990. Mary Goins Roots Collection 1858-2017, Series 3: Coffey, Goins, Jeffrey, Pearson, and Wright Families 1915-2011 Boxes 4-5 held at the City of Fairfax Regional Library Virginia Room.

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Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, "Resolution Presented to the Family of Mr. James Milton Goins," September 24, 1990, p. 4. Mary Goins Roots Collection 1858-2017, Series 3: Coffey, Goins, Jeffrey, Pearson, and Wright Families 1915-2011 Boxes 4-5 held at the City of Fairfax Regional Library Virginia Room.

PALL BEARERS

Grandsone

Edward Wright
Michael Wright
James Wright

Francis Wright
William Roots
Devin Goins

FLOWER BEARERS

Members of Greater Little Zion Baptist Church and family friends

THANKS


The family extends heartfelt thanks to its many friends for all the love and acts of kindness extended to us during the illness and loss of our loved one, and we invite you to have fellowship dinner with us at the church following the burial.

INTERMENT

Church Cemetery, Burke, Virginia

JAMES FUNERAL HOME
Manassas, Virginia

JAMES M. GOINS
September 4, 1928-July 18, 1990



The "Godfather" of Zion Drive

This community leader, fighter for the elderly, young people, and the disadvantaged, served as President of the Sideburn Civic Association for many years. He was responsible for improvements in the Sideburn Community obtaining sewer and water hook-ups on Zion Drive, the building of the David R. Ford Memorial Civic and Recreation Center, tennis and basketball courts, and the Goins Manor Subdivision. He was named Citizen of the Year by the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens, awarded the Washington Star Trophy, given the Leadership in the Community Award by the United Black Fund of Northern Virginia 1978, named outstanding Volunteer of Northern Virginia 1988 and was recently presented with the Governor's Award for Volunteering Excellence.

James M. Goins funeral program, July 18, 1990. Mary Goins Roots Collection 1858-2017, Series 3: Coffer, Goins, Jeffrey, Pearson, and Wright Families 1915-2011 Boxes 4-5 held at the City of Fairfax Regional Library Virginia Room.

Until the black community along Zion Drive flexed its collective muscle in the form of Jim Goins over 15 years ago, life for the Sideburn-Burke blacks who had always lived there was a boomerang that refused to acknowledge the 20th century.

"We didn't have water or sewer lines, says James F. Goins, sitting in a wheelchair in the living room of the modest bungalow he shares with his wife of 45 years Annie Virginia on Zion Drive. This 67 year old, robust activist of the 60's and 70's was side-tracked slightly in May of 1984 when his right leg was amputated because of diabetes. He also suffered a stroke.

"I was born next door to this house and when I saw these developers coming in here making blacks sell their land and forcing us out, I got mad. We've been in this Sideburn area for over 100 years."

And mad he stayed until somebody paid attention to him. His anger invoked vocal indignation that headed straight for Fairfax County government and the board of supervisors. His rage was eloquent.

"I got tired of the Fairfax County health department coming into black people's homes and condemning them as unsanitary so that the people would sell their land. My land was one that the health department had targeted. We all had wells, but some of the neighbors had septic tanks and others of us had outside toilets."

"And I was afraid that with all the building going on, they would fill up the water and sewer trunks and then we wouldn't have any," scoffs Goins.

With the help of his two best friends, Francis Honesty and Alvin Fox who were also residents of Zion Drive, he played civic

Dempsey - Jim Goins activist 2

poker with the Fairfax County board of supervisors that eventually dealt him and his community a royal flush.

"We worked everthing out in our Sideburn Civic Association," he recalls. "We were going to file suit against Fairfax County on grounds of racial discrimination because they wouldn't give us water or sewer lines. Jean Packard then chairman of the board asked me to come to the board meeting alone after she heard of the suit. I asked Mr. Honesty and Mr. Fox (who has since passed away) to come with me. Originally the board of supervisors told us they didn't have any money, but as soon as we let them know we were serious they turned around and found some for us".

"But then we needed money for remodeling and indoor construction on some of the homes", he continues. "I worked until I found that money in the form of gifts, loans and public funds. I went out and found pre-fab houses at Ft. Belvoir that the Army no longer wanted and hauled them onto the land owned by neighbors who lived in shacks. We torn down the old and installed the new," he beams proudly.

James F. Goins was an unlikely candidate for the honors he has earned. His father died when he was 3 and his mother raised him and two siblings alone. She worked as a cook for a white MD named Brooks who lived in a mansion and owned all of Country Club View. Before he was born she purchased the land on Zion Drive from Dr. Brooks and paid him from her small wages. His mother thought Washington, DC schools were better than the one room school house that served Burke and was a long walk away, so she sent him to live with a cousin in the District and his formal education ended with graduation from Dolly Patterson Jr. High school.

He left the army in 1946 and tried to get back his old job as stock clerk at Arlington Hall PX. The harassment proved too much so he moved on to cafeteria work and then into construction.

"Jobs were scarce and I did anything I could. You just didn't go out and get a job, you went out and stand in line and hope the man would call you to work. If you went on a job say as a bricklayer and there was a white guy standing there you might as well give it up. He would get it."

Jim Goins didn't give up. He persevered until he found a truck driver's job with ABC demolition, then Par-Gas Corporation and finally a subsidiary of Data-Design Laboratories of California called Hydrodronics. He is now retired from Hydrodronics because of his health, but after 25 years of faithful and responsible employment, he received only a lumpsum pension and minimum health benefits.

He always felt great anger at discrimination, but he never considered working outside the system. "I saw politics as the way to go," he chuckles.

And using his street smarts, he accomplished far more than the installation of water and sewer lines. He convinced a black local self help group called the Immediate Relief Association who owned the Little Bethel Baptist Church and almost 15 acres of land on Zion Drive near his home to deed the land to the Sideburn Civic Association for a recreation center. "Our kids didn't have no place to go," he muses.

"We called it the David R. Pinn Memorial Center because the land was owned originally by Mr. Pinn who was a freedman and his wife Dolly who was a slave. Mr. Pinn gave the land to the Little Bethel Baptist Church in 1904. I have the cornerstone. The church became a school house during the week and a house of worship on Sundays. My mother-in-law was a pupil there. Mr. Pinn owned more than 500 acres on Zion Drive."

Goins sponsored an "old time working match", tore down the old building and cleared a space for construction of the present center. He invited then Springfield supervisor, Jack Herrity to review their efforts, and Herrity was so impressed he sent the recreation department and Fairfax County park authority over to help too. The recreation department gave the center pool tables and other equipment. The county board of supervisors voted them \$5,000 for a basketball court and Jim Goins continued making weekly appearances before the board until they found enough money to construct the center itself. They did eventually thanks to his persistence and the center opened officially in 1973.

In 1977 Goins convinced the County housing authority to give the Sideburn Civic Association of which he's still president \$360,500 of federal block grant money from HUD (Housing and Urban Development) to buy 11 acres of land between Sideburn and Guinea roads off Zion Drive. The federal funds are used for housing for minorities and the underprivileged in a community.

"We purchased the land in the name of the Sideburn Civic Association. I wanted housing for black people who had grown up in this community. I didn't want apartments, townhouses or other rentals. I wanted people to buy these homes so that they could take pride in how nice the houses and the land around them looked."

Goins wanted all the homes for community blacks, but they didn't qualify because they had no money for down payments and mortgages. He settled for 10 units for blacks with the remainder of the 27 equitably distributed among other minorities. The unit was named Goins Manor in his honor. It was dedicated 5 years ago.

"It took 3 years for us to get that land, he intones. "But it wasn't until 1983 that construction could begin. And with all the time that they wasted, it just made it worse for blacks to qualify. The Virginia Housing Authority was offering special financing on mortgages because the federal block grants kept the prices of the homes between 68,000 and 70,000 which was low. They had a drawing to pick the applicants. And the only community black to qualify was my former daughter-in-law Carolyn Goins."

Despite his unhappiness at Sideburn blacks being shut-out of Goins Manor because of price, he is enormously proud of having brought moderate priced housing into Zion Drive for minorities.

"It's tough to talk about," he says, "but to me it was just that everything the black person went for was 'good-bye'. When it comes to housing it seems to me that so many people are allergic to blacks that they don't have any feelings for you as a person - you black - BOOM. It goes on and on."



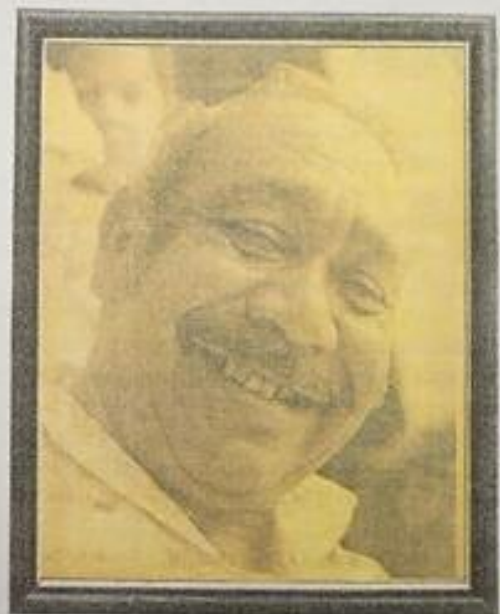
James Goins & Lynn Walker

Jim
Annie V. Goins
&
Dolores Dennie



Jim
Annie V. Goins
&
Supervisor
Audrey Moore

James Milton Goins



September 4, 1918 - July 19, 1990

James (Jim) Goins

Jim, a community leader, fighter for the elderly, young people, and the disadvantaged, served as President of the Sideburn Civic Association for many years. He was called "God Father of Zion drive" by the young people in the community and was called "The Mayor of Zion Drive" by the adults.

He was responsible for improvements in the sideburn community, obtaining sewer and water hook-ups on Zion Drive, the building of the David R. Pinn Memorial Civic and Recreation Center, tennis and basketball courts, and the Goins Manor Subdivision.

Mr. Goins worked closely with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, appearing before them, arguing and defending the needs of the community. When the community needed money for remodeling and the indoor construction of some of the homes, Jim worked with developers and wrote grants encouraging them to support his causes with loans, gifts and public funds.

In 1977, Goins convinced the County housing office to give the Sideburn Civic Association \$350,000 federal grant block money to buy eleven acres of land between Sideburn and Guinea Roads for a special kind of subsidized housing. Thus, "Goins Manor" came into existence.

He appeared before the Planning Commission justifying the construction of the larger sanctuary of Greater Little Zion Baptist Church. He worked one-on-one with Board of Supervisor, Audrey Moore, secured her support and convinced her to intervene with her colleagues to move the construction approval through the Planning Commissions.

Jim used his street smarts and set out to win each time he needed help. He prepared a lawsuit to file against Fairfax County on grounds of racial discrimination. When the County realized that he was serious, they turned around and started paying attention. A lot of his time was spent soliciting citizens to vote, holding meetings to support candidates who were supportive of his causes. He participated in the Northern Virginia political caucuses and worked diligently at the polls. It was his mission to teach Black Citizens the power of their vote.

James was named "Citizen of the Year" by Fairfax County Federation of Citizens, awarded the Washington Star Trophy, and given the Leadership in the Community Award by the United Black Fund of Northern Virginia in 1978, named outstanding Volunteer of Northern Virginia in 1988 and was presented with the governor's Award for Volunteering Excellence.

James Goins' motto was " He ain't heavy,
He is my brother."

James Milton Goins memorial program, Jul 7 19, 1990. Mary Goins Roots Collection 1858-2017, Series 3: Coffer, Goins, Jeffrey, Pearson, and Wright Families 1915-2011 Boxes 4-5 held at the City of Fairfax Regional Library Virginia Room.

COVER STORY

Jim Goins

Feisty Civic Activist Made Life Better for Burke Blacks

By JEAN DEMPSEY

James F. Goins, the indefatigable local activist of the '60s and '70s, has been scheduled some time being was announced for publication two years ago. But the black community of Burke still takes credit for his capacity for feisty leadership.

Twenty years ago, he successfully helped the blacks along Zion Drive to fix their collective trouble and build some what was rightfully theirs.

And, as another Black History Month draws to a close, he very likely is one of the heroes of his people that Burke County would not so soon forget.

"We've been in this Suburban area for over 100 years," he says in his soft Virginia drawl. "I was born here, and when I saw those developers coming in here making blacks sell their land and forcing us out, I got mad."

And that he never used county history good intention to help and to the great indignation he stirred.

Back in the six, he recalls, "the Fairfax County Black Depts. were [and] coming into black people's homes and remodeling them as sanitary as that the people would sell their land."

"My property," he adds bitterly, "was not the health department had targeted."

But he didn't give in. Nor did he let his neighbors. And he insisted that new construction should not go on all around his

neighborhood without bringing better conditions for the people already there.

"Our roads were bad, we had no electricity, water or sewer," recalled his neighbor Frances Henry. "The county never cleaned our roads when it rained. They almost ran out of money. But that all changed when Mr. Goins started fighting for us. He was expeditious. He solved other people's problems. And he was efficient."

His approach was rapidly able to please most people. And, while sometimes the county seemed to be stuck in a dead-end loop.

"The supervisors meetings would go on forever, maybe an hour or two in the morning. Sometimes they would always without hearing us or postpone for another meeting," he said.

Finally, "we were going to file suit against Fairfax County on the grounds of racial discrimination, because they were wouldn't give us water and sewer lines," he said.

"At last as we let them know we were serious, they started around."

But it was also clear to Goins that the community needed much more than sewer and water. And using his own assets, he set out to act.

"We needed money for remodeling and indoor construction of some of the houses. I worked hard. I found the money in gifts and loans and public funds. I went out and found job-houses in Ft. Belvoir that the Army no longer wanted, and we bought them over the head of neighbors who lived in slacks," he says.



James F. Goins



Jim Goins relaxes with his wife in the kitchen of their Zion Drive home.

black organization that served the desegregating Little Rebel Baptist Church on Zion Drive to lead its lead to the Suburban Civic Association for a recreation center.

"Our kids didn't have no place to go," he noted.

So he organized an "old man working group" to tear down the old church and clear the land for construction. Then for months he made weekly appearances before the Board of Supervisors until finally in 1975 the county found money for the David K. Fine Memorial Center, named for the freed slave who originally donated the land to the church. Just then, a white preacher of young people have benefited.

In many ways, this church-going father of seven, who is now a grandfather of 26, was ill-equipped to take on a powerful white bureaucracy. His father died when he was 3, and his mother raised him and two siblings working in a mode for the white doctor who owned all of Country Club View. He grew up expecting little in the way of financial wealth, he says, but he also grew up with pride.

Before he was born, his mother purchased land on Zion Drive from the good doctor, and paid for it from her own wages.

She also used her job to live with a cousin in the District before that his situation would

be better than at the one-room school in Burke. Still, Goins left his formal education behind when he graduated from junior high.

He would eventually join the U.S. Army and then become a truck driver, first for a distribution company, then for a gas company and finally for Hydrotrans, a high-tech company.

Retired, today he still gets angry at flagrant discrimination, still remembers reading in his book for work knowing that if a white guy got in line, too, "you might as well give it up."

But he never considered working outside the system. "I was positive in the way to go. We worked everything out in our Suburban Civic Association," an organization over which he still presides.

But things didn't always work out as planned.

In 1977, Goins convinced the county housing office to give the Suburban Civic Association a \$300,000 federal block grant to buy 13 acres between Suburban and Gleason roads for a special kind of subsidized housing.

"I wanted housing for black people who had grown up in this community," he says. "I didn't want apartments, tenements or other rentals. I wanted people to buy their homes so they could take pride in how they live."

Continued on Page 10.

COVER STORY

One of Proudest Achievements

Goins Brought Housing That Was Affordable

Continued From Page 9

and the lead around their necks."

"It took three years for us to get the land," he admits. "But it wasn't until 1981 that construction could begin. And with all that time they wasted, it just made it worse for blacks in quality," because they had no money for a downpayment.

'We had to go before the board and speak for ourselves.'

Finally, 27 of the 37 units were distributed among other minorities, and 10 set aside for blacks. But the Virginia Housing Authority, which offered special financing on the subsidized housing,

held a drawing to pick the applicants. "And the only community black to qualify was my former daughter-in-law," Goins sighs.

Nevertheless, the area was called Goins Manor, and Joe Goins is enormously proud of having brought moderate priced housing for minorities to Zion Drive.

But, yes, he is still angry that Siedmans blazes were the catalyst.

"It's tough to talk about," he says. "But to me it was just that [for a long time] everything a black person used for was 'good'."

"When the federal government started giving blacks grant money to continue for maintenance, we had to get up before the board and speak for ourselves. And lots of times we didn't even have people who knew how to speak. They would get up and say 'let me see this and we need that,' and the supervisor would say, 'Okay, next?'"

"I used to tape my presentations and give me and over them until I got it right. When I had the facts, I could present it to those people."

Others accuse him for success by pointing to his unshined eyes and

friendly wit that invariably commanded attention. His friendly smile is disarming, they say, and he speaks simply, eloquently and without clutter.

In 1978, Goins was named Fairfax County's Citizen of the Year, and the same year he was awarded a plaque from the United Black Fund for his "outstanding leadership."

'As long as I'm able, I will work and fight for community.'

But today, Goins seems unwilling to rest on his laurels. "I'm not in good shape now, but as long as I am able, I will work and fight for this community," he said. "I am happy with what we have accomplished, but I wish I could do more."

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Dempsey, Jean. "Black Power: The Success of James Goins." *The Connection (Fairfax, VA)*, v. 9, February 27, 1986, p. 10.

...erated decision for or against the highway to District Council will.

See 1A8, Page 10
VE - FA - 08 - Negroes

The 'Godfather' of Zion Drive

After 100 Years of Poverty, Black Community Looks to Jim Goins



Goins, Jim

By Jane Sims
Special Staff Writer

Along the roadside stretches of southeastern Zion Drive in Springfield, a 100-year legacy of poverty has left a close-knit black community searching for a godfather figure like Jim Goins.

After a lifetime of wading a lone sea community to struggle out of a 19th-century existence, Goins became impatient and decided to start yelling like a fighting man.

His fiery tirade rickled the halls of Fairfax County's Manassah, hampering the past time year, forcing county officials that neighborhood of the Zion Drive blocks are living without sewers or water and children wander aimlessly along the roadways.

"Everything we have ever gotten here, we have had to fight for," said Goins. "The crying baby is the one that gets the milk. So I have stopped just sitting here being quiet. I've become more militant. I scream."

Mr. Goins is an unassuming 68-year-old black man with just a few strands of hair. He is the son of a black farmer and a white woman. He is the son of a black farmer and a white woman. He is the son of a black farmer and a white woman.

...of \$68 in public housing homes in 1950. Community white and black neighborhoods at the time who have inherited the property from 1900, who played the role of a godfather.

After three years of wading and dealing with housing agencies and fighting the county, Goins was a hard of Zion Drive, and he has been 100 times over, but Zion Drive is still the same as it was when it was first built.

After searching about in the housing market, the Cavaliers granted a lease in a nice neighborhood for under \$3000.

The book needs a lot of work but the major asset is the Cavalier family possesses in plumbing, electrical and carpentry skills.

Fixing the problems needed for repairs is not as easy, since 50 per-

...ing sewer and water lines. And Mr. War, Charlottesville, Va., has donated \$45,000 to the community to provide a recreational center and buy the same of land for a school building.

"I just let's a big old tank. He brought this place out of the tank," said Zion Drive resident Charles Meyer, 25, describing Goins. Meyer is considered the "godfather" of Zion Drive.

See GOINS, Page A1

From Page A1...
...respond to Goins and a...
...recreation center. Meyer...
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...out in the...
...Two talking Goins...

Ousted Tyler Rents Low-Cost Housing

By Robert Northcutt
Journal Staff Writer

"We would just love to stay in Falls Church, but they just don't have any really nice houses," Kathleen Cavalier sighed.

Tyler Gardner of Falls Church has been her home for 10 years but conversations at the community in consultation with her mother, Mrs. Cavalier, her husband Paul, and daughter Jane would have to

...find a new home.

After searching about in the housing market, the Cavaliers granted a lease in a nice neighborhood for under \$3000.

The book needs a lot of work but the major asset is the Cavalier family possesses in plumbing, electrical and carpentry skills.

Fixing the problems needed for repairs is not as easy, since 50 per-

Fit

From Page 10

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PRIVACY LEGISLATION PUSHED

Computers: Are they Getting too

Sims, Jane. "The 'Godfather' of Zion Drive." Fairfax Journal (Fairfax, VA), August 11, 1974.

Attachment 18

History Commission
Semi quinquennial Report
February 5, 2024

Submitted by Gretchen Bulova, Committee Chair

State Commission

1. \$20 million in VA250 grants were awarded throughout the Commonwealth. Sully Historic Site received a \$250,000 grant for accessibility improvements. Funds were received through the Fairfax County Park Foundation.
2. VA250 traveling museum debuted at an event celebrating [the Fincastle Resolutions](#) and is now available for bookings through the VA250.org website. It is scheduled to appear at Mount Vernon this February 21 and 22.
3. Final "Common Cause for All" symposium in Colonial Williamsburg is taking place March 24-26 and registration is now online. State Commissions, State Committees, and VA local committees are all invited.
4. This year's July 4th celebration will be held at Fort Monroe.

Fairfax County 250 Commission

1. The Commission will be sending out its first 250th newsletter at the end of February.
2. Email subscription list is "opt in" and the commission needs help promoting it.
 - a. https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/VAFAIRFAXCOUNTY/subscriber/new?topic_id=VAFAIRFAXCOUNTY_223
 - b. On the Visit Fairfax website, under 250th
3. Submitted a budget request to the County to support a "Signature Experience" vehicle that would travel to county festivals, events, and schools between September 2025 and July 2026.
4. Fairfax250 brochure is in process, for distribution in the county's libraries, rec centers, and related offices.

History Commission Committee

1. Have begun meeting regularly to support the Fairfax250 commemoration.
2. Met with Channel 16 to determine content, the collaboration process, and timeline for the series.
3. Will provide historical content for the "Signature Experience" as well as the FX250 newsletters.
4. The next meeting is planned for February 4 at 7 p.m. at the Government Center (Room 8).

Fairfax Resolves Distribution:

- Virginia Room – 10 copies (for archive and a few to hand out)
- Freeman Store & Museum – 10 copies to go with exhibit
- Sons of the American Revolution – 150 copies for registered participants
- Allison Wickens, Mount Vernon - 25 copies - for tour in Alexandria last night
- General Public at Market Square – approximately 300 copies
- Gadsby's Tavern for Fairfax Resolves Tour - 50
- Pohick Church - 25
- Fairfax 250 Commission Members - 10
- Fairfax Museum - 8

- Gunston Hall & Mount Vernon for Symposium – 150
- FCHC for August Meeting – 12
- Fairfax Museum – 25
- Historic Alexandria -100
- FCPS, via Brian Heinz - 100
- HC History Conference - 150
- Supervisor offices – to be distributed