

**Historic Resource Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2008
NDS Conference Room
11:00 a.m.**

Members present: Mary Hill Caperton, Genevieve Keller, Mark Beliles, Ingrid Smyer-Kelly, Winston Churchill Gooding, Helena Devereux, Steven Meeks, and Melanie Miller.
Staff present: Melissa Celii

Actions:

- **Approved March and April minutes with corrections.**
- **Approved the submittal of Sacagawea marker text to Council along with Ms. Tidwell's comments for consideration.**

To do:

- **Staff: submit Sacagawea marker text to Council along with Ms. Tidwell's comments and allow them to decide which they prefer.**
- **Mark to email proposed marker text; members to edit and comment on text.**
- **Winston to bring in text on Burnley School.**

Discussion of April minutes. Steven Meeks noted that his name was spelt wrong under members present. There was a discussion of the Frances Brand paintings. A suggestion was made to use copies of the Frances Brand paintings that are familiar to people still living. Ingrid asked that her sentence on top of page 2 be changed. A motion to approve both March and April minutes with stated corrections was passed.

Discussion of the Sacagawea text. Question was asked should we (HRC) proceed with the Rozina George text? General agreement from members was yes. Ingrid wondered how can the HRC be certain Ms. George is a relative of Sacagawea. Genevieve suggested Mary Joy ask for a chronology or genealogy. Members agreed to Guy Lopez's two changes suggested in a letter dated April 29, 2008. Helena wondered if the HRC should try and include Jennifer Tidwell's comments and questions in the marker text. General agreement not to include comments in the text. Genevieve suggested sending two copies of texts to Council and allow them to decide which they prefer. Helena stated that she believes that Ms. George's text is thought provoking enough on its own. Genevieve suggested having Mary Joy present a chronology of the text to Council to show how current text emerged as well as current comments from Ms. Tidwell. Mark proposed to send text to council as is and let them decide if they would like to add Ms. Tidwell's comments; motion passed.

Committee Leader Reports:

Education and Public Meetings: Mark talked about the 15th annual Jefferson Thanksgiving. Invited any HRC members interested in educating the public on history to participate. Ingrid suggested the entire HRC should get involved as a way of bringing recognition to the group. Brief discussion on the parade of history to take place. Mark mentioned there is more information available on the events website. Mark also mentioned that the Education Committee and the Thanksgiving event both have the same goals of providing the public with education of its history. Mark concluded that HRC involvement is welcome at many levels and it is just something to consider in future months.

PAPA meeting: no members were able to attend the most recent PAPA meeting.

Markers: Mark presented two new proposals for markers to replace the formerly proposed Pen Park marker. The focus of the two new markers is John Harvie and the Gilmores. Both would be for state markers. Genevieve wanted to know what Lucy Gilmore's maiden name was. She also wanted to know if they will both be located at Pen Park and if the state would allow two markers at one site. Helena wanted to know about the sequencing of the markers since only two are allowed each year. Mark suggested that doing both markers at the same time and location would bring more attention to the markers and the HRC. Mark to send the proposed text to members for review and comment.

Helena had questions regarding the freedom ride marker and what kind it was to be (state or local). Mark suggested that since the freedom ride is of national significance it could be a state marker. There was brief discussion of marker timing. Staff updated HRC on the progress of the McGuffey marker. Members discussed the possibility of submitting another state marker for the year, assuming the McGuffey marker is approved. Genevieve asked if the Harvie and Gilmore markers could be combined. Mark said that was what he tried to do in the Pen Park marker, but it did not work. Mark stated that he believes after Thomas Jefferson, Harvie and Gilmore are the most important leaders of Charlottesville for that time period, and that Lucy was a very prominent woman figure. General agreement that keeping the two separate is best. Mark suggested markers could be located off of Rio Rd. on the park road. Steven suggested that the freedom ride marker could qualify for the free diversity marker. Helena wondered if all these texts could be part of a long term package over the next two or three years. Genevieve asked Mark if he had any preference as to which marker he would like to see done first if they were to be phased; Mark had no preference.

Helena suggested that designation of markers is a good opportunity for education. Designation should not just be a ribbon cutting, but also a paneled discussion and debate. Members were very excited and supportive of this suggestion. Comment was made it would be an excellent way to include Ms. Tidwell's comments in the Sacagawea marker designation. There was general support for the freedom ride marker, especially as a way to give attention to the bus station. Other possible diversity markers could be Lane, Venable, and Burnley Schools. Winston to bring his text on Burnley School to next meeting.

Update on Transit Station Exhibit. The new exhibit on Ghost Signs is nearly complete. Suggestion made that the exhibit could become part of First Fridays. At the very least a press announcement should be made.

Other Business: Melanie wanted to know if historic districts could have special street signs to demark their significance and designation. Suggestion was made that special plaques could be given as part of CIP funds for each neighborhood.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05