

**Historic Resource Committee
Meeting Minutes
DRAFT April 7, 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.
Guests: Anthony Guy Lopez and Bruce O'Dell.
Staff present: Mary Joy Scala

Actions:

- **Approved January and February minutes with corrections.**
- **Contribute \$200 annually to the Piedmont Area Preservation Association (PAPA)**

To do:

- **Request that City Council appoint new member Melanie Miller representing the Locust Avenue area, and acknowledge new ACHS representative Steven Meeks on the Historic Resources Committee**
- **Add Mark Beliles and Helena Devereux to email list for PAPA Steering Committee**
- **Submit the McGuffey state marker for approval**
- **Winston Gooding will ask John Gaines to join the committee**
- **Staff will contact Mike Svetz, Director of Parks and Recreation regarding Maplewood Cemetery vandalism concern**

Mark Beliles chaired the meeting and called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

Mary Hill Caperton moved approval of the January minutes with corrections noted. Genevieve Keller seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mary Hill Caperton moved approval of the February minutes with corrections noted. Winston Gooding seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Chair opened discussion on the Sacajawea marker. Staff said that Anthony Guy Lopez was at the meeting to speak regarding that marker.

Mr. Lopez asked if the committee had received the proposed language from Rozina George, a direct descendent of Sacajawea? They had not. He said he would forward it to staff.

He commented that most of those calling for a new sign are concerned about Sacajawea and her portrayal, and also the absence of York. He said there is already an inscription on the statue, and that the committee's proposed language seems repetitive and does not focus on Sacajawea. He hopes the family can travel from Idaho when the marker is completed, and feel good about it. He answered Mary Hill Caperton's question that the family has been involved in Lewis and Clark activities.

Winston Gooding noted there is a York exhibit in York Place.

Mary Hill Caperton suggested perhaps we should focus on Sacajawea.

Ingrid Smyer-Kelly said the Historic Resources Committee should give itself credit for its openness, and it deserves recognition for its accomplishments.

Winston Gooding said the artist, Charles Keck, should be credited with including Sacajawea.

Genevieve Keller said it is not known if Keck's inclusion of Sacajawea was artistically or politically motivated.

Helena Devereux suggested looking in the Daily Progress for articles when the statue was erected.

Ingrid Smyer-Kelley said yes, we could see how people reacted to it at the time.

Genevieve said we can have a marker that asks questions.

Helena Devereux said a marker cannot change people's impressions of history; if we raise questions they reflect our own time. We should ask questions to get people thinking.

Genevieve Keller added, and to stimulate dialogue about other works of art in the City. What does it tell us about the time period when it was erected? Maybe we should take out the Thomas Jefferson reference?

Mark Beliles asked if someone could propose new language?

Genevieve Keller said she would try... that we need to be open to Mr. Lopez's contribution from Sacajawea's family.

Mark Beliles asked for committee reports. He asked if the committee is included in the budget this year?

Mary Joy was not sure but said that we usually get a small annual budget.

Mark Beliles asked who would be in favor of contributing \$200 per year to the Piedmont Area Preservation Association (PAPA)?

Helena Devereux asked Mark if he would be willing to be the contact person for the PAPA blog. He said he would. Helena and Mark agreed to spell each other to attend the PAPA Steering Committee meetings. Mary Joy should add them to the email notification for the Steering Committee.

Mary Hill Caperton asked if we could mail off the application for the McGuffey marker? Pen Park marker?

The McGuffey marker application was ready to be sent. Mark Beliles said he would propose new thoughts on the origins of the name of the Harvie family; and bring out important history without dealing with other things.

Genevieve Keller said she still has concerns. We don't have enough information; make sure we have good sources. Also, there were unsavory connotations at the time – another "great white man." She also questioned calling attention to an unprotected cemetery.

Helena Devereux said regarding expansion of the committee, she had been in touch with people in the Locust Avenue area and the Fry's Spring organization. The president of that neighborhood, Jeanne

Chase, will look for people. Others to involve include Woolen Mills. We need to submit names to Council.

Winston Goodling said we should go with these two for now.

Genevieve Keller suggested John Gaines. Mary Hill Caperton suggested asking Winston to call John Gaines.

Bruce O'Dell from the Locust Avenue area said he would withdraw if Melanie Miller wants to join; that he is involved in other projects.

Melanie Miller said they have been working on the National Register district for Martha Jefferson area and it has been an interesting learning experience. She has seen this committee on the City web site.

Helena Devereux asked about Steven Meeks from the Albemarle Charlottesville Historical Society becoming a member. Douglas Day has left the organization, and Steven is the current president of the ACHS board.

Mark Beliles said if Steven is interested and willing, we can inform and update Council.

Winston Gooding suggested submitting Melanie's name to Council.

Mark beliles said a Visitor's Center representative would be important.

Helena Devereux said she spoke with Paul Brockman at ACHS, who talked about vandalism at the Maplewood Cemetery. She asked if this committee could play any role in addressing that concern? She said the cemetery is cared for by Parks and Recreation Department. She asked who provided security?

Steven Meeks asked if there is a preservation plan for the cemeteries?

Mary Hill Caperton asked if there is a cemetery maintenance fund?

Genevieve Keller thought that would be a good project for a UVA preservation class.

The committee asked staff to contact Mike Svez regarding the committee's concern. Could they put up a fence, mow, and maintain markers?

May 5 is the next meeting.

Helena Devereux asked about possibilities for new exhibits in the Transit Station display case. She and Mary Hill Caperton are pulling one together on ghost signs that were painted on buildings.

Mary Hill Caperton suggested an exhibit on massive resistance. Following Mary Hill Caperton's suggestion of mass resistance, a suggestion was made to use copies of the Frances Brand paintings.

Steven Meeks said the Frances Brand paintings have not been professionally copied yet, but suggested talking to Nancy O'Brien and Virginia Daugherty. They are awaiting the consultant's report.

Melanie Miller suggested that Bill Emory is a photographer from Woolen mills who could put together a great display.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.