

MINUTES
CHARLOTTESVILLE HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE
Monday June 11, 2012 * 11:00 a.m. – Noon
NDS Conference Room * 610 East Market Street

Members Present

Melanie Miller
Mary Hill Caperton
Helena Devereux
Genevieve Keller
Winston Churchill Gooding
Edwina St. Rose

Members Absent

Mark Beliles
Steven Meeks

Staff

Mary Joy Scala
Jessica Lankston

1. Call to order – Melanie Miller called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.
2. Approval of Minutes – May 14, 2012 Minutes – Mary Hill Caperton moved to approve, Winston Churchill Gooding seconded, all approved.
3. Public Commemoration

Sixth Street Markers: Melanie asked if the conversation on the Sixth Street building markers had been resolved. Helena Devereux tried to find out who Mr. Butler was, but stated more deed work is necessary to figure it out. A suggestion was made that the markers should be dove-tailed to tell a story around Court Square. Helena thinks the conversation about African American history would be more positive if not connected with the slave block. Genevieve Keller agreed and suggested situating a slave block marker by itself. Genevieve also suggested Dan Bluestone, who knows the history of Court Square and used to be on the committee, be involved in this marker project. Mary Hill Caperton would also ask Dan Bluestone to critique the text on the markers, look for erroneous or missing information. He could explain why Lescot was buried at Monticello and the friendship between Lescot and Levy. Ask Kristin to include African American history on the McKee Block.

Vinegar Hill Marker: Charlene Green from the Dialogue on Race committee joined the meeting. Genevieve wanted to redo the existing marker. Elizabeth Breeden is working on a sculpture for the Jefferson School. Dialogue on Race committee wants a marker possibly around 150 words long, not the state marker that is planned. Charlene suggested community input about what it should say and look like is desired. Charlene said someone suggested

keeping the old marker so that, rather than rewriting history, a new marker could show the change in interpretation. Sewah Studios made both Charlottesville Twelve markers for under \$10,000. Charlene suggested Scott French to prepare the text because he is well respected in the African American community. Genevieve suggested more than one marker, one on West Main and one on Preston. Charlene would like a list of potential ideas to take back to the Dialogue on Race committee. Melanie suggested making bronze wall mounted markers. Charlene stated the markers could be unveiled in conjunction with the Heritage Center's January 2013 opening. 2013 marks the 40 year anniversary. A suggestion is made create 3 or 4 markers at the boundary to encourage walking. Using the courtyard space within the planned Marriot might be an option for a marker. The markers could be added to the Audio Tour or create an app to help visitors visualize the area. Charlene will contact Scott French and organize a community meeting. The markers could also be connected to the 250 anniversary. "Our Legacy" African American group is working on creating a display panel about places African Americans went for recreation. Mary Hill suggests asking Charlene to be on the Historic Resources Committee.

4. Other Business

Helena reported she did not see the wooden post which had the Audio Tour sign on it in Lee Park. Hopefully it has been repaired.

Edwina spoke with relation of Fairfax Taylor who seemed positive about repairing his cemetery marker.

5. Goals for Next Meeting: Create a list of options of what Vinegar Hill markers might look like and where they might be placed

6. Adjourned at 12:15 p.m.