

MINUTES

CHARLOTTESVILLE HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE

*Monday November 14, 2016 * 11:00 am – Noon*

*NDS Conference Room * 610 East Market Street*

Members Present

Melanie Miller, Co-Chair
Edwina St. Rose, Co-Chair
Dede Smith
Margaret O’Bryant
Ellen Wagner
Genevieve Keller
Bob Fenwick

Members Absent

Crystal McNeese
Liz Sargent

Staff

Mary Joy Scala
Reid Saunders

CALL TO ORDER

Melanie Miller called the meeting to order at 11:10.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Genevieve Keller moved to approve the August minutes as amended. Bob Fenwick seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMEMORATION

Court Square Markers Update:

- Mary Joy Scala reporting on the Blue Ribbon Commission and Court Square Markers: The Number Nothing marker could work in the Slave Trade, and the McIntire marker can be put in context with the current discussions. We need to understand the BRC report before making decisions on the markers.
 - o Melanie Miller: whatever doesn’t fit on the markers can be read online
 - o BRC goals can be combined with the markers—though there is the question of if the slave block was really there
 - o Margaret O’Bryant: There was most likely a block—this group wants a more prominent plaque for it which would likely be on the light pole next to number nothing
 - o After a more prominent and legible plaque is place, they’ll work toward something larger
 - o May Joy: adding something about the slave block to the Number Nothing marker could be a good solution
- All this could be wrapped up in December
 - o Margaret: the BRC should make a recommendation to council on December 19th
- Genevieve Keller: the HRC can send a letter to council to support the BRC report
 - o Margaret O’Bryant: the BRC meets on the 28th, the HRC should give their support and suggestions to the BRC before then
 - o Genevieve Keller moved to send a statement to the BRC to comment on the report (the HRC will send in comments via email). Dede Smith seconded
 - Melanie Miller: there shouldn’t be too many comments so the vote to endorse the BRC report to council should be able to happen over email
 - Mary Joy will send out an email

EDUCATION & PUBLIC MEETINGS

Blue Ribbon Commission:

- Margaret O'Bryant: BRC recommendations were read and reported on November 10th in a public forum. The "52%" group showed up, wanting to change the recommendation on the parks
- The next meeting is on the 28th
- Dede Smith asked about the future of the Jefferson School
 - o Genevieve Keller: The Heritage Center would benefit from funding recommended by the Blue Ribbon Commission draft report. Hopefully the Jefferson School Partnership will be refinancing soon.
 - o Bob Fenwick: the Jefferson School will be engaged in the BRC report in a significant way
 - o Recap on the HRC endorsement: in 1 week (on November 21) Mary Joy will send out an email to get an endorsement from everyone, and the chairs will write the letter to council

Upcoming Events

SPECIAL PROJECTS

GOALS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Vote on the first Court Square sign.
 - o Waiting for the BRC to wrap up
 - o After the first one is approved, the county can engage with it

DISCUSSION

- There was a general discussion regarding the Court Square markers and the use of neutral language that will allow the markers to last longer as Historical Markers
- Mary Joy: we will be asking for \$15,000 for the Court Square and Vinegar Hill signs, December 5th
- Melanie Miller: Steven Meeks is no longer on the HRC
- Edwina St. Rose: There's a new app for a virtual tour of the Daughters of Zion cemetery
- Genevieve Keller: commended Mary Joy for the PAPA Rotunda Event

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:15 pm