

## MINUTES

### **CHARLOTTESVILLE HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

*November 13, 2017 \* 11:00 am – Noon  
NDS Conference Room \* 610 East Market Street*

#### **Members Present**

Melanie Miller, Chair  
Alissa Diamond  
Madeleine Hawks  
Genevieve Keller  
Margaret O'Bryant  
Jalane Schmidt  
Dede Smith  
Ellen Wagner

#### **Members Absent**

Bob Fenwick  
Liz Sargent

#### **Staff**

Mary Joy Scala - Preservation & Design Planner

#### **Guests**

Sallie Brown  
Tim Richard

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Melanie Miller called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m..

She recognized special guests Sallie Brown and Tim Richard who attended to talk about the WPA Bird and Wildflower Sanctuary. They are working with the City Parks department to install a sign near the pedestrian bridge, hopefully in time for a Garden Week ceremony. They circulated the proposed text and asked for suggestions. [Sallie7733brown@gmail.com](mailto:Sallie7733brown@gmail.com) [timothy2R@aol.com](mailto:timothy2R@aol.com) They recommended a publication by Nancy Kober "With Paintbrush and Shovel," about the Petersburg Sanctuary.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Genevieve Keller moved to approve the minutes of October 9, 2017 with more elaborations. Dede Smith seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMEMORATION**

#### *Vinegar Hill Park*

Melanie Miller asked Dede Smith about Scot French. Jalane Schmidt said she talked with him, and he said he wants to come back and contribute.

Melanie Miller made the suggestion that we write the markers then send them to him for edits. That would give him a way to get started.

Genevieve Keller suggested setting up a conference call to set up a deadline.

Mary Joy Scala read from Scot French's proposed outline for the four markers, which she will send to the HRC.

Dede Smith noted that would be a lot of text for historic markers.

Jalane suggested linking the documentary film produced by Scot French, “That World is Gone – Race and Displacement in a Southern Town” to the HRC website. It is a 22 minute film.

Genevieve Keller agreed it is a great idea.

#### *Court Square Markers*

Madeleine Hawks noted the idea to do a tenth marker that addresses social injustice in more detail, and leaves the previously approved markers primarily intact.

Alissa Diamond objected to that idea as compartmentalizing history.

Jalane Schmidt said that best practice now is a more holistic view. Reframing does prioritize what’s important.

Alissa Diamond said there had been a lot of comments but many were minor. Major comments related to the City Beautiful framing, the KKK speakers at Court Square, and the displacement at the McKee Block.

Melanie Miller said that November 27 would be a hard deadline for comments. After that date changes will be captured in a document that Madeleine Hawks will email.

Alissa Diamond also wants to reconsider the McKee Block marker.

Genevieve Keller wants to add Milton back in [in the McKee Block marker] and wordsmith to remove words to make it fit.

### **EDUCATION & PUBLIC MEETINGS**

#### *Walking Tour brochure*

Mary Joy Scala noted the Historic Downtown Charlottesville Walking Tour brochure was last updated in 2014. The Visitors’ Center has requested additional copies printed because they are low on supplies.

Dede Smith moved to reprint 5,000 copies with the intent to re-do the brochure before the next printing. Margaret O’Bryant seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### **SPECIAL PROJECTS**

#### *Cultural Landscape Report*

There was discussion about the letter Melanie Miller is preparing to send Council recommending a Cultural Landscape Report for the Downtown Mall.

Genevieve Keller moved to amend Melanie Miller’s letter as discussed. Madeleine Hawks seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Melanie miller will make the corrections and send it to Council, and will copy the HRC.

#### *HRC’s Accomplishments*

These were compiled for the Blue Ribbon Commission. They will be sent to members, and discussed at a future meeting. They should be sent to City Council.

### **GOALS FOR NEXT MEETING**

December - Court Square Marker

January – McKee Block Marker

February – Vinegar Hill – Skype with Scot French

March – Annual Meeting

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:20 p.m.**