

ALBEMARLE COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

July 27, 2020, VIRTUAL MEETING, 4:30 pm

MINUTES

1. Call meeting to order

Present: Diane Brown Townes, Jared Loewenstein, Ed Lay, Liz Russell, Ross Stevens, Nancy Takahashi, Betsy Batten
Margaret Maliszewski, Khris Taggart, Carolyn Shaffer, Clerk
Jennie More, PC

Absent: Craig Jacobs, Carter Montague, Ann Mallek, BOS

2. Announcements

- Next HPC meeting: VIRTUAL August 24, 2020

3. Approval of Minutes

- February 2020
 - Motion to approve 2020 February minutes by Ross Stevens. Seconded by Liz Russell.
 - **VOTE: unanimous approval.**

4. Discussion Items

- County historic markers – status/recap
 - Liz provided update to group and shared list of topics and draft criteria
 - Discussion – how to involve community; how to narrow list
 - Small communities could be a separate project
 - **To do – Liz + Diane + Nancy; County needs 3 days' notice to advertise meetings of subcommittees with more than two members.**
 - **To do – Liz + Margaret to check in with Siri Russell about next steps and where the BOS stands.**
- NEW: Jared Loewenstein shared research on Rio Mills Memorial Bridge and person (Richard Duke) attributed to this area.
- NEW: Jared Loewenstein mentioned a project involving the Ridgewood mobile home park, noting the possible presence of an African American burial ground at the back of the property. Staff questioned the location, noting that a cemetery exists at the front of the property and that a pre-application meeting had been held and an application received.
 - Discussion – has any documentation been done?
 - Questions – what processes are in place for determining if a cemetery exists and for protecting those that do? Is there a distinction in processes between already marked cemeteries and “suspected” cemeteries?
 - Partial answer – state regulations apply; **staff will research and provide additional information.**
 - Margaret reminded the committee that discussion topics should be added to the agenda prior to posting.
- Demo/burn permits
 - Months ago, Liz Russell and Dan Eggleston, Fire Chief, met to discuss any protocols that exist for coordinating Fire Department burn permits and HPC documentation before demolition. Staff noted that the HPC coordinated with the Fire Departments on this topic several years ago.

- **To do: Margaret to find informal agreement that was developed years ago and report back to HPC.**

5. Work Group Updates

- Demolition and Documentation
 - House at Deer Ridge Farm, photographed by Ross; documentation not deemed necessary.
- Heritage Education-Tourism: none
- Real Estate: none
- Ordinance Research: none

6. Questions

- New owners of historic properties? Jared Loewenstein asked if anyone had an update on Findowrie. No one did. Others asked for updates on the Garth House and Lewis Mountain. No updates were available.
- Threatened properties to watch?
 - Ross contacted by Henry Chiles regarding a Victorian House near Tabor Presbyterian Church, that needs complete renovation. Looking for a tenant for a long-term lease who would want to do the work. Zoned Commercial.
- Recently demolished structures?
- Resources available to assist in implementation of HP plan?
 - NEW: With a Comprehensive Plan update and a Crozet Master Plan update on the horizon, what part can the HPC play in this work.
 - Jennie More – There is interest in a Historic Overlay in Crozet; it could take many forms; the challenge is how to engage and inform the community in this new COVID world. How do we solicit greater community response?
 - **IDEA – Committee / staff education opportunity**
 - **TO DO – Margaret to inquire with County neighborhood planning staff about schedule, opportunities to meet and greet/share with HPC; etc.**

7. Adjourn 5:32 PM