

MINUTES

CHARLOTTESVILLE HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE

July 10, 2017 * 11:00 am – Noon

NDS Conference Room * 610 East Market Street

Members Present

Edwina St. Rose, Co-Chair
Ellen Wagner
Genevieve Keller
Dede Smith
Madeleine Hawks

Members Absent

Melanie Miller, Co-Chair
Bob Fenwick
Margaret O'Bryant
Liz Sargent

Staff

Mary Joy Scala
Reid Saunders- Preservation Intern

CALL TO ORDER

Edwina St. Rose called the meeting to order at 11:00.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dede Smith moved to approve the minutes of May 8, 2017 and May 24, 2017 with proposed amendments, Genevieve Keller seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMEMORATION

Court Square Markers Update:

- Mary Joy Scala introduced changes to the Court Square markers
- Scala: The first marker is going to the county for approval. Will Number Nothing be the plaque for the auction block?
- Smith: Should the title of it then be Number Nothing: Site of the Slave Auction Block?
- Keller: You have a good point, community thinking has changed
- Scala: We do have an accurate account of this being the site
- Hawks: If Number Nothing is becoming secondary, should the title be “Urban Slave Trade” of something?
- St. Rose: Or Auction House
- Scala: If this is the slave block marker then it should say that.
- Hawks: We can still reference Number Nothing as the address for this site
- Scala: And it was the auction house, we talk about other buildings, so we should still talk about this one. The block could have been used for anything.
- Hawks: It could have also been a hitching stone. It is in quotations “*it is said* it was the block for selling slaves”
- Scala: What should the title be?
- St. Rose: I was happy with Number Nothing
- Scala: Should it just be “Slave Auction”
- Hawks: We’ll have to switch the text around so that Number Nothing is not the first part.
- Keller: What about Auction at and near Number Nothing. Maybe the 1829 slave auction reference should go earlier, but it talks about eagle tavern
- Hawks: If the marker is about slave auction then that’s okay
- Scala: We need to leave the Number Nothing interpretation on it
- Keller: It just needs to be chronological

- Smith: Use the phrase enslaved men, women, and children to make it more visceral
- Scala: instead of urban slave trade
- Smith: Using the word slavery rather than slaves helps put it on the institution
- Keller: We don't want to neutralize it or make more people infuriated either. We should also look carefully at the sentence "confederate states army" and capitalization. Maybe it should be "of the defeated Confederate army."
- Scala: We will find out if the horses, mules, and wagons were sold before or after the Civil War.
- Keller: Is it 52% or 53.3%?
- Scala: We will check that number.
- St. Rose: Are we going to address the downstairs? It was a store, and the upstairs was the auction room.
- Scala: It was a mercantile duplex.
- Hawks: On McKee Block it says High Street but it should say 4th Street
- Scala: We will double check that.

Vinegar Hill Park Wayfinding Signage and Markers Update:

- Scala: I am meeting with Public Works and Alex for way-finding and Vinegar Hill. Melanie suggested a sign at either end to match the other signs that area already in place. Maybe we can get Scot back with the BRC implementation.

EDUCATION & PUBLIC MEETINGS

SPECIAL PROJECTS

GOALS FOR NEXT MEETING

OTHER BUSINESS

- Scala: We have to look at our bylaws. The three people from 2011 need to re-apply to the committee. So we want to change out by-laws for keeping people on? I'll find out if council has to approve bylaw changes.
- Madeleine Hawks moved to consider bylaw changes for the next meeting. Dede Smith seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:20 p.m.