

**Meeting Notes**  
**CHARLOTTESVILLE HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

*Friday October 12, 2018 \* 11:00 am – 12:00 p.m.*

*NDS Conference Room \* 610 East Market Street*

**Members Present**

Melanie Miller  
Margaret O’Bryant  
Ellen Wagner  
Genevieve Keller

Madeleine Hawks (chair)

Heather Hill  
Dede Smith  
Alissa Diamond  
Jalane Schmidt

**Members Absent**

Liz Sargent

**Staff**

Jeff Werner

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 11:05 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes not available from September meeting.

3. Update: Education

No updates.

4. Update: Public Commemoration

**Vinegar Hill Park:** Update on recent staff discussions with CODE building developers about design/construction of ADA accessible segment of mall. Design to incorporate space for markers and signs.

**West Main Streetscape:** Place making/way finding consultant, Howard+Revis Design, will coordinate with J.Werner and Charlene Green on community outreach and engagement. (C.Green taking the primary lead in contact individuals and groups.) HRC will use information from that process in drafting text for V.H. Park signage. On West Main signage, HRC will provide input on consultant drafts. J.Schmidt and D.Smith volunteered to assist J.Werner with outreach effort. HRC expressed concern that shifting outreach effort to the West Main project not produce friction within the community. Requested details on consultant’s budget, scope of work, timeline to complete drafts, approach to sign design and text development; extent of the text to be used (number of words, graphics, etc.); HRC must be more involved in that work.

**Construction Fence at CODE building/VH Park:** HRC requested that developer work directly with HRC on any posters or temporary signage. Staff said they could not require anything of developer, but would discuss the situation with them.

**Court Square Markers:** Action taken. HRC agreed unanimously that as markers are completed/finalized they should be ordered and installed. If necessary, remove the sign numbering. (J.Werner to summarize the status of each marker.)

5. Update: Publications

No updates.

6. Update: Public Meetings

Staff updated HRC on September 25 meeting with Rose Hill neighborhood. Staff and representatives from Va Dept of Historic Resources discussed historic designation and next steps, if National register listing was supported.

7. Discuss the possibility of subcommittees (circulate sign-up sheet if approved)  
 (See attached list.) Chair encouraged HRC to consider establishing subcommittees and work groups that would focus on individual projects and initiatives. Anticipate further discussion at next meeting. (Note: Attached list was not discussed in any detail at this meeting, but will be discussed and reviewed at planned 2019 Annual Meeting.)
8. Special Projects  
 Historic photos/documents in NDS archives: HRC agreed that staff could present a budget proposal for use of HRC funds towards the appropriate scanning of historic material, such as photos and other documents found in NDS. HRC requested that staff also review how to properly store and archive these items.
9. Goals for Next Meeting:  
 Continue discussion of attached list.
10. Other Business  
 Chair mentioned possible joint meeting with Albemarle County Historic Preservation Committee. J.Schmidt mentioned walking tour she would be conducting on Sat, Oct 13.
- 11. Meeting Adjourned**  
 Approximately 12:15 p.m.

#### Historic Resources Committee - Discussion List October 12, 2018

#### **Education:**

- Current/Ongoing:
  - Transit Center display. Update. (Currently DoZ Cemetery)
  - Develop web content with available info and surveys: historic sites and districts
- Future:
  - Social media: Develop content for Twitter feed. Weekly posting re: city history, sites, etc.
  - Displays and exhibits at other locations. Coffee shops, breweries, etc.
  - Share local histories with individual neighborhoods. Meet once a year with each neighborhood—even relatively new ones have histories
  - Help to publicize events of others above—i.e. ACHS events, APVA tours, PP programs, UVa lectures
  - Sponsor/co-host a local history event/program for public schools in Charlottesville

#### **Public Commemoration:**

- Current/Ongoing:
  - Court Square markers:
    - Fabricate and install those that have complete text.
    - Develop plan to complete the others.
  - Vinegar Hill Park
    - Resolve fence posters. (ACHS or HRC or collaboration?)
    - Text for permanent signs in park
  - Install markers in individual neighborhoods.

- Future:
  - Belmont on VLR and NRHP
    - Celebrate and get the word out
    - Install historic marker?
    - Work with owner of Quality Pie on display
  - Rivanna River Corridor Plan
    - Developer preservation component for plan
  - Rivanna Trail
    - Develop markers, etc. for sites along trail
  - Proposed walking trail from Preston to C-Ville Coffee. Interesting cultural and natural history there, another destroyed neighborhood for Lane High
  - New Belmont Bridge: Opportunities for displays, markers. (*What can people see from bridge?*)
  - Coal tower: Structure being preserved and pocket park to be constructed. Owner interested in signage. Offer assistance? (See VLR/NRHP designation?)

**Publications:**

- Current/Ongoing:
  - Walking Tour
    - Revise/update brochure and/or book
    - Set up companion webpage for related sites and districts (use existing surveys on file as starting point.)

**Public Meetings:**

- Future:
  - Partner with ACHS and Pres Piedmont on evening lectures and presentations
  - Have displays and HRC members at neighborhood festivals, events, First Fridays, etc.
  - Sponsor an annual lecture at A-School. (Partner with Hist Pres faculty, ACHS, Pres Piedmont, etc.) - *could also be under "Education"*

From G. Keller's list, if not inserted above.

Coordinate with other city groups-the Department, BAR, Urban Design, neighborhood associations, Parks and Rec and local NGOs-Historical Soc., PP, APVA, Garden Clubs, Website, consider a film on local history with city assistance (Maurice Jones and others who worked on Jefferson School film?)--to play on internet and to play in lobby of city hall and other public places, could be used with sister cities, at schools, for Econ Development, etc.

Look for non-traditional ways and places to engage citizens/visitors in our history such as the following:

- City Hall lobby
- City schools and playgrounds
- New transit center
- Buses
- Trollies
- Posters
- Events
- Paramount
- MLK Performing Art Center
- City-owned cemeteries

Spearhead update of Preservation Plan as part of Comp Plan; develop concept of interpretive plan as part of Preservation Plan; Develop proposal and find funding for an interpretive plan

Look for ways to get others to do part of our work, i.e. developers of new buildings or rehabilitations-interpretation inside and out--what used to be, people and events associated--work to encourage this whenever there is demolition or substantial change, work with local schools, churches, and other organizations to encourage histories or to share ones already done-web links

Give some insights into 19th and 20th century Charlottesville as well as the “Jeffersonian” through interpretation on downtown mall and West Main; is there a way to add interpretation to the city corridors?

Develop a theme list of trends/movements/ stories/places/people/groups, etc. to investigate and decide how best to interpret

Maybe a “how things work” for Cville-water, gas, railroads, streetcars, automobiles, phones, parking lots and garages, industries such as Woolen Mill and Ix Silk Mill, public recreation-when did we get these what was life like before, how did the transitions occur?

Acknowledge city responsibility for its role in segregation and Massive Resistance; work with Jefferson School group(s) to address this part of our history

Neighborhood walks/front porch events to talk about history, invite in old-timers to tell stories to new ones, let new ones tell their coming to Cville stories

Do a film on Court Square-that addresses its colorful past and role as first “urban renewal-type” project in Charlottesville to complement the sanitized version on the ground; tie into groups that have done films and theater projects for Vinegar Hill

Coordinate with CIP-get involved with projects like the Belmont Bridge, West Main St beautification or whatever it is, the Mall rehabilitation. Get involved in park redesigns before they happen. Make history part of the program in an integral way. Belmont Bridge and West Main could be "history walks" as well as aesthetic enhancements

Avon St condo project. Re-establishing 6th St. Old neighborhood there destroyed by urban renewal. Evaluate recognition of its history, perhaps a sidewalk or wall map/site plan from the old Sanborn maps.