



Memorials Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

3:30 P.M.

2nd Floor Conference Room
City Hall

715 Princess Anne Street
Fredericksburg, Virginia

The Memorials Advisory Commission of the City of Fredericksburg met on Wednesday, November 28, 2012, beginning at 3:30 p.m., in the second-floor conference room of City Hall.

Commission Attendees:

Garnett, Richard	Present
Huff, Benjamin Josiah	Absent
Lloyd, Marilyn Holasek	Present
Moore, Nancy	Present
Pates, Jim – Chair	Present
Warlick, Conrad	Absent

Commission Business:

Approval of Minutes: One error was noted in the minutes of the September 19, 2012 meeting. The spelling of Gail Braxton's name was corrected. With that change, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Old Business:

Mary Washington Monument and Lodge: Chairman Pates reported that Mr. Via was making progress on repairs to the Gordon Family Cemetery, but that the work was proceeding slowly. He also reported that the City had installed a security light directly behind the cemetery but that it needed adjustment so that it would not cast a glare on neighboring properties.

Mr. Pates also reported that the roof repairs on the Lodge were underway. He indicated that he intended to send a letter to several historic organizations and the University of Mary Washington about possibly renting the house.

A motion was made by Commissioner Garnett and seconded by Commissioner Lloyd that the Commission recommends the City allocate a certain percentage of the rents received from the Lodge to the Commission for carrying out its mission. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Pates indicated he would convey the Commission's request to the City Manager.

Historic Markers: There was no new information on the City's historic markers.

Wall of Honor Ceremony: The sense of the Commission was that this year's Wall of Honor event had been a success and that next year the Commission should seek to hold a reception for the recipients' friends and families immediately prior to the Council ceremony. The Commission agreed to set a deadline of June 2013 for applications and to work next year on generating more publicity for the ceremony.

Chairman Pates proposed the late Mrs. Butler Franklin as a possible nominee for next year.

Memorials Fund: The Commission has voted to establish a City Memorials Fund to accept private donations to fund the Commission's work. Chairman Pates circulated a draft "City Memorials Fund Operating Procedures" for comment and discussion. He explained that the proposed policy would provide that the City Treasurer handle the fund, that it would contain both designated and undesignated donations, and that no funds would be expended without a majority vote of the Commission. Chairman Pates indicated that he would share the draft procedure with the City Manager and the City Treasurer to get their input and would submit a formal proposal at the next meeting.

Update on Civil Rights Memorial: The Commission has previously discussed the idea of holding some type of commemoration of the local civil rights movement. Commissioner Garnett indicated he would seek further discussions with interested persons, including Mrs. Marguerite Young and Mr. Clarence Robinson, and would report back to the Commission.

Mothers' Day Event 2013: The Commission has previously discussed a possible Mothers' Day commemoration at the Mary Washington Monument in May 2013. The consensus of the Commission was to proceed with planning such an event. Commissioners Lloyd and Moore agreed to work together on the event planning and possibly coordinate with the local chapter of Preservation Virginia (i.e., the Mary Washington House). Former Commissioner Emerson has expressed a willingness to compose a poem for the event.

There was discussion that the event could also be used to raise funds for landscaping the Mary Washington Monument property, in cooperation with the Rappahannock Valley Garden Club. (There was also a suggestion that the Commission could arrange for the planting of a tree for each individual named to the Wall of Honor.) Commissioners Lloyd and Moore agreed to develop a more detailed proposal by the next meeting.

New Business:

New Chairperson: Chairman Pates indicated that officers would be elected for the coming year at the Commission's next meeting in January. He indicated that he planned to resign as chair and that someone would need to step up to assume that position.

Next Meeting Scheduled: Wednesday, January 16, 2013.

Meeting Adjourned: There being no further business to come before the Commission at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30p.m.



Marilyn Holasek Lloyd, Secretary