



Memorials Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Second Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 715 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, VA

Commission Members Present: Nancy Moore, Chair, Michael Spencer, Betty Massey, Jervis Hairston, Paula Raudenbush, Garnett Parker, City Rep. Tonya Lacey

Commission Members Absent: Marilyn Lloyd, Susan Spears

Chair Nancy Moore called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Michael Spencer moved to approve the minutes from September 16, 2015. Betty Massey seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Old Business:

Memorials Policy. Discussion: the role of the Commission for wayside signs is review only. These do not go to City Council for approval. Permanent memorials do need Council approval. Michael Spencer will make appropriate changes and present them to Erik Nelson in response to Mr. Nelson's comments. It was noted that the new city preservation planner who will be hired soon should be involved in this policy. The Commission agreed to delete the mention of themes in the policy. Nancy Moore suggested we invite Mr. Nelson to our next meeting.

Plans for Wall of Honor Ceremony. Nancy thanked Tonya Lacey for her hard work on the Wall of Honor. Tonya is ordering all new nameplates so they are consistent. Nancy reported that there was a good turnout for the last ceremony and recommended the time be changed for the next one to 6:45 p.m. Nancy suggested making a digital list of all the honorees. There was discussion about limiting the yearly number of honorees to 4 or fewer each year. Paula Raudenbush made a motion to change the rules from 5 to 4 or fewer. Jervis Hairston seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The Commission will select the next group of honorees by May, 2016.

Mary Washington Monument and Caretaker's Cottage. The City Manager wants to be able to rent the lodge to a city insider as a job perk so our recommendation that the City sell the lodge

is moot. The main goal of the Commission is habitation of the building in order to maintain it. The City is currently updating the kitchen.

New Business:

Question About Renaming a City Street. Michael has received an inquiry from Neil Walsh about renaming Forrest Avenue which is currently named for Nathan Bedford Forrest, a Confederate General and later, a KKK member. Nancy suggested that Michael could unofficially recommend that Mr. Walsh get a petition signed by everyone on the street to start the process.

Meeting Schedule for 2016. It was agreed that the meetings be held on January 20, March 16, May 18, July 20, September 21, and November 16 at 4:00 p.m.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 20, 2016, at 4:00 p.m.

Paula Raudenbush, Recording Secretary