



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PLANNING, HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT  
Neighborhood Services Division

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**MINUTES OF THE HISTORICAL AFFAIRS AND LANDMARK REVIEW BOARD**  
**Wednesday, December 19, 2018**  
**2100 Clarendon Boulevard**  
**Lobby Rooms Cherry and Dogwood**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sarah Afragola  
Charles Craig  
Omari Davis  
Robert Dudka  
Sarah Garner  
Jennie Gwin  
Gerry Laporte  
Joan Lawrence, Chairman  
Sara Steinberger  
Andrew Wenchel  
Richard Woodruff, Vice Chairman

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Carmela Hamm  
Pamela Pinnock  
Mark Turnbull

**STAFF:** Cynthia Liccese-Torres, Historic Preservation Coordinator  
Angelina Jones, Historic Preservation Planner

**ROLL CALL & CALL TO ORDER**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM. Ms. Jones called the roll and determined there was a quorum.

**APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 28, 2018, MEETING MINUTES**

The Chairman called for any changes to the November 28, 2018, draft meeting minutes. Mr. Dudka asked staff to revise the description of the DRC report he gave as part of the discussion agenda to include his assertion that the application did not meet the usual requirements under which the HALRB would grant a setback modification. The Chairman agreed with the change. The Vice Chairman moved to approve the draft minutes as amended and Mr. Craig seconded the motion. The motion passed 10-0-1, with the Chairman abstaining.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS (CoAs)**

The Chairman explained that as there were no items on the agenda for public hearing, she would forgo explaining the public hearing procedures.

Ms. Liccese-Torres introduced Aubrey Von Lindern, the Certified Local Government (CLG) Coordinator for the Northern Regional Office of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR). Ms. Liccese-Torres stated that she and Ms. Von Lindern had a meeting earlier in the day to discuss what the Historic Preservation Program (HPP) and HALRB have worked on over the last few years. Ms. Von Lindern’s visit was part of a routine periodic review of local CLGs.

The Chairman stated there were three items on the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Dean Arkema  
3614 22<sup>nd</sup> Street North  
CoA 18-31 (HP00065)  
Maywood Historic District  
Request to remove a chimney at the rear of the dwelling that is not visible from the public right-of-way and to patch with metal shingles.
  
- 2) Jessie Muse Al-Amin and Ibrahim Al-Amin  
2415 Shirlington Road  
CoA 18-13B (HP1800064)  
Green Valley Pharmacy Historic District  
Request to install an air conditioner condenser unit on the roof of the historic building.
  
- 3) Thomas and Christina Gelson  
2314 N. Kenmore Street  
CoA 18-03D (HP00063)  
Maywood Historic District  
Request to retroactively approve a retaining wall that was built at the rear of the dwelling on the property.

The Chairman called for any questions or comments on the consent agenda. Ms. Steinberger asked why the retaining wall at 2314 North Kenmore Street needed to be approved retroactively. Ms. Jones explained that the wall was built in response to an emergency situation and built without any review or approvals from the HALRB. Mr. Dudka added that it had been discussed during a previous phase of the project review as future work the applicant was contemplating. Mr. Laporte moved to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Steinberger seconded and the motion passed unanimously 11-0.

## ADMINISTRATIVE CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS (ACoAs)

The Chairman asked if there were any comments from the Board on the ACoA and there were none.

- 1) Michele and Mathias Hansen  
3628 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue North  
ACoA 18-21 (HP1800066)  
Maywood Historic District  
Request to install a 4'tall wooden picket fence in the Colonial Gothic style at the front of the property.

### Reports of the Chairman and Staff:

*Chairman's Report:* The Chairman congratulated Ms. Steinberger for her recent recognition by the County Board for going above and beyond what was required of her as a member of the HALRB. She was among a group of County commissioners so recognized. The Chairman thanked her for her dedication to the leadership of the WWI Task Force.

The Chairman then thanked Ms. Afragola for her service as an HALRB member and announced her departure from the Board. Ms. Afragola explained that she is moving to Connecticut and will no longer be able to serve on the HALRB.

The Chairman reported that she attended a meeting of the School Board on December 6<sup>th</sup> regarding the Stratford School proposed name change to give comments on behalf of the HALRB against changing the name of the school (as was reflected in the two letters the HALRB had sent). She stated that Nancy Iacomini also spoke against changing the name of the school. The Chairman invited other HALRB members interested in providing a statement to the School Board on this matter, either on their own behalf or behalf of the HALRB, to attend the December 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the School Board at 7:00 PM when the School Board will take an action on the naming. Ms. Liccese-Torres added that the HALRB's first letter was posted on the Arlington Public Schools (APS) website, but not their second letter. Ms. Liccese-Torres continued by stating that the agenda for the School Board meeting indicates that the staff is recommending that the Board approve the name change, although the suggested new name is not provided. The Chairman stated that one of the suggestions was to name the school Dorothy Hamm Middle School at the Historic Stratford School; however, as the HALRB's letters assert, the desegregation of Stratford School was a group effort and it is not appropriate or fair to name it after only one person.

The Chairman then asked the Nominating Committee to propose the slate for the election of the 2019 HALRB officers. Mr. Dudka announced that the Nominating Committee met and agreed to present the following 2019 officers: Mr. Woodruff for Chairman and Ms. Garner for Vice Chairman. The Chairman made a call for any other nominations; there were none. Mr. Laporte moved that the HALRB elect the nominees as put forth by the Nominating Committee and Mr. Dudka seconded. The motion passed unanimously 11-0.

Ms. Liccese-Torres announced that Ms. Lawrence served as Chairman of the HALRB for 6½ years, beginning in June 2012. She continued by summarizing some of the accomplishments of the HALRB during Ms. Lawrence’s tenure as Chairman and thanked her for her service on behalf of the HPP staff.

The Chairman concluded by announcing that the Westover Library had a new exhibit with historical and documentary photographs by Tom Dickinson of residential and commercial buildings that have been demolished in Arlington.

*Staff and Other Reports:* Ms. Steinberger stated that the final meeting of the WWI Task Force for commemorating the centennial of the conflict took place earlier in December and that the Task Force is now disbanded. Ms. Steinberger described giving a final briefing to the County Board at its December 18<sup>th</sup> recessed meeting. She then asserted that the work of the Task Force was successful in its goal to highlight the special contribution that the citizens of Arlington County made to the effort during WWI and the tremendous impact of WWI on the County.

Ms. Liccese-Torres announced that the HPP staff will be embarking on another partnership with Arlington Independent Media (AIM) to produce a video about the Ball-Sellers House through a program AIM has for high school students to gain experience in documentary video production. Ms. Liccese-Torres stated that AIM producer Nathan Bynum is currently recruiting student interns for this project and that participating students would be selected in February. Mr. Laporte commented that a professional video had been done on the Ball-Sellers House several years ago that may be helpful to the students.

Ms. Liccese-Torres informed the HALRB about her recent collaboration with former HALRB member Kevin Vincent. She explained that the National Park Service was making signs available to demarcate the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route (WARO) National Historic Trail and that Mr. Vincent had secured one to install in Arlington County. Ms. Liccese-Torres described coordinating with the Arlington County Department of Environmental Services to install the sign in Gateway Park in Rosslyn. She and Mr. Vincent are now discussing the creation of additional signage in the coming months to further interpret the trail in Arlington. The Vice Chairman inquired as to where the trail is in Arlington. Ms. Liccese-Torres and Mr. Laporte responded that it goes through Key Bridge and along Army-Navy Drive.

Ms. Liccese-Torres informed the HALRB that the HPP staff will be coordinating training for new HALRB members. The three sessions will be scheduled immediately before the regularly scheduled January, February, and March HALRB hearings. The Chairman added that any interested HALRB members are welcome to attend the training, even if they are not new to the Board.

Ms. Liccese-Torres announced that each HALRB member should soon receive their annual financial disclosure form from the County. She reminded members to submit their forms as soon as possible and that commissioners cannot vote on any motions if they have not submitted this paperwork to the County Board Office.

The Vice Chairman reported that he had spoken with Nora Palmatier, the Chairman of the County's Urban Forestry Commission, about coordinating with the HALRB to protect mature trees in cases of by-right redevelopment. He explained that the Urban Forestry Commission is planning to re-write the Urban Forestry Master Plan for Arlington County in 2019 and is interested in developing a public education campaign for the protection of mature trees as part of this effort. The Vice Chairman stated that he thinks it is reasonable for the HALRB to support the Urban Forestry Commission in their development of a revised master plan and has invited Ms. Palmatier to present to the HALRB during its January meeting.

Mr. Laporte asked if the HPP staff will work on updating the *Historic Preservation Master Plan* as part of its work in 2019. Ms. Liccese-Torres acknowledged that updating the master plan is a high priority for the HPP, but exact timing of that effort is still to be determined.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.