



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PLANNING, HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT
Neighborhood Services Division

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DRAFT

MINUTES OF THE HISTORICAL AFFAIRS AND LANDMARK REVIEW BOARD

**Wednesday, June 19, 2013
2100 Clarendon Boulevard
Lobby Conference Rooms Cherry & Dogwood**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Craig
Robert Dudka
Darren Hannabass
Gerald Laporte
Joan Lawrence, Chairman
Charles Matta, Vice Chairman
Nathan Uldricks
Kevin Vincent
Mark Turnbull
Patricia Weichmann-Morris
Andy Wenchel
Richard Woodruff

MEMBERS EXCUSED: None.

STAFF: Cynthia Liccese-Torres, Acting Preservation Coordinator
Rebeccah Ballo, Preservation Planner

ROLL CALL & CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order and asked for a quorum call at 7:30 pm. Ms. Ballo called the roll and determined there was a quorum.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MAY 15th 2013, MEETING

Ms. Ballo stated that the May meeting minutes are not ready for review yet. They will be made available at the July HALRB hearing.

PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS (CoAs)

The Chairman stated that there were two CoAs on the Discussion Agenda and four on the Consent Agenda.

The Chari called for a motion on the Consent Agenda. Mr. Vincent moved to approve the Consent agenda; Ms. Weichmann-Morris seconded and the motion passed 12-0.

There was one Administrative CoA case this past month.

- Consent Agenda:
- 1) 3300 23rd Street North
Michael Draghi
Maywood Historic District
HALRB Case 13-09 (HP1300009)
Request to install new paver patio.
 - 2) 2302 North Jackson Street
Matthew & Susan Pascocello
Maywood Historic District
HALRB Case 13-13 (HP1300013)
Request to replace existing skylight with a smaller skylight.
 - 3) 3424 21st Avenue North
Alex Berger & Amber Blaha
Maywood Historic District
HALRB Case 12-26A (HP1300014)
Request to amend previously approved CoA to change windows.
 - 4) 3308 23rd Street North
Ken & Christina Friedli
Maywood Historic District
HALRB Case 12-27A (HP1300015)
Request to amend previously approved CoA to change windows.

Administrative CoA (ACoA) 1) 2161 North Lincoln Street: partial removal of damaged tree in rear yard.

- Discussion Agenda:
- 1) 300 North Glebe Road
Saul Reyes, BU-GATA
Buckingham Village Historic District
HALRB Case 13-12 (HP1300012)
Request to refurbish and reinstall BU-GATA mural on Glebe Market.

Mr. Saul Reyes with BU-GATA presented the application. He stated that over time, the mural has deteriorated and that they are proposing to repair those sections of framing and the boards. They are looking to apply new trim, varnish, and install new bird protection measures. The work will be done in place.

Ms. Ballo gave the staff report. She stated that while this work would typically be considered “in-kind” the original CoA approving the installation of the mural was conditioned to only last for 5 years. It expired in 2005. The applicants are asking for a 5-year extension; however, staff is recommending a 2-year extension. Staff has some concerns about the level of deterioration and would like to be able to check back in sooner than 5 years to see whether the repairs are holding.

The Chair noted there was one speaker for the item.

Speaker: Mr. Bernie Berne

- **In the center of the mural is Christ on top of the world.**
- **This mural was community block grant funded and he feels this is inappropriate content for a publicly funded mural.**

Mr. Reyes stated that it is a reference to the Christ the Redeemer statue in Brazil.

The Chair opened the floor for HALRB questions and comments.

Mr. Turnbull stated that 2 years seems too short, but 5 years might be too long given the level of repairs being undertaken.

Mr. Vincent asked if the HALRB was in the habit of granting temporary CoAs. Ms. Ballo stated there are guideline provisions allowing them for under 1 year at the Clarendon (Maury) School for public Art. The HALRB also granted a temporary 2 year CoA for the raised garden beds at Reevesland. This is a unique case in that the HALRB granted a temporary CoA because the Board at the time did not want the mural to become a permanent feature of the building. Mr. Vincent expressed some discomfort with trying to limit time of a project via a CoA. Mr. Woodruff agreed and asked if the HALRB imposed time limits for other public art works. Ms. Ballo stated that we do at the Clarendon School (Maury Arts Center). She added that this mural is not official “public art”, but was funded by a CDBG grant and the community.

Ms. Laporte asked how well we enforced the temporary CoAs. Ms. Ballo replied that for the Arts Center, they are very well enforced. For Reevesland and for this mural, we have been lenient. Mr. Laporte also asked if the HALRB judged the content of the art since it was on a public building. Ms. Ballo stated that the policies and guidelines of the HALRB are such that we never judge the content of the artwork. The HALRB is just supposed to judge adverse affects to historic buildings or grounds.

Mr. Hannabass stated that once you attach the mural to the building, the property maintenance Code could be applied.

Mr. Craig stated that one of the issues with longevity is that this is not marine grade plywood. It was originally installed without flashing and it is showing its age.

Mr. Dudka stated that conservation is not really something the HALRB weighs in on, but the DRC did ask the applications to look into having a professional conservator evaluate the condition of the mural. The applicants will need to pay closer attention to it

after repairs are made or it will just continue to deteriorate. He asked the applicant and HP staff to ask public arts staff for conservator recommendations.

Mr. Vincent moved to approve the CoA with a 5-year extension. Mr. Woodruff seconded and the motion passed unanimously, 11-0.

- 2) 3829 North Stafford Street
Arlington County NC Program
Fort Ethan Allen Historic District
HALRB Case 13-15 (HP1300016)
Request to install interpretive markers,
gun platform, new fencing, and
landscaping associated with the
Neighborhood Conservation project for
the Fort.

Ms. Katherine Lenard presented the CoA for the improvements at Fort Ethan Allen. The HALRB heard this request twice as a Discussion Item on previous agendas, so they were familiar with the scope and particulars of the request. Ms. Lenard began the presentation by orienting members again to the site. She received comments from AHS and from HALRB members on the text and layout of the markers, and those have, for the most part, been integrated. This is the 100% submission. They did change the type and details for Access ramp A. It previously showed an angled ramp, but this has been changed. This is the only major change since the last HALRB briefing. She then presented the materials board. They are proposing Carnelian granite for decorative elements, such as the retaining walls, inlaid areas around the memorial and for the base of the bronze sculpture. Dark bronze will be used around the panels. The fence will be a stainless steel grid fence. The fence may not fit in the budget; if not, they will return to HALRB with a new fence. She also presented the directional signage.

Per some comments received by HALRB, she stated that Mr. Wally Owen (historian at Fort Ward and noted Circle Forts expert) stands by the number of “164” Forts and batteries. She will remove the word “major” based on comments.

Ms. Liccese-Torres thanked everyone for their comments and questions at each of the HALRB presentations. Staff is very supportive of this project and recommends approval.

The Chair noted there were two speakers for this item.

Speaker 1: Mr. Richard Samp, Old Glebe Civic Association

- **Civic association is very appreciative of Ms. Lenard’s work.**
- **This was their neighborhood’s choice for an NC project.**
- **No real significant complaints about the historic plans.**
- **Some neighbors are concerned about trees coming down, others are concerned about traffic. But they have addressed these concerns to the best of their abilities and they are pleased the project is moving forward.**

Speaker 2: Mr. Howard Solodky, Chain Bridge Terrace

- **The speaker is a resident of the Chain Bridge Terrace neighborhood.**
- **The sign for Viewing Area C will be across from the entrance to their neighborhood. He asked if it was necessary for the sign to be 3’ wide.**
- **He is also concerned about lowering the fence from 6’ to 3’ with the soccer usage of the fields.**

Ms. Lenard answered Mr. Solodky’s questions by stating that a 3’ wide sign would be necessary for people in cars to see the sign. She also stated that the team met with the Soccer Director for the league that uses the field and he felt that a 3’ fence would be sufficient.

Mr. Vincent stated that he thought this was a fabulous project. He extended a huge thanks to the civic association for this project. It is extremely well done. It will be a premiere site for Civil War interpretation in the Washington DC region. He does have some questions for staff and the consultant. Mr. Vincent asked if the project would be avoiding the well, since this is a recommendation from the archaeological report. Ms. Terreros-Oronao stated that the well will be entirely avoided. Mr. Vincent then asked Ms. Lenard if the signage material is commonly used for these types of markers. Ms. Lenard replied that yes, this material is very durable and very commonly used. They will also not be using fiberglass. Mr. Vincent also had a question about the gun count and whether it is 36 as referenced on one sign, or 41 as referenced on another. Ms. Liccese-Torres suggested changing the language to 36 gun ‘emplacements’. Or, Mr. Vincent suggested deleting the number 36. Mr. Vincent also noted that Panel 3 that discusses Military Road is not actually near Military Road. He asked if that could be amended or noted somehow to help orient people correctly. He also asked Ms. Lenard to check the reference to the Leesburg Turnpike and see if perhaps it was a different road. Mr. Vincent also wanted to discuss some of the landscaping. He is concerned about the adverse possession impacts of the County acquiescing to adjacent neighbors concerning the landscaping and tree buffers. He recommended that the County, in some way, make it visually clear what is their property so neighbors do not mistakenly assume that the County land is their private land. Ms. Terreros-Oronao stated that the trees being replanted will be small at maturity and that they are working with the neighbors to try and buffer activity at the Fort from their yards.

The Chair reiterated what a great project this will be for the community. Mr. Hannabass asked for an update on the timeline. Ms. Lenard stated it will be very fast. Construction will talk in August and will be completed in October. They must be completely finished by November 25th.

Mr. Hannabass moved to approve the Coa as submitted. Mr. Laporte seconded. Mr. Vincent offered an amendment (accepted) to delete the word “major” make the revision to the 36 gun reference, make a revision to the reference to the Leesburg Turnpike, and to make allowance for other revisions as noted in his earlier email. The motion carried unanimously, 12-0.

Ms. Ballo noted there would be a community meeting next Monday on this topic and that Walk Arlington is planning a neighborhood walk for November. Mr. Vincent

stated that he has developed a longer Forts walk that he can share and that could be adapted.

REPORTS OF CHAIRMAN, STAFF AND STANDING COMMITTEES

- A) Chairman's Report: The Chair and Mr. Woodruff stated that tomorrow morning (June 20th) the County's arborist, Vincent Verweij, had agreed to walk with them around Maywood to discuss his recommendations on trees and general tree health.

The Chair then reported on the County Board meeting for the Fraber House designation. The Board did not approve expanding the district to include the garage, but they did have a long discussion on its significance. It was really Pat Fraber Goodman's testimony on the house that she felt moved the Board to have the discussion. The Board does realize that having a house with a garage is an asset from a sale's point of view. The Board did indicate they would be willing to financially aid an owner that would want the garage moved to the house lot, but there was no guarantee. Ms. Liccese-Torres gave a brief update on the damage to the house from the tree fall. The damage was minor and is all being repaired by the Parks Department in kind.

The Chair gave a report on the Wilson School Committee. She reported that she has been meeting with Board members to discuss the significance of the school and to advocate for its preservation. The School Board recently voted to sell the property to the Penzance Corporation in a no-bid contract. This move was totally out of the blue and not predicated. The ad hoc group trying to save the school met with every member of the County Board to press for preservation. Saving the school is a way to forward the vision of the Historic Preservation Master Plan. The Committee to work on the school site redevelopment will be appointed soon. Mr. Laporte has volunteered to be the HALRB rep on the committee. Ms. Liccese-Torres added that in addition to the school, the site also contains the Queens Court Garden Apartments, which are listed as Important on the HRI.

The Chair reported that the Affordable Housing Working group meetings continue.

- B) Survey Report: Ms. Liccese-Torres gave the Survey Report. Now that the Fraber House is completed, the next designation would be the W&OD siding.
- C) Site Plan Review Reports: The first SPRC meeting for the Blue Goose site will be tomorrow night.

- D) Staff and other Reports: Ms. Liccese-Torres reported on the grand re-opening of Carlin Hall. She also updated the board on the Lustron exhibit in Ohio.

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm.