



**Memorials Advisory Commission  
Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, May 19, 2022  
City Council Chambers  
Fredericksburg, VA

**Commission Members Present:** Nancy Moore, Michael Spencer, Jervis Hairston, Pauline Felder, Alan Parkes

**Guests:** Sara Poore, President & CEO of the Fredericksburg Area Museum (FAM), M.C. Morris, Assistant Director of Tourism for the City of Fredericksburg, Jeanette Rowe Cadwallender

**Commission Members Absent:** John Lyles, Blanton Massey, Preston Thayer

**Call to Order:** Chair Nancy Moore called the meeting to order at 4:01.

**Approval of Minutes:** Michael Spencer moved to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2022, meeting. Pauline Felder seconded, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**Old Business:**

**Status of Slave Block Corner Interpretation/hiring of Diversity Staffer by Fredericksburg Area Museum:**

- Sara Poore announced the museum has hired a Curator of African American History and Special Projects. The position will be filled by Dr Gaila Sims, who has a PhD in American studies, with focus on slavery. She:
  - Will be doing program on Juneteenth for Xavier Richardson
  - Starts officially beginning of August
  - Is heading up slave auction block exhibit
  - Is a museum employee, 40% of her position is funded by the city, the rest is covered by grants
- M.C. Morris discussed the August 2020 allocation of \$250,000 to help interpret the auction block corner.
  - There have been some expenditures from the cost of relocating the auction block (\$15,000 to FAM, \$16,000 to Sites of Conscience)
  - According to Memorandum of Understanding \$50,000 will go to FAM
  - There is \$209,139 remaining
  - City Manager Tim Baroody told Nancy that decisions will be made in discussions with FAM, the Memorials Advisory Commission, and Staff
  - Michael Spencer added that UMW can be a good support if people would like to take advantage of it

- Trudy Smith, President of the Mayfield Civic Association, told M.C. that they will be having a heritage festival on August 7
- There will be an evening event on June 20th, organized by Xavier Richardson and Juno Pitchford, focused on black entrepreneurship and the history of Princess Anne Street.

**Mary Washington Monument and Caretaker's Cottage Update:**

- The commission discussed the history of the management of the property, and possible future uses for the cottage and grounds

**New Business:**

**Introduction of new commission members:**

- Alan Parkes
- Preston Thayer

**Evaluation of Wall of Honor Nominees:**

- Four nominees:
  - Charles Dyson
  - Rob Grogan
  - Barbara Willis
  - Roger Clarke
- Jervis moved to approve all nominees, Michael seconded. The vote was unanimous.

**2022 Meeting Schedule:**

- August 18, City Council Chambers, 4:00 pm
- November 17, City Council Chambers, 4:00 pm

Pauline Felder moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:16 pm. Jervis seconded the motion, and by unanimous vote the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Pauline Felder