

Approved Minutes

JOINT MEETING
STATE REVIEW BOARD and BOARD OF HISTORIC RESOURCES
9:30 a.m. December 14, 2023

The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, Conference Room 207 (2nd Floor), 150 Slayton Avenue,
Danville, VA 24540

State Review Board Members Present

John Mullen, Chair
Dr. Eleanor Breen
Dr. Jeffrey E. Klee
Dr. Greg Rutledge
Carol Shull
Dr. Larissa M. Smith

Historic Resources Board Members Present

W. Tucker Lemon, Chair
Dr. Colita Nichols Fairfax, Vice-Chair
Mary Pope Hutson
Trip Pollard
Aimee Jorjani
Dr. Ken Rutherford
Martin Townes

Attending Online

State Review Board Members Absent

Dr. Jody L. Allen, Vice-Chair

Historic Resources Board Members Absent

Department of Historic Resources Staff Present

Julie Langan, Director
Amanda Terrell
Megan Melinat
Aubrey Von Lindern
Michael Pulice
Dr. Jennifer Loux
Jess Hendrix
LaToya Gray-Sparks (attending online)

Stephanie Williams, Deputy Director
Brad McDonald
Lena McDonald
Marc Wagner
Joanna McKnight
Joanna Wilson Green
Ivy Tan

Other State Agency Staff Present:

Andrew Tarne, Office of the Attorney General (attending online)
Corey Scott, Deputy Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources

Guests Present (from attendees list in Webex and sign-in sheets): Mary Ruffin Hanbury; Ken Larking (City of Danville); Karrice Luck Brimmer; Debra McClane

Board of Historic Resources (BHR)

Chair Lemon called the Board of Historic Resources to order at 9:30 a.m. Deputy Director Williams took roll call of BHR members to establish the presence of a quorum: Vice-Chair Fairfax, Ms. Hutson, Ms. Jorjani, Mr. Pollard, Dr. Rutherford, Mr. Townes, and Chair Lemon are present.

Chair Lemon read the land acknowledgement statement. He next explained the purpose and duties of the BHR. He invited BHR members to introduce themselves and introduced himself. Chair Lemon noted that today's meeting is

taking place in person and online, and is being recorded. He said that some DHR staff members are attending the meeting online as are members of the public. Chair Lemon thanked retired BHR member Karrice Luck Brimmer, who yesterday provided the Boards with an introduction to Danville and its recent historic preservation successes.

At 9:36 a.m., the meeting paused due to technical difficulties with the streaming portion of the meeting. The meeting resumed at 9:38 a.m.

Chair Lemon explained that the meeting is taking place in person and online and is being recorded. He thanked the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research for hosting today's meeting. He requested a motion for approval of the meeting format and agenda. Mr. Pollard so moved and Vice-Chair Fairfax seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative. Chair Lemon asked for a motion to approve the June 15, 2023, meeting minutes as presented. Chair Lemon asked if any changes or corrections were needed. Hearing none, he requested a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Dr. Rutherford made the motion and Vice-Chair Fairfax seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative. Chair Lemon presented the proposed 2024 meeting schedule to the Board and asked for a motion to approve it. Ms. Hutson made the motion and Mr. Pollard seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Elections for the Board of Historic Resources were held. With a nomination for Chair from Mr. Pollard moved that Vice-Chair Fairfax serve as Chair and Chair Lemon serve as Vice-Chair. With a second from Ms. Hutson, the Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Newly elected Chair Fairfax read a resolution regarding the contributions of recently retired BHR member Karrice Luck Brimmer. Director Langan read the text of a mock highway marker that summarized Ms. Luck Brimmer's achievements.

State Review Board (SRB)

At 9:48 a.m., Chair Mullen called the SRB meeting to order. Deputy Director Williams took roll call of SRB members to confirm the presence of a quorum. Ms. Shull, Dr. Breen, Dr. Klee, Dr. Smith, Dr. Rutledge, and Chair Mullen are present. Vice-Chair Allen is absent from today's meeting. Chair Mullen next explained the purpose and duties of the SRB and the process of Register designation. Each SRB member introduced themselves.

Chair Mullen asked the SRB members if there are any questions about the agenda. Hearing none, Chair Mullen requested a motion to approve the meeting format and agenda. Dr. Breen so moved and Dr. Smith seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative. Chair Mullen asked for a motion to approve the June 15, 2023, meeting minutes as presented. Dr. Klee so moved and Dr. Smith seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative. Chair Mullen presented the proposed 2024 meeting schedule to the Board and asked for a motion to approve it. Dr. Smith made the motion and Dr. Breen seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Welcome

Danville City Manager Ken Larking welcomed the Boards to the city. He spoke about historic preservation initiatives currently taking place and other revitalization projects. He explained that multimillion-dollar projects utilizing historic rehabilitation tax credits have taken place in the city over the past decade, bringing historic resources back into active use. He thanked both Boards for their work and invited them to continue to be involved with the City's work.

Chair Fairfax introduced Corey Smith, Deputy Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources. He thanked both Boards for their volunteer service to the Commonwealth. She introduced Andrew Tarne, a representative from the Office of the Attorney General.

Director's Report:

Chair Fairfax introduced Director Langan. Director Langan thanked Ms. Luck Brimmer for her assistance with planning today's meeting as well as DHR staff who organized the meeting. Director Langan welcomed new BHR members Mary Pope Hutson and Martin Townes, and thanked former Chair Lemon for his work on the Board. She noted that newly elected Chair Fairfax and former Chair Lemon for their involvement with DHR's programs and their service as chair and vice-chair. Director Langan thanked both boards for their work preparing for each meeting and providing leadership. She introduced Latoya Gray-Sparks, DHR's new community outreach coordinator, and Ivy Tan, DHR's communications manager. Director Langan described current activities at DHR, including the appointment of a new Deputy Director, Sarah Huang Spota, who was appointed to the post by Governor Youngkin. She informed the Boards of a project at Charlotte County's courthouse to contextualize monuments on the public green and present balanced information to the public in a manner that allows visitors to draw their own conclusions about the historic monuments. Director Langan said that DHR routinely is involved in work with various communities where differing perspectives are in play. The U.S. Army's decision to remove the Confederate Monument at Arlington National Cemetery is an example of public history projects in which DHR is participating. She emphasized that DHR strives to be inclusive and respectful of multiple points of view in presentation of historic events to the public. Director Langan next discussed the recently approved state budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. She explained that several of DHR's requests were not addressed. She noted that the BIPOC grant program has been paused because a request to change a single word in the legislation authorizing the program was not made (the request was to change "archaeological" to "historical" in reference to the types of properties eligible for the grant). She said that DHR will continue to advocate creation of a permanent Deputy Director position for a person with extensive experience in historic preservation. She concluded with announcements of some upcoming events that DHR will be involved in, including unveiling of new signage to mark Green Book sites in Virginia, and reopening of The Homestead, a historic resort that has just completed a full rehabilitation at a cost of more than \$100 million. Finally, DHR is in the midst of updating its study of the economic impact of historic rehabilitation tax credits.

Boards Training

Chair Fairfax introduced Community Services Division Director Amanda Terrell, who presented a training session about the Register program's principal tenets and responsibilities to the Boards. Register Historian Lena McDonald provided a training session about identifying level, period, and area of significance for a property being evaluated for Register eligibility.

Chair Fairfax called for a brief break of 5 minutes at 11:10 a.m. The meeting resumed at 11:18 a.m.

Public Comment

Chair Fairfax introduced and explained the purpose of the public comment period and noted that speakers are asked to limit their remarks to three minutes. She added that the BHR will not take action on any comments presented today but DHR will take the comments under consideration.

She requested that speakers limit their comments to a span of three minutes. She added that a second comment period will occur when the BHR meets this afternoon to review Highway Marker and Easement program materials.

Four people have signed in to speak in person and five signed in to speak online. Not everyone spoke, but the following individuals offered comments:

1. Mike Walls, Mathews County Board of Supervisors
2. Dave Skirvin
3. Debra Davis
4. Robert Sherrill

Chair Fairfax thanked everyone who spoke today, noted that their comments will receive careful consideration, and said that the public comment period is concluded..

NOMINATIONS

Eastern Region

1. Δ, **, ^ Cape Charles Rosenwald School, Town of Cape Charles, Northampton County, DHR No. 182-0003
2. ** Granby Street Institutional Corridor Historic District, City of Norfolk, DHR 122-6154
3. ^, Δ Gwynn's Island Historic District, Mathews County, DHR No. 057-5467

Ms. McKnight presented nomination 1 and Mr. Wagner presented nominations 2 and 3.

The Cape Charles Rosenwald School's brick construction was noted as many Rosenwald schools were frame construction. The physical integrity of the Gwynn's Island Historic District was discussed. Callis Wharf has been noted as one of the best-preserved historic maritime complexes along the Chesapeake Bay. The island's vulnerability to sea level rise and erosion also was noted. The property owner process for objecting to a nomination was discussed, including the percentage of property owners who objected. DHR staff explained the public participation process conducted for historic district nominations and the various means that property owners and community members can convey their comments to DHR staff and the nomination authors.

Chair Fairfax requested a motion to approve the Eastern Region nominations 1, 2, and 3 as presented. Vice-Chair Lemon moved that nominations 1 and 2 be approved. Dr. Rutherford seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve nominations 1 and 2 as presented. Vice-Chair Lemon moved that nomination 3 be approved. Mr. Townes seconded and the Board members approved nomination 3 as presented, with one abstention.

Chair Mullen requested a motion to approve nominations 1,2, and 3 as presented. Dr. Smith so moved and Dr. Breen seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative to approve nominations 1,2, and 3 as presented.

Northern Region

1. * Elkton Historic District, Town of Elkton, Rockingham County, DHR No. 216-5097
2. Long Meadow, Augusta County, DHR No. 007-0147

Ms. Aubrey Von Lindern presented nominations 1 and 2 as a block.

Chair Fairfax asked for a motion to approve the Northern Region nominations 1 and 2 as presented. Mr. Pollard so moved and Vice-Chair Lemon seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative to approve the Northern Region nominations 1 and 2 as presented

Chair Mullen asked for a motion to approve the Northern Region nominations 1 and 2 as presented. Dr. Klee so moved and Ms. Shull seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the Northern region nominations 1 and 2 as presented.

Western Region

The western region has no nominations for today's meeting.

Chair Fairfax asked for a motion to adjourn the joint session of the BHR and SRB. Vice-Chair Lemon made the motion and Mr. Pollard seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the joint session.

Chair Mullen asked for a motion to adjourn the joint session of the BHR and SRB. Dr. Breen so moved and Mr. Rutledge seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the joint session.

The joint meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Register Summary of Resources Listed: Historic Districts: 5
Buildings: 6
Structures: 0
Sites: 0
Objects: 0
MPDs: 0

BOARD OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

Board of Historic Resources Members Present:

W. Tucker Lemon
Dr. Colita Nichols Fairfax, Chair
Mary Pope Hutson
Aimee K. Jorjani
Trip Pollard
Dr. Ken Rutherford
Martin Townes

Department of Historic Resources (DHR)

Staff Present:

Julie Langan, Director
Stephanie Williams, Deputy Director
Kyle Edwards*
Elizabeth Lipford*
Dr. Jennifer Loux
Brad McDonald
Megan Melinat
Wendy Musumeci*
Karri Richardson*
Amanda Terrell
Joanna Wilson Green
**denotes virtual attendance*

Board of Historic Resources Members Absent:

Other State Agency Staff Present:

Andrew Tarne, Office of the Attorney General

Guests Registered in Webex:

Elsie Williams
Allison Thomas
Charles Thomas

Guests Present from Attendees List at Meeting:

Edward W. Gantt - "March to Freedom" marker, Brandy Station
Peggy Crosson - Virginia Lewis and Clark Legacy Trail
Jim Johnston - Virginia Lewis and Clark Legacy Trail

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fairfax called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m. Chair Fairfax requested a roll call of the Board members.

Chair Fairfax read the following Land Acknowledgment Statement:

The Department of Historic Resources/Board of Historic Resources/State Review Board acknowledges the indigenous peoples of Virginia and expresses its gratitude for their continued stewardship of her lands and waterways over many generations. We also acknowledge the free and enslaved Africans and their descendants whose labors and contributions on behalf of the Commonwealth have long been overlooked. We commit ourselves

to meaningful engagement with all Virginians, past and present, as we strive to fulfill our charge as stewards of Virginia's long and rich history.

Chair Fairfax also read the following DHR Purpose Statement:

The Virginia Board of Historic Resources is an official policy-making board of the Commonwealth of Virginia created by the Code of Virginia. Its policies are implemented by the Department of Historic Resources, which day in and day out labors on behalf of our irreplaceable resources in the interest of the citizens of this Commonwealth. The Board is charged primarily with the responsibility for:

- 1. Designating historic landmarks of local, statewide, or national significance;*
- 2. Establishing historic preservation practices for the care and management of our Virginia Historic Landmarks;*
- 3. Designating state-recognized historic districts and archaeological sites and zones;*
- 4. Approving historical highway markers;*
- 5. Reviewing programs and services of the Agency, and making recommendations to the Director of DHR and the Governor regarding programs and services; and in order to preserve important sites and buildings in perpetuity; and*
- 6. Accepting voluntarily granted gifts of preservation easements over historic properties to the Commonwealth.*

The Governor of Virginia selects members of the Board from volunteer and professional leaders of Virginia's history, preservation, and museum communities. Votes taken during this meeting are official actions of the Commonwealth of Virginia Board of Historic Resources.

Chair Fairfax read the Board of Historic Resources Call to Order and invited those Board members present to introduce themselves: Chair Dr. Fairfax, Ms. Hutson, Ms. Jorjani, Mr. Pollard, Dr. Rutherford, Mr. Townes and Vice Chair Lemon.

Chair Fairfax reminded everyone that this is a public meeting that is being streamed online. The online feed is being recorded. Chair Fairfax thanked The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research for hosting this meeting.

Chair Fairfax made a motion to approve agenda and meeting format. Seconded by Vice Chair Lemon, all members voted in the affirmative.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Edward Gantt, Brandy Station, VA, in-person: in support of the **March to Freedom** monument in Culpeper Co. to USCT during Civil War. Proposed by Freedom Foundation, who he represents. 125 Culpeper-born USCT identified in research. There were many others, yet to be identified by name. The monument overlooks the Brandy Station battlefield. Mr. Gantt noted numerous organizations that support the monument.

Ms. Peggy Crosson, in-person: Serves as President of Lewis and Clark Legacy Trail. Speaking in support of **Lewis and Clark on the Great Road** marker, to be placed in Abingdon, VA. Thanked the Daltons (property owners) and Dr. Jennifer Loux. Requested approval of the marker by the Board.

Elsie Williams, online: support of the **Black Exodus from Gwynn's Island** marker. She is a descendant of enslaved families on the island. The marker represents important history for both the island and the larger context of Black history and is important to descendants and residents of the community. Requested approval of marker by the Board.

Allison Thomas, online: She is a descendant of a plantation owner on Gwynn’s Island, which had association with enslaved descendants who were resident on Gwynn’s Island. Ms. Thomas spoke in support of the **Black Exodus from Gwynn’s Island** marker. She addressed some of the previous comments made during the morning public comment session, such as the comment expressed that term of “near lynching” in the marker text was inappropriate and other phrases in the text. Ms. Thomas’ comments summarized the actual incident on which the marker is based which provided the context for the marker text. The intent of the marker is to provide broad factual history and is not intended to be critical. Ms. Thomas read aloud comments from Mr. Rufus Frazier, a Black descendant of enslaved families from the island. Mr. Frazier supported the marker and requested approval from the Board.

HIGHWAY MARKERS

Dr. Jennifer Loux presented the following four (4) Diversity Markers as a block.

Sponsor Markers – Diversity

1.) James Pawpaw

Sponsors: The Tidewater and Big Bend Foundation

Locality: New Kent County

Proposed Location: New Kent Highway at intersection with Cumberland Road

2.) Black Exodus from Gwynn’s Island

Sponsor: Mathews County NAACP

Locality: Mathews County

Proposed Location: TBD

3.) Calfee Training School

Sponsor: Calfee Community and Cultural Center Board of Directors

Locality: Town of Pulaski

Proposed Location: 1 Corbin Harmon Drive

4.) Claytor Memorial Clinic

Sponsor: Mr. Nelson Harris

Locality: City of Roanoke

Proposed Location: 413 Gainsboro Road

Board Comments Summary:

Vice Chair Lemon provided additional comments on his personal knowledge of the Claytor Memorial Clinic, the family involved and its importance in the community of Gainsboro. He recently attended a marker dedication that is in the immediate vicinity of the proposed location of the Claytor Memorial Clinic marker.

Chair Fairfax asked about the derivative of the surname Pawpaw, wondering if it was an alteration. Dr. Loux responded that it appeared in the records under different spellings, however, this spelling was in the Records of the Council of State.

Discussion to defer on **Black Exodus from Gwynn’s Island** marker:

Mr. Pollard expressed concern about the lack of County Board of Supervisors’ support for the marker and stated it would be prudent to defer a vote at the present time. He suggested that some tweaking of the language might be done in such a way as to gain the support of the Board of Supervisors. Vice Chair Lemon agreed with the option to defer

and said additional background research may be helpful to resolve some of the stated community concerns. Ms. Hutson and other Board members were in general agreement that the vote should be deferred.

Chair Fairfax expressed concerns about the writing of social history, and the trend that does not often include concern for the affected community. In this instance there seems to be more concern about what was written in a 1924 newspaper. Consideration should be given to the impact on families, for multiple generations, instead of the trend in which no one is held accountable. She agreed to defer; however, she hopes the review of the draft text will be take into consideration the accurate social history as noted in her comments. She will support deferment but wishes the record to reflect her opinion that the sensibilities of Black people are just as important as the sensibilities of White people.

Mr. Pollard made a motion to defer voting on the Black Exodus from Gwynn’s Island (#2) marker. Seconded by Vice Chair Lemon, all members voted in the affirmative.

With a motion to approve Diversity Markers #1, #3, #4 by Chair Fairfax and a second from Mr. Pollard, all members voted in the affirmative.

Dr. Jennifer Loux presented the following three (3) Sponsor Markers as a block.

Sponsor Markers

- 1.) **The “Dissenters’ Glebe” of the Rev. Samuel Davies**
Sponsor: Historic Polegreen Church Foundation
Locality: Hanover County
Proposed Location: 10058 Chamberlayne Road, Mechanicsville
- 2.) **Lewis and Clark on the Great Road**
Sponsor: Virginia Lewis and Clark Legacy Trail
Locality: Town of Abingdon
Proposed Location: 108 N. Court Street
- 3.) **Boston (1833-1850)**
Sponsor: Becky Francois
Locality: Henrico County
Proposed Location: 10431 Patterson Avenue

Board Comments Summary:

No comments

With a motion to approve Sponsor Markers #1-#3 by Vice Chair Lemon and a second from Ms. Hutson, all members voted in the affirmative.

Dr. Jennifer Loux presented the following five (5) Replacement Markers as a block.

Replacement Markers

- 1.) **St. Peter’s Church WO-13**
Sponsor: VDOT
Locality: New Kent County
Proposed Location: New Kent Highway at intersection with Old Church Road
- 2.) **Hewick N-45**
Sponsor: VDOT

Locality: Middlesex County

Proposed Location: Old Virginia Street (Route 602) near driveway to Hewick

3.) Penny's Tavern Site E-129

Sponsor: VDOT

Locality: Spotsylvania County

Proposed Location: Lake Anna Parkway (Bypass 208) just north of Courthouse Road (Route 208)

4.) End of the Shenandoah Valley Campaign A-35

Sponsor: DHR

Locality: City of Harrisonburg

Proposed Location: South Main Street (U.S. 11), South of Monument Avenue

5.) Historic Bristol K-43

Sponsor: DHR

Locality: City of Bristol

Proposed Location: State Street at intersection with Edgemont Avenue

Board Comments Summary:

Vice Chair Lemon commented that it is interesting that we know who married George and Martha Washington, but not where the ceremony took place. Chair Fairfax commented that because some markers are very old, and out of date, the process of monitoring and revising is a good process to be undertaking.

With a motion to approve Replacement Markers #1-#5 by Vice Chair Lemon and a second from Dr. Rutherford, all members voted in the affirmative.

Dr. Loux presented the following list of applications under consideration for the December 2023 Board Cycle:

Applications Under Consideration for December 2023 Board Cycle

- 1.) Willis Augustus Hodges (1815-1890) (Virginia Beach)
- 2.) Glade Spring Colored Elementary School (Washington County)
- 3.) Cedar Grove Mills (Rockbridge County)
- 4.) Old Folks Home (Essex County)
- 5.) John G. Lewis Bridge (Loudoun County)
- 6.) North Pamunkey Baptist Church (Orange County)
- 7.) Cradock High School (Portsmouth)

Applications #1-#5 (Willis Augustus Hodges, Glade Spring Colored Elementary School, Cedar Grove Mills, Old Folks Home and John G. Lewis Bridge) will be presented at the December 2023 Board Meeting, and application #6 (North Pamunkey Baptist Church) will serve as the alternate selection.

Board Comments Summary:

No comments

With a motion to approve December 2023 Board Cycle Applications #1-#5 and alternate #6 by Dr. Rutherford and a second by Ms. Jorjani, all members voted in the affirmative.

Dr. Loux presented the following projects for the Board's approval:

Projects for Approval:

1.) Charlotte County Confederate Monument Contextualization Sign

2.) Freedom Foundation of Virginia USCT Monument (Culpeper County)

Board Comments Summary:

Charlotte County marker design: With a motion to approve by Mr. Pollard and second by Mr. Townes, all members voted in the affirmative.

Freedom Foundation of Virginia USCT Monument design:

Ms. Jorjani asked where it will be located and who will maintain the monument?

Dr. Loux responded that it will be near an existing Park and Ride on Route 29 at Brandy Station within view of the battlefield, within VDOT ROW, but is unsure about who has maintenance responsibility.

Dr. Rutherford shared that he has personally researched and written on this topic and gained an understanding of the phenomenal courage of these troops, who were fighting under different rules of combat and charged over known landmine-infested ground. He asked if some language be incorporated to represent that phenomenal courage.

Mr. Pollard pointed out that the Board has been asked to approve the language as presented and cautioned on delaying the process for the organization. He noted that the Board can make suggestions, but it is not in the Board purview to guide changes.

Motion by Mr. Pollard, to approve the monument with a suggestion for additional language to highlight the courage of the USCT troops as expressed in his comments during the discussion, second by Dr. Rutherford, all members voted in the affirmative.

BURIAL PERMITS

Joanna Wilson Green gave a brief presentation on burial permits:

Burial Permits

- Between June 15, 2023 and September 20, 2023 DHR issued 7 permits on behalf of the Board:
 - 5 anticipatory permits (no purposeful disturbance of human remains was proposed).
 - Stafford County: 1 permit issued for investigation of an early 20th century family cemetery reported as having been relocated in the 1940s – no human remains or burial furniture were identified and the project has been closed.
 - City of Newport News: 1 permit issued for recovery of human remains accidentally disturbed during construction of a boardwalk as well as archaeological investigation of the surrounding area. The remains are currently in DHR custody.
- 1 permit was extended to accommodate project complications.
- 10 projects were closed following completion of permit conditions.
- 21 projects remain open.

Board Comments Summary:

Chair Fairfax asked if the issue of accidental disturbance was in Pleasant Shade cemetery?

Ms. Green responded that it was not at Pleasant Shade, but on city property near the water.

Historic Christ Church – Update to 6/15/2023 Briefing

- To date five interments have been recovered, and two are in progress.
- An eighth interment was discovered partially beneath one of the known interments, and the project team is working to determine whether this individual may safely be left in place.
- The drainage pan has been installed around two of the four church walls, and both outfalls are in place.
- All work has been done in open communication with the congregation as well as the surrounding community.

Board Comments Summary:

No comments.

Basilica of St. Mary, City of Norfolk - Update

- Archaeological recovery of nine individuals, contained within eight brick crypts located beneath the nave floor. All interred in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, well prior to the construction of the existing basilica in 1858.
- During recovery, and under clean-room protocols, DNA samples were recovered from seven of the individuals.
- Of these, we now have high-confidence DNA sequences for five of the individuals (genetic material for the remaining two was degraded). We are currently waiting on mitochondrial DNA results for the five. This should allow us to compare the data with a growing international database of DNA sequences and may well provide us with contacts for lineal descendants.

Board Comments Summary:

Vice Chair Lemon what was there before the basilica was built?

Ms. Green responded that it was a community burial ground associated with an earlier Episcopal church. Church records indicate it was an integrated congregation, therefore may have both Black and white burials. She said that DNA research will help understand genetics and cultural associations of the earlier church and noted that dozens of additional burials exist towards the chancel of the extant church.

The Burial Permits portion of the agenda ended at 2:07 p.m.

EASEMENTS

Easement Program Overview and Application Process

Ms. Melinat gave a brief overview of the Easement Program and the Easement Application Process.

New Easement Offer for Consideration

Ms. Melinat presented the following new easement offer for consideration:

1. **Buckland Church, Buckland Mills Battlefield, Prince William County**
 Easement Applicant: The Conservation Fund on behalf of Thomas Ashe, III
 Offer for ±0.93225 acre
 Proposed Grant Funding: ABPP

The Easement Acceptance Committee recommends acceptance of the Buckland Church easement offer subject to the following conditions:

1. Inclusion of a term in the easement that protects the exterior (and not the interior) of the Church.

2. Inclusion of a term in the easement that affirms the conveyance of the easement is a voluntary action, and the easement, its restrictions, and the review processes established therein do not present a substantial burden on religious exercise.
3. Documentation for the existing utility line and utility vaults along Lee Highway; documentation may consist of an existing easement(s), new easement(s) or containment letter(s) and must be received prior to easement recordation.
4. The Property is subject to a Cemetery Maintenance Plan to be incorporated into the easement either directly or by reference.
5. Final review of the title work, title commitment, survey, draft easement, and other recorded and unrecorded documents affecting title to the property by the Office of the Attorney General. Per this review, counsel may identify additional issues that require documentation or action.

Board Comments Summary:

No comments

With a motion to approve the Buckland Church Easement Offer by Rutherford and a second by Vice Chair Lemon, all members voted in the affirmative.

Easement Program Portfolio and Stewardship Summaries

Ms. Melinat gave a brief overview of the Easement Program's portfolio and current stewardship statistics.

Board Comments Summary:

Ms. Hutson commented on the huge number of easements that DHR is responsible for monitoring and asked how that was possible with 5.5 staff in the easement program? She asked Ms. Melinat to describe the challenges with that level of monitoring.

Ms. Melinat responded that DHR has a great team of easement staff. Brad McDonald oversees stewardship and DHR now has two full time staff in the field doing stewardship monitoring.

Ms. Hutson asked if DHR does any aerial monitoring?

Ms. Melinat responded that it is not done at this time because most easements require staff to enter buildings to monitor interior modifications. Aerials are helpful for certain characteristics such as new buildings. She noted that this year we set our stewardship site visit goal at 40% and exceeded that.

Easement Violation

Presented by Ms. Melinat.

1. Berry Hill, National Historic Landmark, Halifax County

Owner: Founders Land SPE LLC

Acres: 680.69

Major Violation

Recommended Remediation Options:

1. National Register of Historic Places nomination form update
2. Archaeological Investigations at the two-part frame overseer's house
3. Archaeological management plan and predictive model for the entire property, to include an assessment of the stone building ruins and recommendations for stabilization.

Board Comments Summary:

A discussion of options followed Ms. Melinat's presentation.

Vice Chair Lemon asked if the owners would need to agree to what is put before them for remediation. Will the Board be in a position to enforce an action? Ms. Melinat responded that the process for remediation is not adversarial with the owner at this time, the owners are awaiting response from the Board.

Vice Chair Lemon asked how the scope of work would be conveyed to them of what we hope to receive back?

Ms. Melinat summarized that the nomination scope would include the NHL boundary, which is larger than the easement boundary. We would expect them to hire professional consultants to complete the work. The nomination would go through the same process as any other at DHR. Each of these options will produce documents that will be a tool for the owners. The financial burden to undertake any of these options would not be on the state.

Ms. Hutson commented that option 3 would seem the most comprehensive for the perpetuity of the easement. We should give the tools to the future landowners and the best information for them. Ms. Hutson suggested a combination of options #1 and #3. Chair Fairfax commented that an updated nomination is important. She agreed with the suggestion of a combination of options #1 and #3. Chair Fairfax noted that it is important for property owners to adhere to the obligations of the easement. Other members agreed.

Mr. McDonald conveyed that the owner stated in a phone conversation that the wing on the overseer's house was as a potential liability in their opinion. Ms. Melinat noted the lengthy staff history of interaction with this owner.

Ms. Hutson asked if there a tax deduction for the owner of this property for the easement donation? Ms. Melinat assumes that was the case for the initial donation.

Vice Chair Lemon asked if option #2 be rolled into options #1 and #3? Mr. McDonald responded that it could.

Vice Chair Lemon asked if there are other outstanding recommendations for the resources on the property that they have not accomplished? Mr. McDonald responded yes and noted, as an example, that the stone ruins for which DHR has repeatedly recommended stabilization steps, have not been addressed by the property owners. He noted that the remediation option #3 includes an analysis of each of stone ruin with recommendations for stabilization.

Dr. Rutherford asked Mr. McDonald what his recommendation was. Mr. McDonald responded that any of these options would be very helpful regarding future management and stewardship of the property.

Chair Fairfax suggested the Board consider all three options and include a stabilization plan for the ruins.

With a motion to approve Recommended Remediation Options #1-3, 1. National Register of Historic Places nomination form update; 2. Archaeological Investigations at the two-part frame overseer's house; 3. Archaeological management plan and predictive model for the entire property, to include an assessment of the stone building ruins and recommendations for stabilization by Chair Fairfax and a second by Rutherford, all members voted in the affirmative.

Easements Recorded Since the June 2023 BHR Meeting

Ms. Melinat briefed the Board about the following recently recorded easements:

1. Perreault Tract, Deep Bottom II Battlefield, Henrico County

Easement Donor: Richmond Battlefields Association

Acreage: ±2.724 acres

Grant Funds Awarded: Virginia Battlefield Preservation Fund

Recorded July 27, 2023

2. Haskins Tract, New Market Battlefield, Henrico County

Easement Donor: CRLC Land Holdings, LLC

Acreage: ±49.09 acres

Grant Funds Awarded: American Battlefield Protection Program, Virginia Land Conservation Foundation

Recorded August 29, 2023

Board Comments Summary:

No comments

BLACK INDIGINEOUS, AND PEOPLE OF COLOR (BIPOC) HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND GRANTS

Ms. Langan briefed the Board about the status of the BIPOC grant awards. Originally, this portion of the agenda was intended to be a summary of recommended awards. Award announcements are now on pause until the legislative correction can be made. However, the applicants will not go through the process again. Ms. Langan summarized the process that applicants went through. Recommendations are ready. Hopefully, the recommendations will be presented at December meeting. However, it could be as late as April before the change is made in the legislation; therefore, delaying it further.

Board Comments Summary:

No comments

With a motion to adjourn the meeting by Vice Chair Lemon and a second by Jorjani, all members voted in the affirmative.

Chair Fairfax adjourned the meeting of the Board of Historic Resources at 2:49 p.m.

STATE REVIEW BOARD

The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, Conference Room 205 (2nd Floor), 150 Slayton Avenue,
Danville, VA 24540

State Review Board Members Present

Chair John Mullen
Vice-Chair Dr. Jody L. Allen
Dr. Eleanor Breen
Jeffrey E. Klee
Greg Rutledge
Carol Shull
Dr. Larissa M Smith

State Review Board Members Absent

Department of Historic Resources Staff Present

Julie Langan
Amanda Terrell
Lena McDonald
Joanna McKnight
Michael Pulice
Aubrey Von Lindern
Marc Wagner
LaToya Gray-Sparks

Other State Agency Staff Present:

none

Guests (from attendees list in Webex and sign-in sheets):

Chair Mullen called the meeting to order at ____ p.m. for discussion and consideration of the Preliminary Information Forms (informal guidance session).

The following Preliminary Information Forms were *endorsed* by acclamation, unless otherwise noted, with the following comments. Note that the order below follows the agenda, not the order as presented during the meeting; Preliminary Information Forms for which guests were present at the meeting were presented first. The Board approved Preliminary Information Forms by voice vote.

Western Region.....presented by Michael Pulice

1. Buena Vista Paper Company, City of Buena Vista, DHR No. 103-5192, Criteria A and C
The board members suggested that the property’s historic context could demonstrate the property has regional or statewide significance but additional research is needed.
2. Δ Counter Ridge School, Bedford County, DHR No. 009-5849, Criteria A and C
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the property’s significance.
3. Cummins Farm, Rockbridge County, DHR No. 081-0230, Criterion C
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the property’s significance.
4. Gish-Nininger House, Botetourt County, DHR No. 011-0008, Criterion C
5. Δ, ** Hunton Branch YMCA, City of Lynchburg, DHR No. 118-0225-5734, Criteria A and C
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the property’s significance.
6. Jesse Cox House, Grayson County, DHR No. 038-5189, Criterion C
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the property’s significance.
7. Mennefer/Winlyme Lodge, Alleghany County, DHR No. 003-0130, Criteria A and C
The property’s labor history and use as housing both for managers and workers warrant further research.
8. Shelhorse-Wydner Farm, Pittsylvania County, DHR No. 071-6384, Criteria A and C
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the property’s significance.
9. ** Sta-Kleen Bakery, City of Lynchburg, DHR No. 118-5734, Criterion A
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the property’s significance.
10. Vinton Downtown Historic District, Town of Vinton, Roanoke County, DHR No. 149-5010, Criterion A
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the property’s significance.
11. William Johnston House, City of Salem, DHR No. 129-5173, Criterion C
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the property’s significance.

Northern Region.....presented by Aubrey Von Lindern

1. ** First Baptist Church of Watson, Loudoun County, DHR No. 053-5087-0009, Criterion A and Criteria Considerations A and D
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the property’s significance.
2. Δ Ida Mae Francis Tourist House, City of Harrisonburg, DHR No. 115-0430, Criterion A and C
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the property’s significance.

3. Kernstown Battlefield Historic District, Frederick County, DHR No. 034-0003, Criterion A
The historic district includes two tracts that are discontinuous. The board members noted that the battlefield has archaeological potential in areas that have not been disturbed.
4. Mt. Crawford Historic District, Rockingham County, DHR No. 264-0001, Criteria A and C
The historic district has three cemeteries for which ownership information is needed.

Eastern Region.....presented by Marc Wagner and Joanna McKnight

1. ** 37th Street Beach Cottage Historic District, City of Virginia Beach, DHR No. 134-6044, Criteria A and C
The general concern from Board members was that there be adequate context that makes clear that these three cottages are rare survivors on the original old resort area of Virginia Beach. Consultant Marcus Pollard was present to answer questions. The matter was approved by the Board to go forward without any changes to the proposed Criteria, POS, AOS or score.
2. Δ, *** Campostella Heights, City of Norfolk, DHR No. 122-1200, Criteria A and C
The matter was approved by the Board to go forward without any changes to the proposed Criteria, POS, AOS or score.
3. ** Fan Area Historic District Boundary Increase, City of Richmond, DHR No. 127-8130, Criteria A and C
The matter of Virginia Commonwealth University’s ownership of properties arose as a concern since they have redeveloped a lot of the area from the 1960s to present. Wagner noted that before any nomination comes forward, there would need to be discussions with the University about the concept. The matter was approved by the Board to go forward without any changes to the proposed Criteria, POS, AOS or score.
4. Δ, ** Hickory Hill School, City of Richmond, DHR No. 127-0434, Criteria A, B, and C
Authors/sponsors Charles Poole and Monica Esperanza attended virtually and both spoke. Board member Larissa Smith noted all of the research aids available about notable school principal James Spencer, who was active in central Virginia civil rights. The matter was approved by the Board to go forward without any changes to the proposed Criteria, POS, AOS or score.
5. Hundley Hall, Essex County, DHR No. 028-0019, Criteria A and C
Board Members Mullen and Breen asked about potential archaeology. Wagner noted that there is high potential in the work yard and near farm area. Shull expressed concern about the store building’s loss of integrity. Wagner noted that it has a minimum of authentic fabric. The matter was approved by the Board to go forward without any changes to the proposed Criteria, POS, AOS or score.
6. Δ, **, % Mary F. Ballentine Home for the Aged/ Phyllis Wheatley YWCA Branch Building, Norfolk State University, City of Norfolk, DHR No. 122-0101, Criteria A and C
The general concern from Board members was about the lack of interior integrity. Members Shull, Klee and Rutledge asked to see as many of the interiors as DHR had, some were not in the presentation. Board members agreed that the building was likely eligible on rarity, but a strong case for the social history needed to be made to make up for the lack of interior physical integrity. The presentation included support materials given to staff from Historic Resources Board member Colita Fairfax (Norfolk State University). Wagner read part of her support letter. Consultant Marcus Pollard was present to answer questions. The matter was approved by the Board to go forward without any changes to the proposed Criteria, POS, AOS or score.
7. Buena Vista Paper Company, City of Buena Vista, DHR No. 103-5192, Criteria A and C
Board member Rutledge asked if there were any other paper mills in Virginia from the period that were as intact as this one. Staff replied that they did not know of any.

8. Δ Counter Ridge School, Bedford County, DHR No. 009-5849, Criteria A and C
Board member Smith noted that the school was built after what is known as the equalization period, but that the story was essentially the same as actual equalization schools.
9. Cummins Farm, Rockbridge County, DHR No. 081-0230, Criterion C
Board member Klee remarked that the Cummins House was an unusually intact example of a stone house from the period.
10. Gish-Nininger House, Botetourt County, DHR No. 011-0008, Criterion C
Board member Klee asked if the roof framing of the house is original and whether or not it reflected the German origin of its builders. Staff member Pulice noted that photos on-hand were not conclusive.
11. Δ, ** Hunton Branch YMCA, City of Lynchburg, DHR No. 118-0225-5734, Criteria A and C
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the property's significance.
12. Jesse Cox House, Grayson County, DHR No. 038-5189, Criterion C
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the property's significance.
13. Mennefer/Winlyme Lodge, Alleghany County, DHR No. 003-0130, Criteria A and C
Board members Rutledge and Shull asked if there were any other such company management houses in Virginia from the period. Staff replied that they did not know of any.
14. Shelhorse-Wydner Farm, Pittsylvania County, DHR No. 071-6384, Criteria A and C
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the property's significance.
15. ** Sta-Kleen Bakery, City of Lynchburg, DHR No. 118-5734, Criterion A
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the property's significance.
16. Vinton Downtown Historic District, Town of Vinton, Roanoke County, DHR No. 149-5010, Criterion A
Board members seemed to agree the district was not eligible under Criterion C, but no specific comments made by the board except to acknowledge the property's significance under Criterion A.
17. William Johnston House, City of Salem, DHR No. 129-5173, Criterion C
Board member Shull commented that the property might potentially be eligible under Criterion B for William Johnston, a prominent businessman and city councilman. Staff member Pulice responded that he and the evaluation committee felt more information about him was needed.
18. ** First Baptist Church of Watson, Loudoun County, DHR No. 053-5087-0009, Criterion A and Criteria Considerations A and D
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the property's significance.
19. Δ Ida Mae Francis Tourist House, City of Harrisonburg, DHR No. 115-0430, Criterion A and C
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the property's significance.
20. Kernstown Battlefield Historic District, Frederick County, DHR No. 034-0003, Criterion A
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the district's significance.
21. Mt. Crawford Historic District, Rockingham County, DHR No. 264-0001, Criteria A and C
No comments made by the board except to acknowledge the district's significance.

Chair Mullen requested a motion for the SRB to adjourn. Vice-Chair Allen made the motion and Mr. Klee seconded. The SRB meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

- * Cost Share Sponsored Project
- ** Certified Local Government
- *** Certified Local Government Grant Sponsored Project
 - Associated with African American History
- # Associated with Virginia Indian History
- ^ ESHPF Grant-Funded Project
- % State Stewardship
- > National Park Service Grant-Funded Project
- } Sponsored by Local Government (no grants utilized)
- < Threatened Sites state grant
- { African American Outreach state grant
- | National Trust for Historic Preservation private grant
- \ BIPOC application
- \$ Associated with a Multiple Property Documentation Form