

Agenda
City of Charlottesville
Historic Resources Committee
Regular Meeting
October 10, 2025 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
NDS Conference Room



HRC Members

Julie Basic (Chair)	Caden Martz	Elizabeth Shillue
Bill Bergen	Matthew Morrill	Dede Smith (ex off)
Denny Berry (Vice-Chair)	Lucy Pola	Lloyd Snook (Council, ad hoc)
Olivia Brown (ACHS, ex off)	Kate Richardson (staff)	Jeff Werner (lead staff)
Hannah Keller (FoC, ex off)	Jalane Schmidt	Richard Guy Wilson

1. Call to order [10:00]
2. Approval of the agenda
3. September meeting review and minutes [Attached to this agenda.]
4. Public Comment* [10:10, 5 minutes]
5. Beloved Cville [10:15, 10 minutes]
 - Update from E. Shillue
6. Joint ACHS Lecture Series [10:25, 10 minutes]
 - Update – O. Brown
7. Review of Historical Surveys [10:35, 10 minutes]
 - Chair check-in
8. Downtown Mall 50th Anniversary 2026 [10:45, 20 minutes]
 - Progress update – L. Pola, D. Berry & H. Keller
9. Liberty Bell [11:05, 10 minutes]
 - Discussion of this undervalued resource in Charlottesville
10. Monticello Marker [11:15, 10 minutes]
 - Evaluation of options re: correction
11. Internship with ACHS [11:25, 10 minutes]
 - UVA/IPP opportunity
12. City Schools Plaques Proposal [11:35, 10 minutes]
 - Discuss comments and response to citizen inquiry

13. Revised Downtown Walking Tour Map [11:45, 5 minutes]
- Planning for dispersal of new maps
 - Status of digital files, revised PDF (for City website)

14. Long Range Planning Check-in [11:50, 10 minutes]
- Ose Akinlotan, NDS Long Range Planning Manager

15. BPAC Walk Updates [12:05, 5 minutes]
- Reminder- walk for 10th & Page is October 12th at 1pm
November – J. Basic (Venable)
December – D. Berry (N. Downtown)

16. Staff Updates [12:10, 10 minutes]
- Staff questions/discussion
 - Honorary street name and plaque request - Mel's
 - Proposed IPP – 801 West Street
 - New Boards & Commissions platform

17. Announcements [12:20, 5 minutes]
- Upcoming items of interest to HRC.

6. Adjourn: [12:25 PM]

Mission Statement

The mission of the Charlottesville Historic Resources Committee is to advocate for historic preservation; to promote an appreciation of local historic resources, both tangible and intangible; and to encourage and coordinate, with appropriate municipal agencies, civic organizations, institutions and individual scholars, the documentation and interpretation of local history.

The Charlottesville Historic Resources Committee achieves its mission through:

- Education
- Public commemoration (historic plaques, signs, markers, and civic festivals and ceremonies)
- Publications (maps, brochures, tour books, and digital media)
- Public meetings (planning sessions, workshops, and lectures)
- And through other means.

* Regarding public comment(s). The HRC values community participation and input and welcomes public comments at meetings. At the beginning of each meeting, not more than 10 minutes will be allowed for the introduction of any guests and public comments. Speakers may speak for a maximum of two-minutes and shall begin by identifying their name and address. The intent is to allow public input; not initiate a dialogue or debate with the committee. Subsequent to this meeting segment, by majority approval the HRC may amend the agenda to allow further discussion; however, the motion should also establish a time limit for that discussion. Additionally, prior to adjourning--and applying the conditions above--the HRC may allow a period not to exceed five minutes for public comment.

**Individuals with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate in the public meeting may call the ADA Coordinator at (434) 970-3182 or submit a request via email to ada@charlottesville.gov. The City of Charlottesville requests that you provide a 48 hour notice so that proper arrangements may be made.

Minutes
City of Charlottesville
Historic Resources Committee
Regular Meeting
September 12, 2025 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
NDS Conference Room



HRC Members

Julie Basic (Chair)	Caden Martz	Elizabeth Shillue
Bill Bergen	Matthew Morrill	Dede Smith (ex off)
Denny Berry (Vice-Chair)	Lucy Pola	Lloyd Snook (Council, ad hoc)
Olivia Brown (ACHS, ex off)	Kate Richardson (staff)	Jeff Werner (lead staff)
Hannah Keller (FOC, ex off)	Jalane Schmidt	Richard Guy Wilson

1. Call to order [10:00]
 - Introductions
 - Thank you to Gennie Keller for serviceChair comments: Thank you to Gennie Keller for her dedication and service to the Historic Resources Committee for many years. We welcome her back at any time and her attendance as a member of the public and informal advisor.
2. Approval of the agenda

Request from D. Smith to amend the agenda (addition of item regarding the *Front Porch Swings to Patios* interview tapes). Motion to amend and approve the agenda: Mr. Bergen. Second: Ms. Pola. Vote: 5-0
3. August meeting review and minutes

Motion to approve the August minutes: Mr. Bergen. Second: Mr. Morrill. Vote: 5-0
4. Public Comment* [10:10, 5 minutes]

Chuck Moran spoke regarding his recent proposal to the School Board on the placement of commemorative plaques for the four renamed Charlottesville city schools. (Handout attached.)

Gennie Keller provided an update from Preservation Piedmont on upcoming events, and let the group know that Will Rourke had completed documentation of the interior of the Queen Anne/Arts & Crafts home at 111 Lankford Avenue. This was conducted for recordation purposes given an active demolition permit has been filed with NDS. Suggested the HRC page on the NDS (city) website could feature the property and/or additional information on the neighborhood.
5. Chair Update [10:15, 15 minutes]
 - Council meeting September 2, 2025Chair J. Basic summarized the HRC annual report presentation to Council regarding past, current and future projects which are and have been the focus of the Committee's public service.
6. Mall 50th Anniversary 2026 [10:30, 20 minutes]
 - Updates
 - Committee discussion and planning

L. Pola and H. Keller provided the group with an overview and update on the working partnership with Friends of Downtown Cville:

- Kick-off for the public survey about the Mall (attached) will begin in tandem with the United Way Day of Caring September 17th.
- FoC are nearing completion of a survey collection platform that will aid in recordation and storage. This information will be shared with the HRC as the project progresses.
- Suggested edits to survey language.
- Suggestion that the survey be distributed to city schools if we can coordinate, to collect feedback from younger residents.
- O. Brown again offered ACHS as a long-term repository of the survey data.
- Brenda Kelly (City Downtown Strategy Manager) will inquire on the ability to utilize the Transit Center for exhibits and activities associated with the Mall's 50th celebrations.
- Working timeline: October 2025- key month to book venues and implement survey collection in earnest across multiple mediums (web, in-person, in print.)
- H. Keller informed the group the FoC and Monticello made a co-bid to host the VA250 Mobile Museum on the Downtown Mall. If granted, they were hopeful it could be scheduled around Founder's Day, April 2026.

7. BPAC Walk Updates [10:50, 5 minutes]

- Reminder- walk for JPA is September 14th at 1pm
- October – D. Smith (10th & Page)
- November – J. Basic (Venable)
- December – D. Berry (N. Downtown)

The group reviewed the upcoming walk schedule. All the flyers are available here:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19-fbrKQMBNbx8aH8f6kjdyiniP3oeyCcd?usp=sharing>

Amended agenda item:

Front Porch Swings to Patios Oral History Tapes

The collection of 1980's oral histories have been digitized by D. Smith and edited for background noise. Of the original 73 interview tapes, 50 are in possession of the City (NDS), 3 tapes need to be repaired, and the remainder are likely at UVA, as they were placed online via the [Race and Place website](#).

8. HRC Budget [10:55, 10 minutes]

- Budgetary discussion and priorities
- Reviewed the Committee's allocations for FY26. The group agreed on the importance of updating City Council annually (or more frequently if necessary) so leaders are knowledgeable about HRC efforts and how funds are utilized.

9. Joint ACHS Lecture Series [11:05, 20 minutes]

- Update – O. Brown
- City tours availability/information

10. Staff Updates [11:25, 30 minutes]

- Staff questions/discussion
 - Decision on Wertenbaker House demolition appeal
 - Vote outcome (Council upheld the BAR denial) and brief review of the meeting.
 - Map reprint
 - Map has been ordered for printing; 1,500 copies. Should receive by end of September.
 - Honorary street name and plaque request - Mel's [Add to October Agenda.]

- Swan Tavern artifact assemblage update
DHR will be the repository for the collection. City, County and Rivanna Archaeological Services will undertake next steps on the formal agreement and transfer.
- Proposed IPP – 801 West Street
Initiation of this proposal is heading to the Planning Commission.
- Review of surveys for the Historic Downtown Walking Tour Map
K. Richardson provided the archived surveys of properties listed on the Historic Downtown Walking Tour Map for review and asked for input on what information may be missing, and what (if any) information should be redacted or corrected.

11. Announcements [11:55, 5 minutes]

- Upcoming items of interest to HRC.

12. Adjourn: 11:54 AM

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The Charlottesville Historical Resources Committee and Friends of Charlottesville are conducting a survey with residents, business owners, and visitors leading up to the 50th Anniversary of The Downtown Mall.

This place means many things to many people.

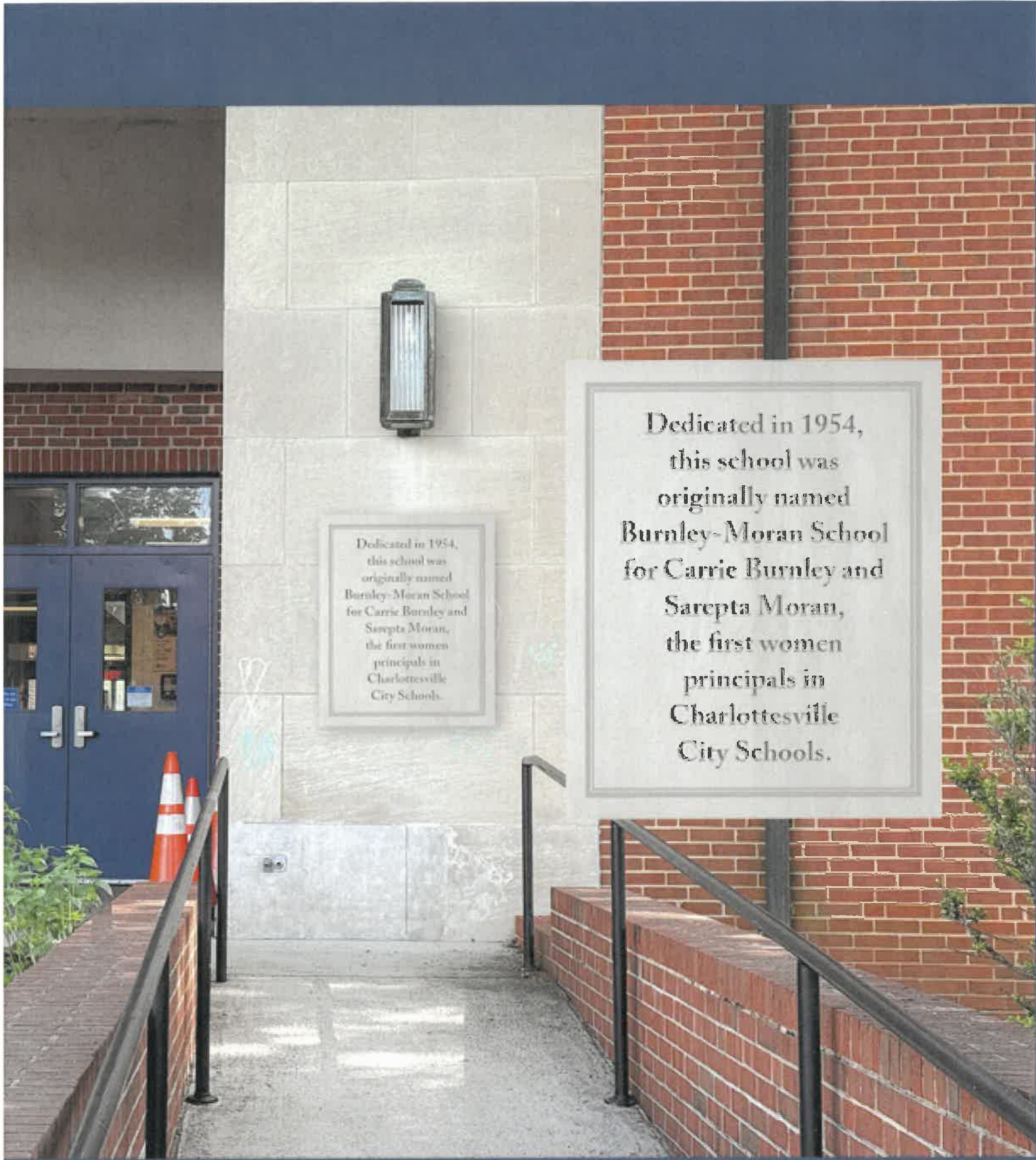
We want to hear from you.

Tell us / Tell me your most meaningful memory about the Downtown Mall. ~~This memory can be joyful, quiet, or special just to~~ that is significant to you.

What excites you about the Downtown Mall?

What do you hope about the future of the Downtown Mall?

(Comment from marketing professional to support these questions: You will get better, more in-depth answers with fewer, more targeted questions including examples or descriptions. Your goals are recollections and future thinking. All questions should serve those goals with language rooted in evocative human experiences.)



Commemorative Plaque Concept for the Four Renamed Charlottesville City Schools

Let's preserve our history.
Chuck Moran
chuck@chuckmoran.com