

Agenda
City of Charlottesville
Historic Resources Committee
Regular Meeting
February 13, 2026 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
NDS Conference Room



HRC Members

Julie Basic (Chair), Denny Berry (Vice-Chair), Bill Bergen, Olivia Brown (ACHS), Hannah Keller (FoC), Caden Martz, Matthew Morrill, Lucy Pola, Jalane Schmidt, Elizabeth Shillue, Lloyd Snook (Council), Jen Trompetter, Richard Guy Wilson.
Staff: Jeff Werner & Kate Richardson

1. **Call to order** [10:00]
2. **Approval of the Agenda**
3. **Meeting Minutes** December 2025 & January 2026 [Attached to this agenda.]
4. **Public Comment*** [10:10, 5 minutes]
5. **Downtown Mall 50th Anniversary 2026** [10:15, 15 minutes]
 - General update – L. Pola & D. Berry
6. **Beloved Cville** [10:30, 10 minutes]
 - Update – E. Shillue
7. **ACHS** [10:40, 10 minutes]
 - Update – O. Brown
8. **Liberty Bell Replica** [10:50, 10 minutes]
 - Discussion and update
9. **Work Plan Review for 2026** [11:00, 20 minutes]
 - New project follow-up
 - Next steps & coordination
10. **Honoring Individuals in our Community** [11:20, 20 minutes]
 - Honorary streets
 - Research and citations
 - HRC policy review
10. **Neighborhood Walking Tours - BPAC** [11:40, 5 minutes]
 - February - Johnson Village (J. Basic completed flyer)
 - March - The Meadows

- June - Locust Grove
- July - Lewis Mountain
- September - Martha Jefferson & Little High
- October - Barracks Rd/Rugby
- December - Belmont

11. **Staff Discussion** [11:45, 10 minutes]

- ADC District Guidelines
- Preservation Plan
- Appeals update
- Additional staff notes

12. **Adjourn:** [promptly at 12:00 PM]

Mission Statement

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- Public commemoration (historic plaques, signs, markers, and civic festivals and ceremonies)
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- And through other means.

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Agenda
City of Charlottesville
Historic Resources Committee
Regular Meeting
December 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]
2. Approval of the agenda
Motion: D. Berry
Second: L. Pola
Vote to approve agenda 6-0
3. October meeting review and minutes; November discussion notes
Motion to approve minutes: B.Bergen
Second: R.Wilson
4. Public Comment* [10:10, 5 minutes]
Freeman Allan spoke to the HRC on their Court Square Memorialization Project and efforts to further tell the story of enslaved individuals and their experiences living in Charlottesville. Mr. Allan then read a letter from another community member - *letter not provided to staff*.
5. Beloved Cville [10:15, 10 minutes]
 - Update from E. Shillue
Elizabeth Shilue provides an update on Beloved Cville, details: Google Earth tour of sites in Charlottesville. Includes videos about the sites. [6 yr. project] Attended a professional development day with Albemarle County schools for classroom enrichment for students. Launched a new project – new documentary film about Sarah Kelley, accomplished citizen from 10th & Page. A film by ‘Field Studio’ = Hannah Ayres.
6. ACHS Check-in: O. Brown [10:25, 10 minutes]
 - Joint ACHS Lecture Series
 - Mary Hemings – Sponsor request for historical marker
40 people attended December’s Lecture. Recycle notes from November’s minutes as this is the same update. Early Feb. next lecture date re: Jordie Leandro. Venue TBD.

ACHS program series 8 parts to go along with VA250 “Fighting for Freedom” Jan. 22nd Hamilton Jefferson debate. Center at Belvedere - look for tickets Monday the 22nd. February panel of descendant organizations.

Mary Hemmings chapter of DAR would like to have a memorial or marker/honorary feature for Mary Hemmings in Charlottesville. Suggestions: Bring something formally to the HRC.

7. Review of Historical Surveys [10:35, 5 minutes]

- Chair check-in

Review to continue in February 2026.

8. Downtown Mall 50th Anniversary 2026 [10:40, 35 minutes]

- Progress update – L. Pola, D. Berry & H. Keller

Minimal survey responses currently. [25 so far] Access only through Google- Google form was chosen as it allows photo uploads. Suggest removing the photos link so anyone can respond without registering for a Google account. Can add line if wanting to send photographs send to “preservation@charlottesville.gov”

The Center has approved to send the survey out via their newsletter.

The Paramount has approved HRC to distribute the survey prior to performances.

Idea for presentation of survey results and promotion: vinyl decals displayed on the Mall floor to advertise/promote events.

Staff requested Communication team post the survey on their social media accounts and do a press release. Posting occurred in late December.

Timeline of the Mall, installation: Spring to Fall.

Kiosks- exhibiting specific content geared toward the 250 celebration. Olivia Brown to write the content. Ideas on how to get this lift accomplished? Contact Chris Engle about tri-paneled signs repurposed- J. Werner to reach out to C. Engle.

9. Liberty Bell [11:15, 10 minutes]

- Discussion of this undervalued resource in Charlottesville

Review of council decision 1980; Currently the local Boy Scout Troop rings the bell each 4th of July.

10. Monticello Marker [11:25, 10 minutes]

- ~~Evaluation of options re: correction~~
- ~~Information from DHR~~

The Albemarle County preservation committee did not meet in November so there was no opportunity to discuss this topic.

11. Downtown Walking Tour Map & QR Code Card [11:35, 10 minutes]

- ~~Distributions of additional maps, if necessary~~
- ~~“Business card” mock-ups to review~~

- ~~HRC webpage content needed~~

Updates to be completed after the January HRC meeting.

12. BPAC Walk Updates [11:45, 5 minutes]

- December – review/update from D. Berry (N. Downtown)
- 2026 monthly route itinerary

Project on-going. Please consider volunteering your time to join a walk.

13. Naming Requests [11:50, 10 minutes]

- ~~Discussion on drafting a process~~
- ~~CLG example~~

Tabled until after the new year.

14. Staff Updates [12:00, 10 minutes]

- Staff questions/discussion
 - Proposed IPP – 801 West Street
 - Update on Design Guidelines revision process
 - Priority areas; top concerns?

15. Announcements [12:10, 5 minutes]

- ~~Upcoming items of interest to HRC.~~
- ~~Link to [LAXART exhibit](#)~~

No discussion as the meeting adjourned promptly at 12 noon.

6. Adjourn: [12:00 PM]

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Meeting Minutes
City of Charlottesville
Historic Resources Committee
Regular Meeting
January 9, 2026 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
NDS Conference Room



HRC Members
(absent)

Julie Basic (Chair), Denny Berry (Vice-Chair), Bill Bergen, Olivia Brown (ACHS), ~~Hannah Keller (FoC)~~, Caden Martz, Matthew Morrill, Lucy Pola, ~~Jalane Schmidt~~, Elizabeth Shillue, ~~Lloyd Snook (Council)~~, Jen Trompetter, Richard Guy Wilson.
Staff: Jeff Werner & Kate Richardson

1. **Call to order** [10:00]

2. **Approval of the agenda**

Administrative and Staff Notes:

- HRC welcomed new member Jen Trompetter
- Current HRC members whose terms expire June 2026: Bill Bergen; Jen Trompetter; Caden Martz; Lucy Pola; Jalane Schmidt; and Richard Guy Wilson
 - [Link to Clerk of Council](#) for questions about re-applying for HRC (Maxicella Robinson)
- HRC would like to plan a field trip to the ACHS basement
- Among the other links to resources in this email, always refer to the JMRL "[Local History Documents](#)" page
- O. Brown notes that ACHS has a great repository of local history references and she is happy to help HRC find resources for BPAC walk fliers, architectural survey reviews, etc.
- City Intern S. Kim is organizing and creating an archival system for the City's historic materials, including hard copy documents, and is digitizing files from the Assessor's Office relating the IPPs.
- Azalea Park property ([the New Roots/IRC Garden](#)) was purchased by the City
- [Undocumented cemetery](#) located at Azalea Dr. and Garden Dr.
- J. Werner asks if anyone has historical information about [property near Longwood Drive](#)

3. ~~**December meeting review and minutes**~~ [Minutes provided prior to 1/9.]

4. **Public Comment*** [10:10, 5 minutes]

Ms. Genevieve Keller

- Noted that building demolitions seem to be picking up; could HRC use the ca. 1877 Gray's Map to help identify which features are still extant from that period [and thus in need of additional protections?]
 - i. Can we "condition" these properties [with code protections] before they come up for demolition?
- Could HRC begin to identify physical sites associated with 20th-century civil rights leaders? Is Beloved Cville and/or Jefferson Center already doing this?
- Could HRC put effort toward placing National Register plaques at various historic districts?
- Believes there should be incentives and grants available [to promote] historic preservation
- Feels that the City should have some obligation to update historic registers and architectural surveys to reflect monuments and statuary that were removed
- Asks if Westhaven can be documented [as it is an historic resource that will be demolished soon due to impending redevelopment]
 - i. J. Werner noted that it was reviewed in the 1990s via interns supervised by M.J. Scala; it is also listed as part of the [10th & Page Preliminary Information Form \(PIF\)](#)
- [Preservation Virginia](#) will be sponsoring their annual [Legislative Reception on January 29th](#)

5. **Downtown Mall 50th Anniversary 2026** [10:15, 10 minutes]

- General update – L. Pola & D. Berry

Everyone should be actively pushing out the survey to obtain more responses. Very few responses have come in at this time (35).

Here is the [document with the questions](#) for printing out.

Here is the [google form with the option to submit photos](#).

Here is the [spreadsheet where the responses will populate](#).

Access the [spreadsheet with the brainstormed locations](#) of where to solicit stories.

6. **Work Plan Discussion for 2026** [10:25]

Work plan summary organized by the HRC Chair:

CURRENT PROJECT UPDATES

- O. Brown reminded us about the Jody Lahendro lecture concerning Black Churches; ACHS will be collaborating with Beloved Cville; there may be a late-summer lecture about the award-winning addition to Beth Israel
- Liberty Bell – J. Werner noted that the Fire Station will be making changes to their parking lot and therefore addressing the Liberty Bell will be a priority; there are Halprin Chairs at the firehouse; the bell is still rung every 4th of July by local Boy Scouts.
- Monticello Marker - on hold until Albemarle County historic committee meets
- Swan Tavern - tabled until decision is made about artifacts

PROJECTS REMOVED FROM CONSIDERATION

- 2406 Hillwood was an error; no projects or work related to this house. This was likely added as an example of mid-century architecture
- Music History is being undertaken by ACHS; HRC will support as needed
- Cville Parks & Recreation History may evolve into HRC support for Pen Park evaluation support
 - Gregg Bleam's 1997 City as a Park document offers a comprehensive history of City Parks but it is out of date
- Vinegar Hill Park project never fully materialized as it was envisioned several years ago
 - 2020 HRC members replied to City Council that they supported the effort but the expense was more than HRC could afford
 - HRC may support but should hold off until we are asked to comment
- Swords to Plowshares is currently working with City Parks & Rec to visit parks and determine options for placing monuments and statuary
 - HRC may support but should hold off until we are asked to comment
- Legacy of Enslaved People at Court Square is still evolving possibly via Parks & Rec
 - HRC may support but should hold off until we are asked to comment
- Music History – O. Brown noted that ACHS is working with other organizations to complete this work
 - HRC may support but should hold off until we are asked to comment

FUTURE PROJECTS

- Mid-Century Modern architectural surveys

- DHR has expressed interest in surveying the Greenbrier Neighborhood
- This project would be completed by professional consultants with support from HRC such as community outreach and financial support
- J. Werner noted that several buildings of this era were surveyed in the 1980s
- Identifying New Historic Properties & Areas
 - L. Pola asked if we should be looking at new areas to designate
 - J. Werner noted that he and K. Richardson are already looking at that as part of the Preservation Guidelines update
 - HRC's role would be to provide feedback on drafts
- Review existing Design Guidelines
- Review drafts of Preservation Plan
- Collaborations with Beloved Cville
- Categorize Places Per Theme for Storytelling
- Revisit Court Square signage (created in 2017) and Court Square Map
- Update and/or reprint From Porch Swings to Patio oral history (see also LINK to download 101M document from library)

WALKING TOUR MAP UPDATE

- K. Richardson has a mock-ups of a QR code business card; she can share a draft with HRC before printing.
- Previous item for JLB follow-up: Friends of Cville offered to contact Roy Van Doorn at City Select who may be able to place maps in all tourism locations (click here for their Distribution Network)
- LINK TO NEW MAP

CVILLE BPAC COMMUNITY WALK INFO

Please use this link to access all 12 of the BPAC Community Walk flyers produced by HRC: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19-fbrKQMBNbx8aH8f6kjdyniP3oeyCcd?usp=sharing>

Link to 2026 Walks has not been updated, but here is the list taken from social media. We will need [NEW FLIERS](#) for Johnson Village (now completed); The Meadows; Lewis Mountain; Martha Jefferson; Barracks/Rugby; and Belmont

6. **Adjourn:** [12:00 PM]

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