

**Agenda**  
**City of Charlottesville**  
**Historic Resources Committee**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**March 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, Lucy Pola, Elizabeth Shillue, Lloyd Snook (Council), Jen Trompetter, Richard Guy Wilson.  
Staff: Jeff Werner & Kate Richardson

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1. **Call to order** [10:00]
2. **Approval of the Agenda**
3. **Meeting Minutes** February 2026 [Attached to this agenda.]
4. **Public Comment**\* [10:10, 5 minutes]
5. **Downtown Mall 50<sup>th</sup> 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. **Monticello Historical Marker** [10:50, 5 minutes]
  - Update from B. Bergen
9. **Liberty Bell Replica** [10:55; 10 minutes]
  - Updates and discussion
10. **Work Plan Review for 2026** [11:05, 5 minutes]
  - Review of February meeting discussion
11. **Honoring Individuals in our Community** [11:10, 15 minutes]
  - Policy review/summary
  - Discussion/Questions
11. **Neighborhood Walking Tours - BPAC** [11:25, 5 minutes]

- Next walk is this Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> through The Meadows. [Meet at Best Buy bike rack at 10AM]
- June - Locust Grove (J. Trompetter)
- July - Lewis Mountain (B. Bergen)
- September - Martha Jefferson & Little High (volunteer needed)
- October - Barracks Rd/Rugby (L. Pola)
- December – Belmont (volunteer needed)

12. **Anniversaries of Note** [11:30, 20 minutes]

- Sharing of ideas and discussion
- 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 2017

13. **Staff Discussion** [11:50, 10 minutes]

- Preservation Fair – May 5<sup>th</sup>
- Mall 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary plaque

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

### **Mission Statement**

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The Charlottesville Historic Resources Committee achieves its mission through:

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- 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.

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**Meeting Minutes**  
**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

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1. **Call to order** [10:00]
2. **Approval of the Agenda**
3. **Meeting Minutes** December & January Minutes approved unanimously.
4. **Public Comment**
  - Mr. Freeman Allan
    - Mr. Allan requested the HRC assist with providing language for a new slave auction block plaque if City Council elects to restore block
    - He asked that we place this request on the March agenda for discussion
  - Ms. Genevieve Keller
    - Ms. Keller promoted the upcoming ACHS lecture by Jody Lahendro on **March 2, 2026** at Trinity Episcopal Church, 6 pm
      - "Historic Preservation Series - Preserving Black History in Rural Virginia: Preserving Black Schools and Churches"
      - Tickets available [HERE](#) (free event)
      - [Holsinger photos](#) will also be on exhibit at Trinity Church
        - [On-Line Catalog of photos](#) available for those who cannot attend but want to see the images
      - Trinity Episcopal: 1118 Preston Avenue • Charlottesville, Virginia 22903
    - Ms. Keller noted the presence of [House Bill 447](#) "Local Government or Board of Zoning Appeals Land Use Decisions; Third-Party Standing Requirements"
      - Layman's explanation: <https://www.venable.com/insights/publications/2026/01/virginia-general-assembly-introduces-hb-447>
        - define[s] when a person without a direct ownership interest in property may challenge local land use decisions (including zoning and Board of Zoning Appeals decisions) in circuit court"
        - "This will eliminate the standing of many potential plaintiffs challenging land use decisions."
5. **Downtown Mall 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2026**
  - General update – L. Pola & D. BerryRequest from Sandy Hausman (VPM) for interview re: DT Mall 50<sup>th</sup>.  
Survey collection will end on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

- Vet all responses and provide recommended quote selections to HRC prior to April 10th HRC Meeting
- Exhibit design May-June
- Exhibits displayed June-July
- Expanded Fridays After Five celebration on **July 3rd** to include speakers and Lantern Parade
  - Block party will start at 4:00 pm
  - Lanterns can be created during several community workshops between now and the parade
  - Olivia noted that ACHS has Spirit Walk lanterns to lend
- It appears that the 3-sided kiosks will be used as part of the on-Mall exhibitions
  - How long will fabrication take? (Chris Engle says 2-3 weeks to fabricate)
  - Who will design? (Keep the Mall map on one side, but do 50th celebration graphics on the other 2 sides)
  - How much does it cost?
- Need a **big push to get surveys**; we have 49 surveys at this point and the goal is to get to 100 by March 31
  - Contact Jim Boyd - last person to drive down Mall before it was closed to traffic (Gennie Keller knows him)
- Please share the QR codes, paper surveys, links. etc widely.

## 6. Beloved Cville

- Update – E. Shillue

Information about the DTM 50th Project in Beloved's next newsletter

Beloved continues to provide virtual walking tours

They are collaborating with ACHS on a lecture series

Work continues on the Apostle Kelley/Sarah Ann Kelley documentary film

The sculpture of Apostle Kelley should be ready by May-June and will be presented through a kick-off event.

At some point, the sculpture will be exhibited at Central Library

Please see the recent [unveiling of a statue](#) in Rocky Mount, NC representing Black Civil War veterans.

## 7. ACHS [10:40, 10 minutes]

- Update – O. Brown

Olivia recaps the upcoming lecture by Jody Lahendro on March 2nd (see Public Comments above)

Notes that [Cindy MacLeod](#) will be a future presenter but no date has been set

Promotes next program in the VA250 Fighting for Freedom series:

"Enslaved Voices & The American Dream: What Were They Fighting For?"

Previous "Fighting for Freedom" lecture from January is available via recording

here: <https://youtu.be/a5VIJYZhgM?si=5HHlaCgHnNRcpdtY>

Discussed on-going **Strategic Planning Process** to assess and determine the future path for ACHS

Example questions for feedback:

- What does ACHS currently do that we should keep doing?
- What, if anything, does ACHS currently do that we should stop doing?
- What does ACHS *not* currently do that we should start doing?

## 8. Liberty Bell Replica [10:50, 10 minutes]

- Discussion and update

HRC created a subcommittee to define a mission, goals, objectives, and outcomes for this project (Bill Bergen, Julie Basic, Lucy Pola, and Caden Martz)

A project outline will be created and sent to the subcommittee to kick things off.

It was noted the bell will be run at 2:50 pm on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026 to mark the 250th; O. Brown is reaching out to whomever sent that info to help determine bell ownership.

It was suggested that B. Bergen turn his Bell research paper into an article to be publicly shared

## 9. **Work Plan Review for 2026**

Review of current, in-progress projects.

## 10. **Honoring Individuals in our Community**

- Honorary streets
- Research and citations
- HRC policy review

HRC discussed how individual naming policies might work (in response to several request for HRC to support recognition of both living and deceased individual citizens).

Questions from committee members:

Has HRC done this type of thing before?

Has HRC ever assisted with efforts to rename existing recognitions?

Gennie Keller noted that HRC hosted a public forum about the renaming of Court Square and Market Street Park, but she does not know of a time when HRC directed these efforts.

Lloyd Snook noted that at one time Council was getting many requests for honorary street names but thought that work was referred to HRC.

Jeff Werner noted that Council simply asked HRC for [existing and potential] policies and procedures. Some HRC members felt taking on leadership or support of naming or renaming efforts is a slippery slope; others asked if we could serve simply as a research organization and redirect requests to the proper City agency

An HRC member noted that other HRCs have policies stating that recognition has to "mean something" and should be a posthumous designation

Reference was made to the current U.S. postal stamp [subject selection criteria](#)

It was also noted that HRC may need separate policies for both supporting new names but also removing existing names.

Perhaps HRC does not address individual recognitions in any capacity?

HRC members agreed that they would like to review current policies before making decisions and creating a position statement

## 11. **Neighborhood Walking Tours - BPAC**

<https://url.us.mimecastprotect.com/s/cAFPCBB81OCR8opLtOiKI2CxDr?domain=drive.google.com>

- February - Johnson Village (J. Basic completed flyer)
- March - The Meadows (J. Basic completed flyer)
- 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

J. Werner noted that he may have homed in on the location of the Big Apple Dance Hall near Hartman's Mill Rd. (site listed in the Green Book)(Rory Stolzenberg identified info via an old Daily Progress article)

IPP declaration for 801 West Street is moving forward

Virginia DHR is considering placing State Historical Markers at the [sites of all \[known\] lynchings](#) in Virginia; this would include Charlottesville

The Swan Tavern artifact project continues

Artifact boxes have been reduced down to 26-28 boxes with extraneous materials removed from the collection

DHR requires a \$14,000 fee to store the artifacts; Jeff may be asking HRC to approve allotting a portion of our budget to help defray the cost

The HRC artifact-based school project is on permanent hold and is not a priority for Preservation staff at this time

K. Richardson noted that the City will be holding a Preservation Fair at CitySpace on May 5<sup>th</sup>; details on content and volunteer needs in development

## 12. Adjourn: 12:00 PM

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