

**Agenda**  
**City of Charlottesville**  
**Historic Resources Committee**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**April 10, 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** March 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. **DT Mall Kiosks & FOC Support** [10:50, 10 minutes]
  - Funding item/allocation
9. **ACHS Walking Tour Rack Cards** [11:00, 5 minutes]
  - Funding item/allocation
10. **DHR Stewardship – Swan Tavern Collection** [11:05, 5 minutes]
  - Funding item/allocation
11. **Monticello Historical Marker** [11:10, 5 minutes]
  - Update from B. Bergen
12. **Liberty Bell Replica** [11:15, 10 minutes]
  - Updates and discussion

13. **Honoring Individuals in our Community** [11:25, 15 minutes]

- Review March discussion (see minutes, policy attached)
- Review revised policy (Staff memo to be circulated at April meeting.)

14. **Neighborhood Walking Tours - BPAC** [11:40, 5 minutes]

- April – UVA North Grounds
- May – Rose Hill
- 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

15. **Anniversaries of Note** [11:45, 15 minutes]

- Review of March discussion (see minutes)
- Scoping the documentation effort (10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 2017)

16. **Adjourn:** [12:00 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](mailto:ada@charlottesville.gov) . The City of Charlottesville requests that you provide a 48 hour notice so that proper arrangements may be made.

**Meeting Minutes**  
**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]

Waiting for quorum, meanwhile the group welcomed two members of the public. J. Trompetter arrived at 10:04 AM. Quorum established.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

Removed the update from Beloved Cville since E. Shillue was not present.

3. **Meeting Minutes** February 2026 [Attached to this agenda.]

**Motion:** Mr. Bergen. **Second:** Ms. Pola. **Agenda and minutes approved unanimously.**

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

Gennie Keller – Pending demolition of 314 9<sup>th</sup> St., in Fifeville. A Preservation Piedmont board member is taking photographs of the property for documentation purposes. There was a newspaper article about the gentleman who once lived there; he retired from Railway Express and was a resident for 38 years. Currently owned by Ronald McDonald House.

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

- General update – L. Pola & D. Berry

D. Berry worked a table in the lobby of the Paramount during a show and collected 25 responses. Total submissions now in the 50's.

HRC sub-committee to do first round of review of the collected stories, then come to HRC in April to select which recollections to feature.

O. Brown suggests we coordinate with Friends of Downtown to ensure we are coordinating together on selection of photos and content. (No overlaps, no repetition.) FOC creating panels for all 6 kiosks, one for each decade w/ sponsor content on one side.

Selection of photographs will depend on recollections featured (locations, reference point, names, etc.)

-HRC requests quote for kiosk, so group can approve spending the \$\$\$. [Staff sent cost via email December 2025 = \$250-300 per panel.] Staff will place this item on next Agenda. Lucy and Denny will have a count of the signs required.

-FOC funds allocation, add to the next meeting.

6. ~~**Beloved Cville**~~ [10:30, 10 minutes]

- ~~Update – E. Shillue~~

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

- Update – O. Brown

There was a large turnout for the last Preservation lecture. More than 50 attended despite the yucky weather. Reminder the [lectures are available online \(recording\)](#).

Beloved Community will discuss their virtual tours in an upcoming lecture– scheduled in May TBD. Reminder [Fighting for Freedom series](#) continues. Next lecture is April 16, 2026 at 6PM

1<sup>st</sup> Day of April ACHS will launch new *Walking Tours*.

Rack cards are in development to publicize each tour offered. (Route and photos, w/ room for sponsorship on each rack card.)

O. Brown: Does the HRC want to sponsor a tour?

2026 season

\$1,000 for 1

\$1500 for 2

\$2000 for all 3 tours

HRC members discussed supporting sponsorship of all three tour rack cards; all agreed is it directly aligned with the committee’s mission statement.

The group identified the necessity of either using the existing HRC logo, or crafting a new one.

**J. Trompetter moved to initiate this funding request**, to be placed on the next HRC meeting agenda for a vote in support of funding all 3 tour rack cards.

**Seconded: C. Martz**

**Motion approved unanimously.**

O. Brown will provide pricing at next meeting.

This funding will support marketing, printing and distribution, as well as resources to support the tours and guides.

A future tour idea is for monthly history walks all neighborhoods. To be discussed with the group once

O. Brown coordinates with J. Basic. (Intent is to be similar to the BPAC, but focus solely on history).

8. **Monticello Historical Marker** [10:50, 5 minutes]

- Update from B. Bergen

Bill attended the County’s last Historic Preservation Committee meeting. Notes from that discussion: Premier spot for a historical marker- one of their members said they would not support removing the marker even if it’s inaccurate.

Monticello (Thomas Jefferson Foundation) itself had no issue with its removal and will assist on new marker if/when it comes about.

Since the County’s preservation group had not met since June 2025, O. Brown suggested members were apprehensive to make any decisions.

O. Brown, as ex officio, will email Chris Taggart (Albemarle County) with Bill Bergen’s fact sheet so it can be sent out to their members again.

9. **Liberty Bell Replica** [10:55; 10 minutes]

- Updates and discussion

B. Bergen reviewed previous discussions and the primary question before the HRC- is the current best and highest use for replica, and does its inaccessible location make sense?

The next step will be to contact the Fire Chief to discuss.

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

The group reviewed J. Basic's email for her opinion and guidance.

Consensus was that the group has no way to evaluate for understanding of needs currently. Group discussed moving forward to develop a policy.

Q: From O. Brown: Oct. 2020- Council deferred this responsibility to HRC. Then the HRC seemed to give it back to Council. Is that correct?

Staff J. Werner provided an overview of where things currently stand: J. Frease has been asked to evaluate the current Honorary Street Naming process, part of Public Art program which is coming before Council this spring.

The City Manager's office recognizes they need a new policy that includes historic research and references/citations, which they hope the HRC will provide and act in advisory capacity.

The process will be ironed out, with one step in the process being HRC can/will make recommendations up the ladder. At the moment, nothing is being asked by HRC- but the committee should be prepared to comment in future.

Group consensus - Policy on research is important to establish.

Q: From O. Brown- Two "things" correct? *Honorary Naming*, and *Renaming* of streets? Staff: Yes, for example, the HRC was not involved in the renaming of Preston Ave. Staff has worked hard so the HRC would not be involved.

The Committee discussed the 2020 policy recommendation to Council and determined to revise to prep a new recommendation.

Discussion:

**Policy on Research-** how is it done and how is it presented?

The two policies (Research & Honoring Individuals) are related.

1. How do we deal with requests? (In the past these requests went to Council.)
2. Establishment of specialness/uniqueness (reference Fairfax Co.'s honorary naming policy)

Define: what is the HRC role in naming?

Information on research: Codify the process (how done, etc.)

Update the 2020 recommendation

HRC should adopt a "we all agree" honor code the committee then follows.

J. Trompeter read the 2020 research policy out for all to review.

The group notes that the requirement: "*All submitted to City Manager for review*" may not necessary and could be a scaled response dependent on project (Ex: BPAC flyers).

A marker or other installation is of a higher level that would include submittal to the City Manager. In some instances, the Director of NDS can be the referee in place of the City Manager.

Next Steps:

-ref. bylaws. Majority vote required at next regular meeting.

-J.W. to tweak language on "referee" (not the C.M.)

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 still needed)
- October - Barracks Rd/Rugby (L. Pola)
- December – Belmont [D. Berry volunteered]

BPAC staff T. Safranek inquired if HRC would like to volunteer at RiverFest to talk about the history of the Rivanna. (May 9<sup>th</sup>) The group determined they are not the best experts. G.Keller- noted that the Rivanna banks are now a threatened landscape due to transmission lines, development and encampments. Blue Trails or ACHS is perhaps a better source of support at RiverFest.

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

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

Thinking ahead.... Any other anniversaries?

Unite the Right 10 years on:

Too soon to do a marker?

Time to collect oral histories?

Is there something HRC can do to further the historic record or commemoration?

There is a lot of misinformation out there, does the group feel it should be addressed?

Untold stories? Lawsuits against these non-local disruptive groups- civil actions limit.

DT Mall designation to NRHP is linked to the 2017 event. Perhaps an amendment/appendix to that NRHP nomination should be developed to capture that moment so its part of the context of the DT Mall going forward.

The group further discussed nothing has significantly changed in the streetscape since 2017:

- 4<sup>th</sup> St. scene is iconic.
- Events unfolded in a sequence at the library, at the park, at Court Square.
- We have a responsibility to document these scenes.

Q: What is the Jefferson Center planning for this anniversary (assuming they will be planning a program/event)?

O. Brown: ACHS is the archive, and has donated items related to these events, already coordinating with researchers. Documentation from HRC will support ACHS's record being built. Document also where the Unite the Right members were from ("not Charlottesville!").

The group discussed how the safety of this town has been questioned because of wrong assumptions regarding the people involved.

Cultural landscape study for 4<sup>th</sup> Street?

We should cover more area than that.... Start in the Garage. Parade Route, Parks...?

Library of Congress collected photographs after the event.

ACHS is willing to act as repository should HRC collect similar artifacts.

HRC should come up with a scope of work on this identification/pulling together of resources, and plan for the appendix to the NRHP form...

Perhaps one approach is to view the 2017 event as a battle. Document it as such.  
Define scope of work by starting a conversation. G. Keller made good points on the perceived statement.

The group recommends keeping the dialogue open to begin scoping the documentation effort.

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

- Preservation Fair – May 5<sup>th</sup>
  - Attach Sarah's FLYER.
  - ACHS has crash course guide – Miranda making one for Genealogy. (Some research guides already exists.)
  - Preservation Piedmont; other volunteers are signing up.
- Mall 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary plaque  
Economic development would like something to unveil on July 3<sup>rd</sup>- 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary plaque is on granite by Central Place Fountain.
- Update on Community Meeting - IPP process for 801 West Street  
Family history:  
Henry Martin (Great-great Grandfather)  
The owner's mother was a teacher at The Jefferson School.  
Item going to Planning Commission in May, to Council sometime over the summer.

Swan Tavern update on collection going to DHR. \$14,000 estimate cost.

Will the HRC give funds to help cover the stewardship fee?

J. Werner may ask the committee in April – official funds request.

Complexity of Design Guidelines Update: Staff received directions to update surveys and descriptions first- Freshen up these characterizations and sub-areas, before tackling code conflicts.

Charlottesville Day One-

Architectural firm to provide imagery/renderings for Court Square – Staff has a limited amount of time to request CLG funds, but hoping to move forward with developmental evolution of early Charlottesville.

Need research on property/deed research to assist.

CVHR – great group to ask about deed research.

14. **Adjourn:** 12:00 PM