

**Agenda**  
**City of Charlottesville**  
**Historic Resources Committee**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**May 8, 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** April 10, 2026 [Attached to this agenda.]
4. **Public Comment\*** [10:10, 5 minutes]
5. **HRC Membership Changes**
  - C. Martz – Thank you for service
  - New member recruitment efforts
6. **Honorary Naming Policy**
  - Draft policy to review – J. Basic
7. **Downtown Mall 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2026** [10:15, 15 minutes]
  - Update – L. Pola & D. Berry
  - Review design for kiosk signs – J. Trompetter
8. **Beloved Cville** [10:30, 5 minutes]
  - Review update provided by E. Shillue
9. **ACHS** [10:40, 5 minutes]
  - Review update provided by O. Brown
10. **Liberty Bell Replica** [11:15, 10 minutes]
  - Check-in on communication with Fire Department
11. **Neighborhood Walking Tours - BPAC** [11:40, 5 minutes]
  - 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

12. **ACHS-HRC Internship Collaboration** [11:45, 15 minutes]

- Opportunity for join-internship – online system for BPAC walking tour flyers

13. **Staff Updates**

- Court Square Banners
- Archival project update and visit from UVA special collections
- Other staff information - TBD

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

**Mission Statement**

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- And through other means.

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



**HRC Members (all present)**

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**

- Modification of agenda to include two new items
  - i. Court Square banners
  - ii. Adopting virtual updates

Motion: B. Bergen

Seconded: E. Shilue

Vote to amend Agenda: 7-0

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

Motion to approve Agenda and March meeting minutes: B. Bergen

Second: D. Berry

Vote: 7-0

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

Genevieve Keller

- Representative of Preservation Piedmont
- Concerns about Wertenbaker House and final resolution
- Dominion sent letter about Charlottesville to Gordonsville transmission line
  - i. We'd like to see it be the "most attractive" utility and would like to see the City take some interest regarding appearance of line [and location]
  - ii. Staff response: Jeff Werner asks if it will be Cor-Ten Steel. GK does not know if what it will look like
- Specifics on BAR guideline updates and revisions to Tier 3

Chair recognizes 3 UVa students attending from their Democracy in Action class

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

- General update – L. Pola & D. Berry

The Downtown Mall 50th Anniversary survey has closed with 57 responses. L. Pola and D. Berry reviewed and narrowed the submissions to a curated set of comments, then shared for consideration. The group's primary goal is to finalize which quotes will appear across seven kiosk panels along the Mall.

- Panel design will include both images and text, with a target of ~80 words per panel (maximum ~200), ensuring readability and visual appeal. Names of respondents will be

included when available, and all images must be copyright-approved. While business names may appear in quotes, they will not be used for promotional purposes.

- Members supported the selected quotes and discussed their placement sequence, starting at the Old Preston/Omni entrance. A subcommittee will work with staff to pair images with quotes and produce the kiosk signage, incorporating the “Cville 50th” branding developed by Friends of Cville. Materials must be finalized within two weeks to meet printing timelines (estimated 2–3 weeks) with Frontrunner Signs.
- Additional considerations include promoting the exhibit, notifying selected respondents, and sourcing images from media outlets and walking tour archives. Project logistics (image collection, branding assets, kiosk dimensions, and shared files) are being coordinated among staff.
- Finally, recollections are being documented and archived, including Reddit responses curated by L. Pola and organized in a spreadsheet.

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

- Update – E. Shillue

Event in 2:00pm June 6, 2026 about Sarah Anne Kelly: Becoming Visible; bust unveiling and preview of documentary in the Swanson Room at Central Library

- Partnering with Central Library to display the bust during the summer along with books about Apostle Kelly
- Bust and display will travel around (ACHS, and then...before becoming a permanent display)
- Dr. Shelley Murphy will be unveiling Sarah Kelly’s ancestry to her (all about Apostle Kelly becoming visible)

Thursday, May 14th, 6:00 pm at The Center: Shining Light of Charlottesville’s Hidden History

- Format is Beloved will show the short video then followed by speaker related to each video.

Monday, April 20th at 12:00 Lunch and Learn hosted by Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE); ethical partnership

- MC Follett
- Melissa Levy

HRC Invitation: E. Shillue is considering how to [add to this format of creating sculpture to create a collection]

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

- Update – O. Brown

Test of Time Award presented to Congregation Beth Isreal

Walking Tours have re-started

Ongoing 250th Fighting for Freedom by Andrew Kahrl (UVa History Professor)

Opened exhibit at Vault Virginia (i.e. The Bradbury)

- M-F 9 to 5 about Charlottesville in the 1970s

\*New item

**Narrative Summary Updates**

- Could we consider sending out simple updates about events?
- ACHS, Beloved, others will provide simple event updates
- The group agreed virtual updates are a positive step; the Chair will coordinate with those representatives monthly prior to each meeting.

8. **DT Mall Kiosks & FOC Support** [10:50, 10 minutes]

- Funding item/allocation

Motion by B. Bergen to allocate \$3,500 to fund the kiosk signs on the Downtown Mall for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

Second: J. Trompetter

Vote 7-0

9. **ACHS Walking Tour Rack Cards** [11:00, 5 minutes]

- Funding item/allocation

O. Brown will be placing the Walking Tour Cards in various tourism racks

Amy Hill designed the cards

Gunderwald v. Jefferson School re: image ownership (O. Brown to rotate out the image as a precaution.)

Motion to approve funding: B. Bergen

Second: D. Berry.

Vote 7-0 to allocate \$2,000

10. **DHR Stewardship – Swan Tavern Collection** [11:05, 5 minutes]

- Funding item/allocation

Small sample of artifacts will be retained and placed on exhibition in the new Courthouse  
Remaining 37,000+ artifacts, working with Ben Ford (Rivanna Archaeological Services)

- UVa declined stewardship/curation
- DHR will accept with a \$14,000
  - i. Albemarle County will not contribute
  - ii. Access can be given to public upon request (i.e. Special Collections)
- J. Werner requested a \$5,000 donation from HRC
- \$7,000 would come from Historic Surveys Fund

Motion to approve \$5,000 from HRC to support archiving Swan Tavern artifacts through DHR repository: B. Bergen.

Second: L. Pola

Vote: 7-0

11. **Monticello Historical Marker** [11:10, 5 minutes]

- Update from B. Bergen

Albemarle County HRC has decided nothing; they are in the midst of creating a marker policy.

12. **Liberty Bell Replica** [11:15, 10 minutes]

- Updates and discussion

Sub-committee met (members: Pola, Bergen, Martz, Basic)

Fire Dept. was contacted by HRC but they have not responded.

ADA improvements pending at Ridge St. Fire Station

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.)

Future Issue: Research Policy

J. Basic to create a policy statement to give out to the public

Council is the deciding entity

- Snook remembers 2020 with deluge of requests
- Asked HRC to get involved to assist with requests

Snook: once issued proclamations when he was Mayor

- CH Brown 12th Street issue

Jeff notes that historical markers need to go through City and DHR approval

- Nau Center was Parks & Rec

Considerations:

1. Must have buy-in from property owner
2. Proper City department needs to be involved in approvals
3. Street names go to City Council
4. School related items need to go to School Board
5. Needs to be broader public history initiative
6. Qualifications need to be set
  - a. Significant impact
  - b. Deceased minimum 5 years
  - c. What is the education component?
  - d. Research component?
  - e. Petition component and/or Letter of Support or organizational tie
  - f. What is the commercial/advertising impact?

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

- April – UVA North Grounds
- May – Rose Hill
- June - Locust Grove (J. Trompetter)
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- September - Martha Jefferson & Little High (volunteer needed)
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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)

2027 will be the 10th Anniversary of the Unite the Right Rally march in Charlottesville

HRC ought to consider marking the anniversary [in terms of historical education about the event]

Snook: business-owners are saying [no thank you, let's move past this]

- One woman show by Priyanka Shetty [#Charlottesville]
- [possibly contentious with UVa?]

Collections available from ACHS (Jalane and CBI), UVa Special Collections,

Beloved Community did a walking vigil from Lee Statue to CBI to Court Square; involved people who felt the need to reclaim those spaces (song, prayer, recollections)

- E. Shillue agrees with B. Bergen that any memoriam would be internal and powerful  
Charlottesville should not be doing anything (making statements, hosting memorials, etc.) as there are many fronts to that event. Was not only about antisemitism it was about more topics. Charlottesville City Council should not (nor HRC) have an official statement on the event.

- Support

**Staff Updates**

Preservation staff coordinated with Public Works, at request of the City Manager's Office, to remove the barriers surrounding the fountains on the Downtown Mall.

\*New item

**Court Square Informational Banners**

- Tabled for May HRC meeting.

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

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