# **Draft Minutes**

#### JOINT MEETING STATE REVIEW BOARD and BOARD OF HISTORIC RESOURCES 9:30 a.m. June 12, 2025 Radcliff Hall, Longwood University 310 Buffalo Street, Farmville, VA 23909

#### **State Review Board Members Present**

John Mullen, Chair Dr. Eleanor Breen Dr. Jeffrey Klee Carol Shull Dr. Larissa M. Smith Greg Rutledge

#### Historic Resources Board Members Present

Dr. Ken Rutherford, Vice-Chair Trip Pollard Martin Townes Mary Pope Hutson Dr. Ashley Spivey Jamie Bosket\*

#### **State Review Board Members Absent**

Dr. Jody L. Allen, Vice-Chair

# Historic Resources Board Members Absent

Aimee Jorjani, Chair

Stephanie Williams, Deputy Director

#### **Department of Historic Resources Staff Present**

Julie Langan, Director Amanda Terrell Brad McDonald Michael Pulice Joanna McKnight Austin Walker LaToya Gray-Sparks\* Elizabeth Lipford\* Wendy Musumeci\*

#### Jolene Smith Jennifer Pullen Aubrey Von Lindern Ari Calos Dr. Jennifer Loux Ivy Tan\* Kyle Edwards\* Joanna Wilson Green\*

#### **Other State Agency Staff Present:**

Andrew Tarne, Office of the Attorney General Corey Scott, Deputy Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources\* Sarah Spota, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources\* Jackson Mullen, Office of the Governor\*

\*denotes virtual attendance

## Guests Present (from attendees list in Teams and sign-in sheets):

Jody Lahendro Cynthia Dunafon Max Hokit Alex Gottschalk Karen Vicks Scott Langan Alyson Ramsay Stan Holloway David Kane Kent Hammond Samantha Cullen Eric Proebsting Felicia Davis-Barry Janet Davis Marcus Pollard Lena McDonald Michelle Vance Catherine Easterling Eric Kolenich Thelma Davis

#### **Board of Historic Resources (BHR)**

Vice-Chair Rutherford called the Board of Historic Resources to order at 9:30 a.m. Deputy Director Williams took roll call of BHR members to establish the presence of a quorum: Vice-Chair Rutherford, Mr. Pollard, Dr. Spivey, Mr. Townes, and Ms. Hutson are present. Mr. Bosket has requested to attend the meeting virtually

Vice-Chair Rutherford read the land acknowledgement statement. He then explained the purpose and duties of the BHR. He invited BHR members to introduce themselves and introduced himself. Vice-Chair Rutherford noted that today's meeting is taking place in person and online and is being recorded. He said that some DHR staff members are attending the meeting online as are members of the public.

Vice-Chair Rutherford asked for a motion to approve Mr. Bosket's virtual attendance; Dr. Spivey so moved, and Mr. Townes seconded. The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Bosket's virtual attendance.

Vice-Chair Rutherford requested a motion for approval of the meeting format and agenda. Dr. Spivey so moved, and Ms. Hutson seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative. Vice-Chair Rutherford asked for a motion to approve the March 20, 2025, meeting minutes. Dr. Spivey so moved, and Ms. Hutson seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

#### State Review Board (SRB)

Chair Mullen called the State Review Board to order at 9:36 a.m.

Deputy Director Williams took roll call of SRB members to confirm the presence of a quorum. Chair Mullen, Dr. Breen, Dr. Klee, Ms. Shull, Dr. Smith, and Mr. Rutledge are present.

He next explained the purpose and duties of the SRB and the process of Register designation. Each SRB member introduced themselves.

Chair Mullen noted that today's meeting is taking place in person and online, and that it is being recorded. He said that some members of the public are attending the meeting online.

Chair Mullen next asked the SRB members if there were any questions about the agenda. Hearing none, Chair Mullen requested a motion to approve the meeting format and agenda. Dr. Smith so moved, and Ms. Shull seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Chair Mullen asked for a motion to approve the March 20, 2025, meeting minutes. Dr. Klee so moved, and Mr. Rutledge seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Vice-Chair Rutherford introduced Director Langan.

#### **Director's Report & Recognition**

Director Langan began her report by introducing Andrew Tarne from the Office of the Attorney General, who is attending in person. She thanked Longwood University, Hampden-Sydney College, and the Moton Museum for hosting the previous day's events for Board members and DHR staff. She also thanked Dr. Smith for coordinating the events and today's meeting, and for driving Board members and staff around Farmville. She thanked Cainan Townsend, Executive Director of the Moton Museum, for hosting the previous day's tour and reception. Finally, she thanked Ms. Jen Pullen and DHR staff who handled all of the planning and logistics involved with a meeting outside of Richmond.

Director Langan expressed her gratitude to Vice-Chair Rutherford and Dr. Smith for serving as DHR representatives at recent historical highway marker unveilings. She also noted the opportunity for board members to participate in upcoming marker events.

Director Langan next provided an update on DHR's funding situation. She noted that the Department received a modest increase in general fund appropriations from the most recent General Assembly budget, as well as increases to the African American Cemetery and Graves Fund and several new passthrough grants. Regarding ongoing uncertainty surrounding federal funding, Director Langan noted that a Save America's Treasures grant awarded to DHR by the Institute of Museum and Library Services for the conservation of artifacts from Kingsmill was temporarily cancelled but has since been restored. She stated that DHR remains unable to draw down approved 2025 fiscal year funding from the Historic Preservation Fund and reiterated that the budget bill presented by the current administration eliminates HPF funding for SHPOs. She noted that while the bill is still awaiting Congressional action, the current proposal would remove 17% of DHR's operating budget. She informed the Boards that the Department has already begun taking several cautionary steps – current vacancies, including the Western Region archaeologist position, are not being filled for the time being, while Cost Share and Certified Local Government grants are being put on hold. She noted that DHR has also offered temporarily reduced hours for current full-time staff and that no further out of town board meetings are being planned.

Director Langan then provided a few recent agency highlights. She informed the Boards that the Barbara Rose Johns statue planned for the National Statuary Hall in the United States Capitol is finished and that the commission is now seeking final approvals for the sculpture and will begin planning for its installation. She noted that the dates of the statue's unveiling and any accompanying celebrations will be shared with Board members. Director Langan also shared that DHR is working with the University of Virginia Press on *The Buried Cause: Unearthing Hidden History in the Lee Monument Cornerstone*, a collection of essays co-edited by State Archaeological Conservator Kate Ridgeway and Director of State Archaeology Elizabeth Moore. The book is currently planned for December release.

Director Langan concluded her report by reminding Board members that the September and December quarterly meetings will be held at the Virginia Museum of History and Culture in Richmond. She also informed BHR members that the September meeting will include the second round of approvals for Virginia's BIPOC Preservation Grant Program as well as the election of officers.

Finally, Director Langan recognized Mr. Trip Pollard for his years of distinguished service to the Board of Historic Resources and presented him with a commemorative historical highway marker.

## **Public Comment**

Vice-Chair Rutherford introduced and explained the purpose of the public comment period and noted that speakers are asked to limit their remarks to three minutes. He added that the BHR will not take action on any comments presented today but DHR will take the comments under consideration. He requested that speakers limit their comments to a span of three minutes. He added that a second comment period will occur when the BHR meets this afternoon to review Highway Marker and Easement program materials.

No one signed in to speak in person. One person attending virtually registered to speak:

1. Dr. Eric Proebsting, Director of Archaeology and Landscapes at Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest spoke in support of the updated nomination for the property, explaining the need for a thorough update to the original 1969 nomination to incorporate decades of additional architectural and archaeological research. He thanked the Boards for their review and Mike Pulice for his guidance throughout the process.

Vice-Chair Rutherford thanked everyone who spoke today, noted that their comments will receive careful consideration, and said that the public comment period is concluded.

Vice-Chair Rutherford called for a brief break at 10:01 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:08 a.m.

#### <u>Welcome</u>

Vice-Chair Rutherford introduced Dr. Larissa Smith, Provost of Longwood University and State Review Board member. She welcomed the Boards, DHR staff, and guests on behalf of Longwood University, and thanked the Moton Museum and Hampden-Sydney College for hosting events for Board members and staff the previous day. She commended Commonwealth Preservation Group for their work on the *African American Schools in Virginia* Multiple Property Documentation Form. She also noted the assistance of DHR staff with the design of Radeliff Hall, today's venue, given its location within the register-listed Farmville Historic District.

## NOMINATIONS

#### Statewide

1. African American Schools in Virginia Multiple Property Documentation Form, DHR File No. 500-0011  $\Delta$ 

Mr. Austin Walker presented the African American Schools in Virginia MPDF.

Vice-Chair Rutherford requested a motion to approve the African American Schools in Virginia MPDF as presented. Mr. Pollard so moved, and Dr. Spivey seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the MPDF as presented.

Chair Mullen requested a motion to approve the Eastern Region nominations as presented. Dr. Smith moved that the MPDF be approved. Dr. Klee seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the MPDF as presented.

#### **Eastern Region**

- 1. Cuckoo Elementary School, Louisa County, DHR File No. 054-5479  $\Delta$  \$
- 2. Thomas and Alena Hammond House, City of Charlottesville, DHR File No. 104-5995 \*\*
- 3. Main Street Banking Historic District Update and Boundary Decrease, City of Richmond, DHR File No. 127-6031 \*\*
- 4. Shockoe Valley & Tobacco Row Historic District Update and Boundary Increase, City of Richmond, DHR File No. 127-8182 \*\*

Ms. Joanna McKnight presented nominations 1 through 4 as a block.

- 5. Park View High School, Mecklenburg County, DHR File No. 058-5573
- 6. Stuart Gardens Apartments, City of Newport News, DHR File No. 121-5562

Ms. Ari Calos presented nominations 5 and 6 as a block.

Vice-Chair Rutherford requested a motion to approve the six Eastern Region nominations as presented. Mr. Pollard so moved, and Ms. Hutson seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

Chair Mullen requested a motion to approve the Eastern Region nominations as presented. Ms. Shull moved that the nominations be approved. Dr. Klee seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

#### **Northern Region**

- 1. Gravel Springs Farm, Frederick County, DHR File No. 034-0124
- 2. Fairview Cemetery, City of Staunton, DHR File No. 132-5018 \*\*  $\Delta$

Ms. Aubrey Von Lindern presented nominations 1 and 2 as a block.

Vice-Chair Rutherford requested a motion to approve the Northern Region nominations as presented. Dr. Spivey so moved, and Mr. Townes seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

Chair Mullen requested a motion to approve the Northern Region nominations as presented. Dr. Breen moved that the nominations be approved. Dr. Smith seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

#### Western Region

- Poplar Forest 2025 Update and Boundary Amendment, Bedford County, Campbell County, and City of Lynchburg, DHR File No. 009-0027 \*\* Δ
- 2. Williamson Farm, Halifax County, DHR File No. 041-5804
- 3. Shipman Historic District, Nelson County, DHR File No. 062-5312 \*
- 4. Lucy Addison High School, City of Roanoke, DHR File No. 128-6480 \*\*  $\Delta$

Mr. Mike Pulice presented nominations 1 through 4 as a block.

Vice-Chair Rutherford requested a motion to approve the Western Region nominations as presented. Ms. Hutson so moved, and Dr. Spivey seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

Chair Mullen requested a motion to approve the Western Region nominations as presented. Dr. Klee moved that the nominations be approved. Ms. Shull seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

Vice-Chair Rutherford introduced Mr. Trip Pollard for a brief personal comment. Mr. Pollard expressed his honor and enjoyment serving on the Board of Historic Resources and thanked the Boards and DHR staff for their collective commitment to preserving historic resources and strengthening local communities.

Vice-Chair Rutherford introduced Mr. Jody Lahendro for a brief comment. Mr. Lahendro spoke on the significance of the *African American Schools in Virginia* MPDF. He thanked Director Langan and DHR staff, the National Park Service, and Commonwealth Preservation Group for recognizing the vital need for the MPDF and for producing such a comprehensive historic context.

Vice-Chair Rutherford asked for a motion to adjourn the joint session of the BHR and SRB. Mr. Pollard so moved, and Mr. Townes seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the joint session.

Chair Mullen asked for a motion to adjourn the joint session of the BHR and SRB. Ms. Shull so moved, and Dr. Breen seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the joint session.

The joint meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

<b>Register Summary of Resources Listed:</b>	Historic Districts: 5
	Buildings: 6
	Structures: 0
	Sites: 1
	Objects: 0
	MPDs: 1

#### **BOARD OF HISTORIC RESOURCES**

Radcliff Hall, Longwood University, 310 Buffalo Street, Farmville, Virginia 23909

#### **Board of Historic Resources Members Present:**

Ken Rutherford, PhD, Vice Chair Jamie Bosket\* Mary Pope Hutson Trip Pollard Ashley Spivey, PhD Martin Townes

#### **Board of Historic Resources Members Absent:**

Aimee K. Jorjani, Chair

# Department of Historic Resources (DHR)

Staff Present: Julie Langan, Director Stephanie Williams, Deputy Director Kyle Edwards\* Joanna Wilson Green\* Elizabeth Lipford\* Dr. Jennifer Loux Brad McDonald Megan Melinat Wendy Musumeci\* Jennifer Pullen \*denotes virtual attendance

Other State Agency Staff Present:

Andrew Tarne, Office of the Attorney General

<u>Federal Agency Staff Present:</u> Max Hokit, American Battlefield Trust

#### **Guests Present from Attendees List at Meeting:**

Walter Witschey Brian Neumann

## **Guests Registered in Teams:**

Moonyene Jackson Pastor Larry Davis Travis Hackworth Miriam Wilson Mary Hill Karen Vicks

## CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Rutherford called the meeting to order at 12:09 p.m.

Vice Chair Rutherford read the Board of Historic Resources Call to Order of those members present: Ms. Hutson, Mr. Pollard, Dr. Spivey, Mr. Townes, and Vice Chair Rutherford.

Vice Chair Rutherford read the following Land Acknowledgement Statement:

The Department of Historic Resources, the Board of Historic Resources, and the State Review Board acknowledge the indigenous peoples of Virginia and express its gratitude for their continued stewardship of her lands and waterways over many generations. We also acknowledge the free and enslaved Africans and their descendants whose labors and contributions on behalf of the Commonwealth have long been overlooked. We commit ourselves to meaningful engagement with all Virginians, past and present, as we strive to fulfill our charge as stewards of Virginia's long and rich history.

Vice Chair Rutherford read the following BHR Purpose Statement:

The Virginia Board of Historic Resources is an official policy-making board of the Commonwealth of Virginia created by the Code of Virginia. Its policies are implemented by the Department of Historic Resources, which day

in and day out labors on behalf of our irreplaceable resources in the interest of the citizens of this Commonwealth. The Board is charged primarily with the responsibility for:

- 1. Designating historic landmarks of local, statewide, or national significance;
- 2. Establishing historic preservation practices for the care and management of our Virginia Historic Landmarks;
- 3. Designating state-recognized historic districts and archaeological sites and zones;
- 4. Approving historical highway markers;
- 5. Reviewing programs and services of the Agency, and making recommendations to the Director of DHR and the Governor regarding programs and services; and in order to preserve important sites and buildings in perpetuity; and
- 6. Accepting voluntarily granted gifts of preservation easements over historic properties to the Commonwealth.

The Governor of Virginia selects members of the Board from volunteer and professional leaders of Virginia's history, preservation, and museum communities. Votes taken during this meeting are official actions of the Commonwealth of Virginia Board of Historic Resources.

Vice Chair Rutherford asked that the Board Members to introduce themselves: Ms. Hutson, Mr. Pollard, Mr. Dr. Spivey, Townes, and Vice Chair Rutherford.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Walter Witschey: Spoke in support of the Highway Marker for The Recorder.

Virtual:

Moonyene Jackson: Spoke in support of the Highway Marker for Queen Miller Home Mary Hill: Spoke in support of the proposed Highway Marker for Cypress Chapel Christian Church Pastor Larry Davis: Spoke in support of the proposed Highway Marker for Cypress Chapel Christian Church

The Public Comment agenda ended at 12:27 p.m.

Ashley Spivey recused herself from the vote on the Marker for **"Racial Integrity" and the Tribes of King William.** This marker was moved to the front of the agenda and voted on separately.

#### 7. "Racial Integrity" and the Tribes of King William

Sponsor: DHR Locality: King William County Proposed Location: King William Road/Route 30 at intersection with Horse Landing Road

With a motion to approve New Marker #7, by Mr. Pollard and a second from Mr. Townsend, all members, with Dr. Spivey recused, voted in the affirmative.

## **HIGHWAY MARKERS**

Dr. Jennifer Loux presented the following eight (8) New Markers:

## New Markers

1. Upper King and Queen Baptist Church

Sponsor: Upper King and Queen Baptist Church

Locality: King and Queen County Proposed Location: 1693 Bradley Farm Road

#### 2. James T. S. Taylor (1840-1918)

Sponsor: John L. Nau III Center for Civil War History Locality: Charlottesville Proposed Location: 727-849 First Street S.

#### 3. The Recorder

Sponsor: *The Recorder* Locality: Highland County Proposed Location: 114 West Main Street, Monterey

#### 4. Lucy Addison (1861-1937)

Sponsor: Roanoke City Public Schools Locality: City of Roanoke Proposed Location: Intersection of Burrell Street NW and Orange Avenue NW

#### 5. Treble Clef and Book Lovers' Club

Sponsor: Treble Clef and Book Lovers' Club Locality: City of Richmond Proposed Location: 1214 West Graham Road

#### 6. Queen Miller Home

Sponsor: Friends of Miller-Jackson Institute for Historical Preservation & Education Locality: City of Staunton Proposed Location: 2624 West Beverly Street

#### 8. Whitesville Elementary School

Sponsor: International Brotherhood of Yahshua's Disciples Locality: Accomack County Proposed Location: 23459 Leslie Trent Road, Parksley

#### 9. Dupuy Elementary School

Sponsor: Concerned Citizen of Ettrick Locality: Chesterfield County Proposed Location: 19700 Dupuy Meadows Drive

<u>Board Comments Summary</u>: Vice Chair Rutherford asked what happened to the students from Whitesville Elementary School between the time the school was closed in 1964 and the county's full desegregation of schools in 1970, did they not attend school? Dr. Loux responded that this was during the school consolidation period, and they attended school elsewhere.

With a motion to approve New Markers #1-9, minus #7, by Dr. Spivey and a second from Mr. Townsend, all members voted in the affirmative.

Dr. Loux presented the following five (5) Replacement Markers:

## **Replacement Markers**

1. Blandford Church and Cemetery QA-11

Sponsor: DHR Locality: City of Peterburg Proposed Location: Crater Road at Blandford Church

#### 2. Battle of Hampton Roads W-84

Sponsor: Hampton Convention & Visitor Bureau Locality: City of Hampton Proposed Location: Chesapeake Avenue/Route 167, just west of intersection with LaSalle Avenue

#### 3. Death of 2d Lt. James "Big Yankee" Ames B-40

Sponsor: VDOT Locality: Fauquier County Proposed Location: US 17/Winchester Road near intersection with Crooked Run Road (Route 831)

#### 4. General Lee's Headquarters QA-7

Sponsor: DHR Locality: City of Petersburg Proposed Location: W. Washington Street at intersection with Lafayette Street

#### 5. Cape Charles Elementary School WY-73

Sponsor: Cape Charles Rosenwald School Restoration Initiative, Inc. Locality: Northampton County Proposed Location: Route 641/Old Cape Charles Road, north of Cassatt Parkway

#### Board Comments Summary: No comments.

With a motion to approve Replacement Markers #1-5 by Dr. Spivey and a second from Ms. Hutson, all members voted in the affirmative.

Dr. Loux presented the following list of applications under consideration for the September 2025 Board Meeting cycle:

## Applications Under Consideration for September 2025 Board Meeting Cycle

- 1. Gilbert's Restaurant (Pittsylvania County)
- 2. Blue Ridge Parkway (Nelson County)
- 3. TransAmerica Bicycle Trail (Botetourt County)
- 4. Patrick Central School (Patrick County)
- 5. Antioch Rosenwald School (Mathews County)
- 6. Danville Canal and the Roanoke Navigation Company (City of Danville)
- 7. Dr. Elbyrne Grady Gill (City of Roanoke)
- 8. Cypress Chapel Christian Church (City of Suffolk)
- 9. Cypress Baptist Church (Surry County)
- 10. Quarter Place (Charlotte County)
- 11. Gibson's Fort (Lee County)
- 12. General Anthony Wayne's Rappahannock Crossing (Fauquier County)
- 13. Walnut Hill Historic District (City of Petersburg)

Marker texts for applications #1-8 (Gilbert's Restaurant, Blue Ridge Parkway, TransAmerica Bicycle Trail, Patrick Central School, Antioch Rosenwald School (Mathews County), Danville Canal and the Roanoke Navigation Company, Dr. Elbyrne Grady Gill, and Cypress Chapel Christian Church), will be presented at the September 2025 Board Meeting, and applications #9 and #10 (Cypress Baptist Church and Quarter Place) will serve as alternates.

#### Board Comments Summary: No comments

With a motion to approve the Applications for the September 2025 Board Meeting Cycle Applications #1-8 and Alternates #9-10 by Mr. Townsend and a second from Ms. Hutson, all members voted in the affirmative.

The Highway Markers portion of the agenda ended at 12:40 p.m.

## **BURIAL PERMIT UPDATE**

Ms. Wilson Green presented the following burial permit updates:

- Between March 20 and June 12, 2025, DHR issued 13 burial permits on behalf of the Board of Historic Resources
  - o 11 anticipatory (no purposeful disturbance of buried human remains proposed).
  - o 1 relocation (St. George's Episcopal Church, city of Fredericksburg)
  - o 1 DNA and reinternment (Historic Christ Church, Lancaster County)
- 2 permits were closed following completion of permit terms, and 5 permits were extended to accommodate project delays.

The relocation permit was issued to St. George's Episcopal Church to accommodate the excavation and reinterment of at least 16 burials. With an aging congregation the church requires ramps and other safety and accessibility features and could find no other option than placement in the historic churchyard. The individuals will be reinterred in another part of the cemetery pending additional archaeological investigation to ensure that no existing graves are disturbed in the process.

The request was published in multiple locations and was presented to both the city's Architectural Review Board and in an open public hearing. Although many insightful and complicated questions were asked, no objections were raised.

As this project will take place in a very visible location along a public street, the permit contains extra conditions requiring that excavation areas be tented and obscured from public view to protect the dignity of the interred persons.

#### Board Comments Summary: No comments.

The Burial Permits portion of the agenda ended at 12:45 p.m.

With a motion that board member Mr. Jamie Bosket may attend the meeting virtually by Vice Chair Rutherford and a second from Dr. Spivey, all members voted in the affirmative.

## **EASEMENTS**

## Culpeper Battlefields, Phase II, Presented by Ms. Megan Melinat

#### Background

On March 20, 2025, the Board recommended acceptance of the CBSP Phase II—Cedar Mountain Battlefield project, subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Acceptance of an easement on the  $\pm 8.095$ -acre Proctor II Tract.
- Assignment of the following easements to the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR):
  a. Wiseman Tract, ±155.7199 acres

- b. Hulvey Tract, ±2.0461 acres
- c. Broomfield Tract, ±4.467 acres
- d. Proctor I Tract,  $\pm 6.0$  acres
- e. Cedar Run/Trimble Tract,  $\pm 86.539$  acres
- f. Pegram's Battery Tract, ±44.752 acres
- g. Proctor II Tract,  $\pm 8.095$  acres
- 3. Join with DCR as co-holder of a *Deed of Acceptance, Assignment, Restatement, Amendment, and Consolidation of Historic Preservation and Open-Space Easements* for properties 2(a) through 2(g) above. The restrictions and preservation and conservation purposes of the original easements are to be continued in perpetuity.

The Board's approval is subject to the following condition:

1. Final review of the title work, title commitment, survey, draft easement and other recorded and unrecorded documents affecting title to the property by the Office of the Attorney General. Per this review, counsel may identify additional issues that require documentation or action.

Request for Board Approval, June 12, 2025

- At the 03/20/25 meeting, the BHR approved combining 7 Phase II easement properties into <u>one</u> Deed of Acceptance, Assignment, Restatement, Amendment, and Consolidation of Easements.
- However, there are grant-related requirements the American Battlefield Trust needs to satisfy before the Cedar Run/Trimble Tract can be transferred to DCR.
- DHR and DCR have consulted and agreed that the best solution is to divide this phase into separate subphases.
  - Phase 2A: Proctor II Tract, Wiseman Tract, Hulvey Tract, Broomfield Tract, and Proctor I Tract acquire August 2025
  - Phase 2B: Cedar Run/Trimble Tract and Pegram's Battery Tract acquire at a later date

As part of Phase II: Cedar Mountain for Culpeper Battlefields State Park, staff recommends:

Condition #3 from the Board's March 20, 2025, approval be modified as follows:

3. Join with DCR as co-holder of <u>one or more</u> *Deeds of Acceptance, Assignment, Restatement, Amendment, and Consolidation of Historic Preservation and Open-Space Easements* for properties 2(a) through 2(g) above. The restrictions and preservation and conservation purposes of the original easements are to be continued in perpetuity.

All other conditions from the Board's prior approval remain unchanged.

<u>Board Comments Summary</u>: Mr. Pollard commented that the establishment of this next phase of the park involves a complicated set of circumstances; he complimented the DHR staff on their work; and spoke to the importance of this project. Mr. Pollard stated that the proposed change was modest, and he supported it.

With a motion that Condition #3 from the Board's March 20, 2025, be approved as presented by staff, with all other conditions from the Board's prior approval remaining unchanged by Mr. Pollard and a second from Ms. Hutson, all members voted in the affirmative.

## **Policy Update**

Ms. Melinat presented the following new Easement Program Policy:

#### 1. New Easement Program Policy #13: Conversion/Diversion

- Outlines the administrative process for land perpetually protected under the Open Space Land Act (OSLA) that may be converted or diverted for a use not compatible with the protections of an easement.
  - 1. Board determination whether a proposed project/activity is essential.
  - 2. Board evaluation of substitute land offer
  - 3. Board acceptance of substitute land easement
- Other organizations holding under OSLA have similar policies
- Provides a project proponent with the codified requirements that must be met, an estimated timeline, and the applicable fees.
  - Burden is on project proponent to satisfy all requirements
  - Deliberately complicated and protracted process.
  - Requires Board action at multiple meetings
  - Easements acquired using federal grant funding have additional requirements/approvals

#### Board Comments Summary: No comments

With a motion to approve the new Easement Program Policy #13: Conversion/Diversion as presented by staff by Dr. Spivey and a second by Mr. Bosket, all members voted in the affirmative.

#### **Violation Update**

Ms. Melinat and Director Langan presented the following Violation Update:

#### 1. Belgian Building, Virginia Union University

Timeline and Overview (Ms. Melinat)

- 1939 Belgian Building constructed in New York City for the World's Fair
- 1941 Moved and reconstructed on campus of Virginia Union University
- 2010 Donation of preservation easement following receipt of \$340,000 Save America's Treasures Grant from the National Park Service
- 2020 VUU installed four internally illuminated signs resulting in a violation of the easement
- 2022 Mitigation Agreement executed between VUU and the Board requires:
  - Submit a final draft of the historic preservation portion of VUU's Master Plan
  - Regular inspections
  - Prompt removal of signs if damage is observed
  - Annual payment of \$35,000 for as long as the signs were installed
  - VUU obligation to maintain \$70,000 Letter of Credit
  - VUU sponsorship of two new highway markers within one year

Status of Mitigation and proposed amendment to the Agreement (Director Langan)

- December 2021 An agreement had been reached with VUU and reviewed by the OAG
- Agreement approved by the past Administration; Administration changed, which began a period to educate the new Administration on the issues and Agreement. Governor Youngkin did approve, and the Agreement was executed in September 2022.
- Shortly thereafter, VUU legal counsel informed the current Administration that the VUU President did not have authorization to sign the Agreement. VUU would not forward the annual penalty fee. From then until now communications regarding this situation and their requests for a modified agreement have been noted by the Governor's Office and the line of credit has expired.
- Recently, a draft amendment to the Agreement, shared with the Board, has been revised to incorporate a suggestion from Trip Pollard that deadlines be added to the amendment for the components other than the annual fee because none of those have been undertaken. No parts of the Agreement have been satisfied.

Dates have been added along with a request that a preservation component be added their campus Master Plan.

• It is suggested that the Board's approval include language to authorize DHR's director to continue negotiations on behalf of the Board referencing the original motion made to approve the original agreement. This would allow DHR to continue to move this matter forward and hopefully resolve it before the end of the calendar year.

#### Board Comments Summary:

Dr. Spivey confirmed the Agreement would be unnecessary if the signs were removed. Ms. Hutson clarified that the placement of the signs on the building was never submitted by VUU to DHR for approval. Director Langan confirmed that was true. Ms. Hutson asked if it was discovered during the annual stewardship process. Director Langan noted that it was discovered shortly after installation because of its high visibility from the Interstate. Ms. Hutson inquired if VUU ever reached out to seek alternatives. Director Langan stated that DHR suggested alternatives, but there was never any real engagement with VUU about alternatives. Ms. Hutson confirmed that none of the annual fee of \$35,000 has been received. Director Langan added that the Letter of Credit has expired, giving DHR/BHR no recourse. Ms. Hutson asked if VUU invested funds in repairs to recent tower damage. Ms. Melinat responded that she understood repairs were funded by insurance money. Ms. Hutson questioned the claim that the VUU president does not have authority to sign agreements on behalf of the University, noting that her personal experience as a college president, presidents usually have the authority to handle all operational decisions as delegated by the Board of Trustees. She expressed concern relative to the fact that this was an agreement that was in place, and no one came forward until three years later to say the president did not have authority. Director Langan confirmed this and noted that the Board of Trustees may not have known about the violation the first year or two despite the extensive media coverage and the Chair being copied on the letter summarizing the agreed-upon mitigation from DHR in May 2021. Ms. Hutson summarized that VUU has not put forth any of the funds, has not offered any alternatives and continues to be in noncompliance of the easement. She noted that this does not indicate a good track record but instead demonstrates intentional resistance.

Director Langan summarized the provisions in the proposed amendment that VUU may be willing to agree to. All previous mitigation requirements would remain except for replacing the \$35,000 cash penalty with the issuance of two scholarships totaling \$35,000 to students studying history.

Mr. Pollard clarified that the update to the VUU Comprehensive Plan was in the original agreement. He expressed his extreme disappointment in VUU's behavior after being the recipient of hundreds of thousands of public funds for restoration, while engaging in a willful violation. He noted that the BHR and DHR staff have worked diligently to develop a mitigation plan and move forward, and VUU has done nothing in three years. Mr. Pollard expressed his likely support of Director Langan's proposal to continue negotiations with completion dates despite his deep unhappiness with the situation. He noted that he hoped VUU would not ask for any more funds for historic preservation work until they can demonstrate better stewardship of historic resources. Dr. Spivey asked if the amended agreement could include the prohibition of any preservation incentives until the provisions of the agreement are met. Director Langan indicated that it may be possible to include in an amendment.

Vice Chair Rutherford expressed his support of Mr. Pollard's comments and his suggestion that the amended agreement include deadlines. He also supported Dr. Spivey's suggestion of financial sanctions, adding that it should include both state and federal funds. Director Langan noted that DHR only has control over funds administered by DHR. She indicated the NPS Save America's Treasures program was notified of the violation; however, since they are not the legal holder of the easement, NPS has not participated in any efforts to resolve the violation. Vice Chair Rutherford stated that he supports the efforts to give authority to Director Langan to negotiate an amended agreement with deadlines and supports a term that preservation fund requests from VUU will not be considered until implementation of the Agreement.

Mr. Townes expressed agreement with the Board comments made and support of the proposed motion.

With a motion to authorize Director Langan to continue to negotiate an amended agreement as presented by DHR staff with VUU, to include timed deadlines for compliance and sanctions for state funds administered by DHR by Mr. Pollard and a second by Dr. Spivey, all members voted in the affirmative.

Director Langan will provide an update at the September Board meeting.

#### Easements Recorded Since the March 20, 2025, BHR Meeting

Ms. Melinat briefed the Board about the following recently recorded easement:

#### 1. Fones Cliffs Phase III, Richmond County

Easement Donor: The Conservation Fund Acreage: ±934.24 Recorded: April 16, 2025

Board Comments Summary: No comments

Mr. Tarne asked for clarification on the previous motion regarding the VUU violation. Mr. Tarne asked if the delegation of authority to Director Langan included discretion to negotiate the terms, for example if the terms suggested by the Board were not in the final Agreement, does she still have the authority to execute an agreement.

Vice Chair Rutherford reopened the discussion.

Mr. Pollard proposed a clarified motion to give DHR Director Langan authority to execute an agreement that has *substantial conformance to the conditions that the Board has identified.* 

Mr. Tarne asked for clarification regarding the Board's terms, as "must have" or "would like to see" in the agreement amendment. Mr. Pollard reiterated that the language "substantial conformance to the conditions identified by the Board" does give the DHR Director discretion in negotiating.

Ms. Hutson commented that it will be important to have evidence of compliance going forward, for example, evidence of the scholarships being awarded to students. Vice Chair Rutherford stated that he believes a deadline is needed, commenting on the importance of making progress in a timely manner before another administration comes into office and the importance of bringing closure to the issue for both DHR and the Board.

Director Langan committed to working with Mr. Tarne to negotiate and execute an amended agreement with VUU in a timely manner that the Board will be comfortable with.

Mr. Pollard reiterated that "substantial compliance" language gives Director Langan authority to negotiate and execute without stalling the process. Mr. Bosket expressed support for Mr. Pollard's suggested language.

An amended motion to move that the BHR delegate the Director of DHR discretionary authority to negotiate an amendment to the mitigation agreement that substantially complies with the conditions identified by the BHR, including containing deadlines for compliance and to execute any such amendment on behalf of the BHR was made by Mr. Pollard and seconded by Dr. Spivey; all members voted in the affirmative.

The Easements portion of the agenda ended at 1:22 p.m.

## **Adjournment**

With a motion to adjourn the meeting by Dr. Spivey, all members voted in the affirmative. Vice Chair Rutherford adjourned the meeting of the Board of Historic Resources at 1:22 p.m.

#### **STATE REVIEW BOARD**

Radcliff Hall, Longwood University, 310 Buffalo Street, Farmville, VA 23909

#### **State Review Board Members Present**

John Mullen, Chair Carol Shull Dr. Larissa M. Smith Dr. Eleanor Breen Dr. Jeffrey E. Klee Greg Rutledge

#### **State Review Board Members Absent**

Dr. Jody L. Allen, Vice-Chair

#### **Department of Historic Resources Staff Present**

Amanda Terrell Jolene Smith Joanna McKnight Ari Calos Michael Pulice Aubrey Von Lindern Austin Walker LaToya Gray-Sparks\*

\*denotes virtual attendance

**Other State Agency Staff Present:** 

None

<u>Guests (from attendees list in Teams and sign-in sheets)</u>: Lena McDonald, Marcus Pollard, Jody Lahendro, Eric Griffits, Karen Vicks, Calista Nelson, William Reeder

Chair Mullen called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. for discussion and consideration of the Preliminary Information Forms (informal guidance session).

The Preliminary Information Forms (PIFs) on the Consent Agenda were considered first. SRB members may request that PIFs on the Consent Agenda be switched to the meeting's Discussion Agenda. They also can email DHR staff with questions about any of the PIFs in advance of the meeting (emails between DHR staff and up to two SRB members do not violate the Virginia FOIA).

Chair Mullen requested that the Thoroughfare Historic District Boundary Increase, King's Pond Mill, and Mount Sinai Baptist Church be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Discussion Agenda. The Board approved the remaining Consent Agenda by voice vote, with the following PIFs on this portion of the meeting's agenda. DHR staff provided written summaries of each PIF for review as a single block.

#### **Consent Agenda:**

#### **Eastern Region**

- 1. Mount Carmel Baptist Church, Albemarle County, DHR File No. 002-1127  $\Delta$
- 2. Pearlie's Restaurant, City of Newport News, DHR File No. 121-5669  $\Delta$  \$
- 3. Henry Clay Elementary School, Town of Ashland, Hanover County, DHR File No. 166-0013 \*\*
- 4. Miller House, Chesterfield County, DHR File No. 020-0042
- 5. Ames-Old Farm, City of Suffolk, DHR File No. 133-0058 \*\*

- 6. Sunnyside, Southampton County, DHR File No. 087-0117
- 7. Bethany Elementary School, Hanover County, DHR File No. 042-5996 \*\*

## **Northern Region**

- 1. Shockeysville United Methodist Church, Frederick County, DHR File No. 034-0004
- 2. Glenmore Farm, Loudoun County, DHR File No. 053-6092 \*\*

## Western Region

- 1. John Arthur House, Franklin County, DHR File No. 033-0001
- Court House Hill/Downtown Historic District Boundary Increase, City of Lynchburg, DHR File No. 118-5762 \*\*
- 3. Dublin High School, Town of Dublin, Pulaski County, DHR File No. 210-5011
- 4. Washington-Lee Elementary School, City of Bristol, DHR File No. 102-5081

# **Discussion Agenda:**

# Northern Region ......presented by Aubrey Von Lindern

- 1. Thoroughfare Historic District Boundary Increase, Prince William County, DHR File No. 076-5150 Δ \*\* Ms. Von Lindern clarified that the expanded district PIF was recommended eligible under Criterion A by the architectural evaluation committee but that a formal evaluation from DHR's archaeological evaluation committee would be necessary before review of Criterion D by the State Review Board. Ms. Shull asked for clarification on what resources are located within the proposed boundary increase area, noting the lack of extant architectural features. Ms. Von Lindern noted that cemeteries are being added, while Ms. Smith clarified that several previously identified archaeological sites are also included. The SRB members were unable to reach a consensus on the eligibility of the proposed boundary increase area under Criterion A and deferred their final decision pending the recommendations of the archaeological evaluation committee.
- 2. Liberty Hill Farm, Clarke County, DHR File No. 021-5055 \*\*

Chair Mullen asked about the additions to the original dwelling. Dr. Klee asked about the source of the 1790 date of construction. Ms. Von Lindern stated that it was based on deed research and historical information related to land settlement during the period. Dr. Klee asked whether it was certain that the rear ell is an addition and not original to the house. Ms. Von Lindern said that conclusion was based on physical evidence, but she would suggest further research. Dr. Klee recommended further clarification on the date of construction and alterations to the smokehouse. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.

3. Fletcher School, Madison County, DHR File No. 056-5077

Ms. Shull asked whether DHR staff have been consulted on the rehabilitation of the building. Ms. Von Lindern said that she has offered her guidance and that the owners are committed to reusing as much original material as possible, including windows, flooring, and beadboard, once water damage is repaired and drainage managed. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.

4. Mount Jackson Colored Cemetery, Mount Jackson, Shenandoah County, DHR File No. 265-5009 Δ Dr. Smith asked about ownership of the cemetery. Ms. Von Lindern confirmed that the town now owns the full cemetery. Dr. Breen suggested examining death records to assist in potentially expanding the list of known burials and associated community members. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.

# Eastern Region ......presented by Joanna McKnight & Ari Calos

1. Petersburg Gas Works, City of Petersburg, DHR File No. 123-0036 \*\* The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.

- 2. McGuire's Inn, Town of Tappahannock, Essex County, DHR File No. 310-5016  $\Delta$  \$ The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.
- 3. Cumberland Community Center, New Kent County, DHR File No. 063-5159
- Ms. Shull asked whether the period of significance for the property could predate the current building, given the historic context; it was agreed that a more concrete link to the site's earlier history would be necessary. Dr. Smith recommended exploring the specific local context surrounding the *Green v. County School Board of New Kent County* decision in 1968. Dr. Klee noted the importance of the building's concrete block exterior as a character-defining feature and referenced an as-yet unpublished Dell Upton essay on the topic of concrete block construction and African American community buildings. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.
- 4. Mount Sinai Baptist Church, King William County, DHR File No. 050-5013 \*\* Dr. Klee expressed skepticism that there is remaining fabric that predates circa 1900 and recommended further refining the period of significance based on physical fabric and burials in the adjacent cemetery. He noted that the church retains much higher integrity to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Ms. Terrell noted the potential for nomination under the forthcoming Sanctuaries of Governance MPD. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.
- 5. King's Pond Mill, Hanover County, DHR File No. 042-0091 \*\*

Dr. Klee proposed that the former mill building better embodies the distinctive characteristics associated with the 1960s/70s phenomenon of adaptive reuse of large historic structures as artists' studios, galleries, and other similar spaces. He recommended shifting the focus to its association with Nancy Camden Witt and arguing for the architectural significance of the renovations rather than the original mill, which no longer retains sufficient integrity. Dr. Breen recommended that the largely intact mill landscape could still warrant an earlier period of significance to include the industrial and commercial history. The SRB members voted to defer their final decision on the property's eligibility pending additional research and reframing of the justification for Criterion C.

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- Dr. Klee asked about the proposed date of construction of circa 1900. Mr. Pulice noted the presence of wire nails throughout the dwelling, coupled with the circumstances of its construction. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.
- Jordan House, City of Buena Vista, DHR File No. 103-5131 Mr. Pulice noted that a 1913 Sanborn map shows the house's impressive wraparound porch, which was previously thought to have been added ca. 1950. Mr. Rutledge clarified that this would refine the proposed period of significance to the house's date of construction; Mr. Pulice confirmed. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.
- 3. Parry McCluer High School, City of Buena Vista, DHR File No. 103-5194 The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.
- 4. Randolph-Macon Woman's College Historic District, City of Lynchburg, DHR File No. 118-5763 \*\* The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.

Chair Mullen adjourned the SRB meeting at 2:47 p.m.

- \* Cost Share Sponsored Project
- \*\* Certified Local Government
- \*\*\* Certified Local Government Grant Sponsored Project
- Associated with African American History
- # Associated with Virginia Indian History
- ^ ESHPF Grant-Funded Project
- % State Stewardship
- > National Park Service Grant-Funded Project
- } Sponsored by Local Government (no grants utilized)
- < Threatened Sites state grant
- { African American Outreach state grant
- National Trust for Historic Preservation private grant
- \ BIPOC application
- \$ Associated with a Multiple Property Documentation Form