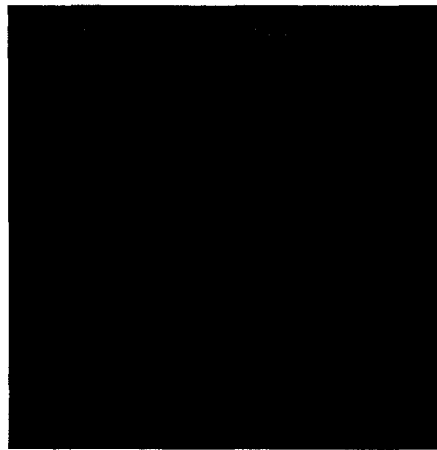


**The Affordable Housing Advisory Committee  
2010 – 2011 Annual Report**



**JULY 2011**

**The Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC)  
Annual Report, 2010-2011**

The Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC) is comprised of members appointed by the Alexandria City Council and is staffed by the Office of Housing. A list of the committee members during the 2010-11 period is included at the end of this report. The purpose of the committee is to advise City Council on issues regarding the maintenance and promotion of affordable housing, to make recommendations for policies governing the expenditures of the City's Housing Trust Fund and Housing Opportunities Fund monies, and to oversee the administration of the Trust Fund. This year, AHAC also participated in the Housing Master Plan (HMP) process as the core members of the HMP Advisory Group, along with six additional members representing relevant constituencies. Three AHAC-only meetings were held during the annual report period, and the group also participated in ten HMP Advisory Group meetings which took the place of regular AHAC meetings.

During the past year, the Committee dealt with the following funding requests, affordable housing plans, and issues:

1. **Considered and approved a \$35,000 Grant Request from Rebuilding Together Alexandria (RTA) for Housing Trust Fund monies (02/11):** Housing Trust Fund (HTF) monies were approved to fund RTA volunteer-driven rehabilitation activities in FY2011. At least 75 percent of the City's grant funds are for the purchase of supplies and materials. RTA planned to assist over 95 Alexandria resident homes with home repairs, as well as some non-profit agencies, serving more than 150 homeowners and their families. Funding Source: Housing Opportunities Fund (Housing Trust Fund portion)
2. **Considered and approved a request from Alexandria Housing Development Corporation for Housing Opportunities Fund monies (02/11):** The Committee approved a new \$200,000 allocation from the Housing Opportunities Fund for the FY 2012 annual operating budget of the Alexandria Housing Development Corporation (AHDC). AHDC can retain up to \$50,000 from FY 2011 carryover funds. Funding Source: Housing Opportunities Fund (General Fund portion)
3. **Considered and approved a transfer of ownership of three affordable housing projects to the Alexandria Housing Development Corporation along with a reservation of up to \$574,000 of affordable housing funds for AHDC (6/11):** The Committee approved the transfer of ownership of three properties owned and operated by the RPJ Housing Corporation to AHDC. The three properties included Arbelo, Lacy Court, and Longview Terrace Apartments and the transfer was required because of RPJ Housing's inability to secure permanent financing for the properties. AHDC will assume the City's secondary loans originally provided to RPJ Housing for each property. The Committee also approved a reservation of \$574,000 to allow AHDC to cover the due diligence and transactional costs incurred while assuming ownership of Arbelo, Lacy Court,

and Longview Terrace Apartments. The reservation of funds will also provide AHDC with operating and capital reserves for up to 12 months until they can secure permanent financing.

4. **Formed the base for the Housing Master Plan Advisory Group:** AHAC along with six additional appointees serves as the Advisory Group for the Housing Master Plan process. The purposes of the Housing Master Plan process include:
  - Achieve a more balanced distribution of affordable housing throughout the City consistent with other elements of the City's Master Plan;
  - Define goals and establish policies to promote mixed-income housing;
  - Enhance community understanding of the value of housing choice and its impact on economic sustainability;
  - Investigate strategies for affordable, workforce, and public housing preservation and production through development and zoning tools and resources; and
  - Consider a policy to enhance the number and type of housing units that should be protected from loss (i.e., preserved or replaced).

**In its Housing Master Plan Advisory Group role, the committee has:**

- Heard and discussed presentations on special needs housing, housing economics, funding options, and land use tools for affordable housing.
- Participated in a housing allocation exercise focused on the future geographic locations of affordable housing in the City.
- Reviewed and provided feedback on potential Goals and Objectives of the Housing Master Plan.

**Voting Members: 14**

- 1 Builder or developer of residential property
- 1 Real estate professional with knowledge and experience in residential real estate
- 1 Landlord of residential property in the City
- 1 Residential tenant in the City
- 1 Homeowner in the City
- 1 Commissioner from the ARHA Board
- 1 Representative of the City's faith community
- 1 Representative of a civic association in the City
- 1 Representative who is employed by or affiliated with an organization that promotes and maintains affordable housing
- 1 Financial professional with knowledge and experience in the field of finance as it relates to residential housing
- 1 Representative of an employer in the city who employs at least 100 employees
- 1 Licensed and practicing attorney
- 1 Person designated by, but who need not be a member of the Commission on Aging
- 1 Person who is either a City employee or a teacher with the Alexandria City Public Schools

**Voting Members during 2010-2011:**

- Patricia Arnaudo (July 2010 – December 2010)
- Eric Bonetti (July 2010 – June 2011)
- Michael Butler (April 2011 – June 2011)
- Michael Caison, Chair (July 2010 – June 2011)
- John Corrado (July 2010 – June 2011)
- Carter Flemming (July 2010 – June 2011)
- William Harris (July 2010 – June 2011)
- Shelly (Bob) Kaufman (July 2010 – June 2011)
- Laura Lantzy (July 2010 – June 2011)
- Rick Liu (July 2010 – June 2011)
- Patrick McCreesh (July 2010 – June 2011)
- Katherine Medina (January 2011 – June 2011)
- Kenya Newby (May 2011 – June 2011)
- Mary Ellen Ruff (July 2010 – February 2011)
- Sonya Sacks (July 2010 – June 2011)
- Ana Soto (July 2010 – December 2010)

**Annual Report**  
**Alexandria Gang Prevention Community Task Force**  
**July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011**

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE  
ALEXANDRIA, VA

2011 JUN 30 P 6: 30

**Summary of Activities for 2010 – 2011:**

In concert with its membership on the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force and in partnership with efforts within the Council of Governments, the Alexandria Gang Prevention Community Task Force - consisting of 17 members, co-chaired by the Mayor and a Member of City Council, and staffed by the Gang Prevention & Intervention Coordinator - continued to support, sustain, improve and create activities, services and resources that remove and mitigate the existence of gang membership, in accordance with recommended national best-practices.

The Task Force, which is advised by the Senior Policy Work Group on Gangs (the membership of which includes multiple City and School leadership positions) met quarterly as an entire group, communicated regularly throughout the year, and completed work through subcommittees. The Task Force continued to be kept apprised of criminal and other incidents related to gang activity; interventions in place to support those who may have involved themselves in gang behavior and needed help to separate themselves from such involvement; and prevention and education efforts to provide protective factors within the community, family and individuals to diminish gang behavior prior to its occurrence.

The following is a listing of some of the major activities undertaken and advised by the Task Force and the Senior Policy Work Group on Gangs:

**Regional Partnership**

The regional effort of gang risk mitigation continues in full within law enforcement and prevention, education, intervention (17 jurisdictions - since 2003 - **Northern VA Regional Gang Task Force** ([www.preventgangsnova.org](http://www.preventgangsnova.org))). Note that the Alexandria Gang Prevention Coordinator and Director of Court Service Unit sit on the Intervention Steering Committee and meet with representatives from law enforcement and counterparts from Prince William County, Loudoun County, Arlington County/Falls Church and Fairfax County on a monthly basis to discuss regional and local initiatives addressing gang mitigation for youth and adults.

**Crime and Graffiti Briefings:**

The group was regularly apprised of gang crime and related incidents by special gang and graffiti reports and intelligence by the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force, the Alexandria Police Department, the Alexandria Sheriff's Department, the Commonwealth Attorney's Office, the Office of Adult Probation and Parole, the Juvenile Court Service Unit, the Alexandria City Public Schools, the Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities, other partnering agencies and organizations and community members, including youth. Integral to the workings of the Task Force has been the accurate and up-to-date knowledge of local, regional and national trends related to gang activity. Included in these reports was the streamlined and highly touted graffiti removal system within the City, which has attained statewide acclaim. Discussions included specific neighborhood issues and concerns related to both the youth and adult population.

A trial "ride along" was organized in June, 2011. The Task Force boarded a City 28 passenger bus and drove to every point in the City while learning about issues and information from the Alexandria Police Department's Gang Detective and the Director of the Office of Citizen Assistance. This effort was well received and will be replicated during the course of the year with meetings within the community and more "face-to-face" meetings within partnering organizations and/or community areas.

**Subcommittee Incident Reviews:**

Following a model program out of Milwaukee, WI, at-large community representative, Mr. Steven Jansen, led the development of a protocol to evaluate and review prior gang-motivated incidents within our community. The goal of this review is to ascertain lessons learned from a law enforcement, prosecution, intervention and prevention perspective; considering the perpetrators, victims and witnesses and to share these with agencies and organizations within our community in order to positively affect policy changes to make our community safer and more responsive.

#### **Intervention Prevention Education (IPE):**

The Alexandria Gang Prevention Community Task Force provided regular input on the oversight of the effective Intervention Prevention Education (IPE) program within the City and region. The IPE program – a free, 90 day professional intervention program for youth 12 – 21 and families at-risk of, or involved with, gang membership – continued in full-force. The program, which operates by referrals submitted by City and non-profit professionals, school officials, parents and other community members; received a plethora of service requests from agents representing a wide-cross-section of staff members; so much so that the number of staff deployed in Alexandria was double of that which existed in some larger, more populated jurisdictions in the region.

Due to needs of both students younger than the age of 12 and adults over the age of 21, 2 new programs were created within the City. The Elementary IPE program began and a full-time specialist was hired to provide specific intervention to individuals, families, groups of students and the elementary school community in general. Additionally, due to demanding needs of young adults in need of re-entry services, a pilot program was created and a staff person hired to provide specific intervention services to this population. Both of these specialized programs were utilized to capacity and saw benefits for consumers for whom they provided services.

#### **Subcommittee Intervention:**

A new committee was recommended during the course of the year. This group began by reviewing issues around the matter of bullying. Following discussions with agency partners, school officials and the National Crime Prevention Council, the school system shared its focus on the highly touted Olveus Program; which is intended to be enacted throughout each school within Alexandria within 3 years.

It is also noted that the group reviewed the youth response/services during crisis situations and awaits officials for this structure and policy.

#### **Subcommittee Graduation Rates/Job Readiness:**

Almost since its beginning, the Task Force has looked at ways to improve rates of graduation. Over 12 agency representatives and community members worked with Task Force member, Mr. Jim Copple, and, after a great deal of research, the group created a document of principles that was supported by the Superintendent of ACPS and presented, along with recommendations, to City Council. The Subcommittee focused on several areas - Drop-Out Prevention Information Exchange, Family Literacy, Student Re-Entry Initiative, and Building Connections. The Task Force has kept the issue of graduation rates on its radar of matters paramount to effective support of children in the community.

During the course of the year, the group looked at ways to add value to creating more opportunities for ready-workforce opportunities such as through its partnership with the Alexandria Seaport Foundation and apprenticeships for gang-involved or at-risk youth.

The group combined graduation rates and ready-workforce and, while forming a relationship with the Workforce Investment Board, has considered activities to make enhancements in this area.

#### **Alexandria Mentoring Partnership (AMP) Coordination:**

The Alexandria Mentoring Partnership was provided with a full-time Coordinator through grant funding.

The Coordinator acts as a central clearinghouse of information to the public regarding mentoring referrals and support. In essence, the Coordinator is a “one-stop” face of mentoring within the City; meant to make it easier for community members to become involved.

The AMP consists of 10 professionally managed mentor programs within the City. Each program signs an MOU, pays dues and participates in a bi-annual evaluation (based on national best-practice standards for mentoring).

The group – through the Coordinator – holds 2 major recruitment events during the course of the year, quarterly socials/trainings for current mentors, and training/meetings for partnership coordinators.

The AMP signed on some 95 new, actual mentors through the partnership.

#### **Subcommittee Communication, Outreach & Education:**

Visibility of the Gang Task Force, its activities and useful/helpful information is an integral piece of community supports. Collaborative efforts with local and regional police, other regional prevention coordinators and other experts - including the Office of the Attorney General - were continued to provide specialized information within the local and regional community.

In order to provide the most effective information delivery to parents and other community members – many of whom who cannot attend multiple meetings – the Gang Task Force continued to partner with the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria and the Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy to provide cross training for community members on risky behaviors.

Subcommittee work was developed in order to enhance communication. Among the areas of focus was in the area of outreach – connecting with those who might not otherwise be aware of or engaged in help. With partners within the City and community, efforts have been made to enhance this area of connectivity.

**Leisure Time Support:** Soccer tournaments have occurred every 6 months for the past 2 years. We are partnering with the Alexandria Soccer Association to help students participate in league opportunities.

**Regional Conference** –A specialized training on Child Sex Trafficking occur on March 22, 2011, for law enforcement, school officials and others. Alexandria staff members were in attendance.

**Washington Metro Gang Prevention Network** has been created with Council of Governments and partners in DC and Maryland – we are working with counterparts in those jurisdictions.

**Tattoo Removal** programming through Fairfax County and Prince William/Loudoun – service is available for Alexandria kids (2 at a time) through an agreement with Fairfax County – mostly individuals would have IPE services also because tattoo removal is just 1 of the issues that they would be facing. Alexandria recently utilized the service for a young man who has made VAST improvements and intends to enlist in the military and seek a career in law enforcement.

**Jobs** - Skill and employability initiative with Seaport Foundation – green color apprenticeships set through grant for this year. There are federally funded jobs available through the Regional Task Force for the summer for 18 youth through Skill Source. Consultation with Joblink also continues to occur.

Statement of Contribution/Members:

#### **Members:**

Mayor William Euille (Co-Chair): Mayor Euille continues to support efforts through his vital leadership and continual support and encouragement. The Mayor champions Alexandria Mentoring Partnership events and other initiatives.

Councilman Rob Krupicka (Co-Chair): Councilman Krupicka has been with the Task Force since its inception and continues to help the Task Force enhance its efforts, particularly in the areas of collaboration improvement and assuring the use of metrics.

Ms. Ronnie Campbell (ACPS School Board): Ms. Campbell represents the school board and is an active participant on the Task Force. She is often at Task Force sponsored events, such as the Regional Soccer Tournaments.

Ms. Michele Evans (City Manager's Office): Ms. Evans has been an integral part of the Task Force since its inception. She ensures the collaboration of City staff and programs and provides a vital perspective and important information regarding City issues.

Ms. Fulton Vinson (High School Representative- TC Williams H.S. Assistant Principal): Mr. Vinson represented the high schools during the course of the year. Mr. Vinson provided the team with support during meetings and when follow-up was needed regarding youth issues or staff training.

Mr. Arthur Williams (Middle School Representative – Francis Hammond II Principal): Mr. Williams represented the middle schools during the past year. He provided perspectives and observations from the middle schools and followed up on school and student related matters.

Ms. Susan Stickle (Elementary School Representative – Technology Integration Specialist): Ms. Stickle again represented the elementary schools during the last year. She took on a special leadership role this year as she kept track of and reported on an integral part of any board, commission or task force – that of making sure that everyone knew what the group would be doing for follow up.

Ms. Bonnie Baxley (Director – Community Lodgings, Inc.): Ms. Baxley strengthened a bridge between the Task Force and community organizations. Her leadership was felt in Task Force meetings (chairing a meeting) and through her participation in subcommittee work. She also represented the Task Force during a national conference in Orlando, FL.

Mr. James Williams (NAACP): Mr. Williams continued to act as a strong advocate and partner. He continues to strengthen the connection between the Task Force and community organizations.

Mr. Hashim Taylor (Youth representative): Mr. Taylor – youth representative since middle school – completed his duties on the Task Force up until the week of his graduation. Mr. Taylor's insights led to an increase in information regarding what is known within the schools and encouraged the group to post a "youth impressions" portion on every agenda henceforth.

Ms. Saira Cabrera (Youth Representative): Ms. Cabrera is a new member of the Task Force this year. From the very beginning, she has been an important contributor as she was able to provide valuable insight into a particular problem that the adults were discussing.

Mr. James Copple (Founding Partner, SAI – Member, At-Large): Mr. Copple, who is among the first members of the Task Force, was instrumental in the development of the enhancement of subcommittee work in the area of workforce readiness. He is noted for continually taking the Task Force and subcommittee work to an improved level.

Mr. Steven Jansen (Vice President/COO – Association of Prosecuting Attorneys – Member, At-Large): Mr. Jansen has been on the Task Force for years and has been particularly instrumental in the formation of an Incident Review Committee; which is hoped to provide our community with a national model of safety improvement. Mr. Jansen often chairs the Task Force when the Mayor or Councilman are unavailable.

Minister Tai Smith (Mt. Jezreel Baptist Church) - Inter-faith Representative: Minister Smith joined the Task Force this year. He led Task Force representation in community outreach and has strengthened the Task Force response to community issues. Minister Smith also attended the national conference in Orlando, FL.



Parent Representative – Claritza “Cathy” Santiago: Ms. Santiago joined the Task Force this year. Her position as parent representative is vital and she has already provided important insight to gang issues from a parent perspective.

**Statement of the Group’s Specific Goals for the Coming Year:**

The Alexandria Gang Prevention Community Task Force will continue to oversee the activities and goals of its strategic plan to mitigate risk factors that may contribute to involvement in gangs. Specifically, it will work in collaboration with its partners within the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force, the Council of Governments and jurisdictions within Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia.

Specifically:

- It will continue to receive specific and specialized reports from local and regional law enforcement. It will solidify its plan to create an Incident Review Committee and will make this activity a regular part of its work.
- It will continue to advise and oversee intervention efforts for those most in need of assistance.
- The Task Force will research and add value to help youth become more prepared for the world of work.
- The Task Force shall support the expansion of mentoring so that more children within the City can be matched up with more adults.
- The Task Force shall support activities being undertaken in the enhancement of bullying prevention.
- The Task Force shall partner on efforts to enhance communication, education and outreach to mitigate risks of maladaptive behavior.
- All of the efforts within the Task Force shall be meshed with the City Council and School Board Strategic Plans and the City’s new youth master plan.

**Recruitment and Leadership Plans:**

The Alexandria Gang Prevention Community Task Force will recruit within the local community to fill vacant positions. The Mayor and one member of Council continue to serve as the Chairpersons of the Task Force.

**Cycle for Ensuring Turnover in Leadership:**

Leadership within the Task Force is determined by City Council.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Mike Mackey  
Gang Prevention & Intervention Coordinator**

**City of Alexandria**  
**Boards and Commissions**  
**Yearly Activity Report**  
**July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011**

**Commission:** Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee  
**Chair:** Kathleen Barnett  
**Committee Mission:** Enhance awareness and understanding between Alexandria and Caen citizens

***Leadership and Membership:***

At the January 2011 meeting, Kathleen Barnett was elected to replace Sean Kennedy as Chair for the next one-year term. Other officer positions which are on a two-year cycle were filled as follows: Vice-Chair, Jennifer Reading; Treasurer, Steffanie Feuer. Over the course of the year, nine members resigned from the committee, of whom four of were fairly recent appointments. Currently, only 12 of the 17 positions are filled. Suggestion: Although member retention has improved since last year, it would be helpful if the City could update the way it describes the Committee purpose and member obligations in its announcement of vacancies to ensure that members are committed once appointed by the City.

***Activities - Administrative:***

- Formation of 401c3 "Friends of the Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee: Under the leadership of former Committee members Jayne Clancy and Steve Rich, there is now a "Friends" group with over 80 names of prior members and interested supporters.
- Creation of a Committee website: Treasurer and Communications lead Steffanie Feuer created a website: [www.alexandriacaen.wordpress.com](http://www.alexandriacaen.wordpress.com), and has greatly increased our communications efforts
- Decision to focus on D-Day as the Committee's annual "signature event" to raise awareness and interest about Caen
- Decision to maximize the opportunity of counterpart visits for outreach to civic and business groups in each city in order to increase knowledge and awareness of the sister city relationship.
- Invited discussion with Mayor Euille to clarify how the Committee can best support the City's goals for its Sister City relationship with Caen
- Invited discussion with Mary Jo Johnson about the functioning of, and potential collaboration with, the Dundee-Helsingborg Sister City Committee

***Activities - Mission Fulfillment:***

- D-Day Activities: The Committee launched its first annual D-Day events to a large and responsive audience at Goodwin House with a film (June 2<sup>nd</sup>), and a presentation by D-Day veteran John Marr, and comments by Mayor Euille (June 4<sup>th</sup>) about the importance of D-Day to Caen. Committee Vice-Chair Jennie Reading was the initiator of the idea and the principal program organizer, with support from Nick Kuhn and Anne Paine West.

- Wine&Cheese Event: On June 12, 2011, the Committee held a highly-successful event under the leadership of event coordinators Nicole Tousley and Nick Kuhn to raise awareness, support and funds. A previous member of the Committee and current "Friend", Sally Krahn, provided the use of her home for the event which was attended by over 60 people including Congressman Jim Moran, State Senator Patsy Ticer, Mayor Bill Euille and City Councilmember Paul Smedberg. The event netted approximately \$1,000 which will be used to expand awareness and interest in Alexandria about Caen and the Sister City relationship.
- Intern Exchanges: TC Williams grad Danny Ackerman was the July 2010 intern to Caen, and in the same month the Committee, with help from Mayor Euille, hosted and entertained an intern from Caen, Maxime Gallo. For selection of the July 2011 intern to Caen, the Committee undertook extensive outreach to improve the diversity of applicants. Committee member Elizabeth Ryan who is fluent in French and Chair Kathleen Barnett interviewed five young Alexandria residents (four TC Williams grads and one senior at St.Stephen-St.Anne), and recommended Marie-Claire Mandolia, currently a student at Mary Washington College, as the July 2011 intern, which was approved by Mayor Euille. The Committee also prepared to host the intern from Caen, Yohann Troude, who arrived in Alexandria on June 29, 2011, the same day that Marie-Claire left for Caen.
- Alexandria-Caen Exchanges: Due to financial constraints on both sides, there were no group exchanges during FY11, but one Alexandria Committee member, Constance Troutman, visited Caen in August 2010 and was hosted there by our Caen counterparts.

***Goals for the Coming Year:***

Committee members planned various activities to introduce the July intern from Caen, Yohann Troude, to Alexandria.

Plans will begin soon to host and entertain a delegation of three adults and four teenagers from Caen Oct. 22-31. To fulfill our decision to encourage the use of visits not just for tourism but also to maximize outreach efforts, we hope that one of the adult visitors who is a Rotary member in Caen will speak at the Alexandria Rotary Club and that one or more of the teens will speak at an Alexandria middle- or high-school French class.

Committee Vice-Chair Jennie Reading is heading the plans for our second annual D-Day signature event(s) in June 2012. Caen-Alexandria Committee Chair Marie Coquelin has promised participation by sister city committee members from Caen, either in-person or via video hook-up.

Committee member Dean DeGood is heading an effort to raise corporate, individual or foundation funds to defray costs of a July 2012 intern to Caen if a qualified French-speaking applicant cannot afford to pay the European airfare and/or to forego income from a full-time summer job without financial assistance.

# ALEXANDRIA ARCHAEOLOGICAL COMMISSION

## ANNUAL REPORT

for

FISCAL YEAR 2011: JULY 2010 – JUNE 2011

### I. SUMMARY

The Alexandria Archaeological Commission (AAC) had another active year pursuing its three fold mission of preservation, education, and advocacy for Alexandria's archaeological and historical resources as they arose regarding issues involving City of Alexandria Strategic Plan (see section III of this report). In particular, the AAC focused on Waterfront Plan issues, the Torpedo Factory Study and its implications for the Alexandria Archaeology Museum, and crafting a new strategic plan for the AAC.

#### During Fiscal Year 2011, the AAC:

- Waterfront Plan:
  - Drafted the Waterfront History Plan, which became Appendix 6 of the proposed Waterfront Small Area Plan.
  - Sent a letter to the Planning Commission supporting the general concept of the Waterfront Arts Plan, which is Appendix 5 of the proposed Waterfront Small Area Plan.
  - Sent recommendations to the Planning Commission and City Council regarding the AAC's views on the proposed Waterfront Small Area Plan.
- Fort Ward History & Archaeology:
  - Spoke at a City Council Work Session, spoke at a public hearing, and sent letters to City Council asking that \$75,000 for continued archaeological work at Fort Ward be appropriated in the FY2012 budget.
  - Spoke at a City Council Work Session, spoke at a public hearing, and sent letter to City Council in support of the recommendations set forth in the final report of the Fort Ward Park and Museum Stakeholders Advisory Group.

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE  
ALEXANDRIA, VA  
2011 JUL -5 P 5:29

- Torpedo Factory Art Center/Alexandria Archaeology Museum:
  - Sent a letter to City Council advocating for restoration of funding for a part-time position to staff the Archaeology Museum on Sundays.
  - Spoke at a public hearing and sent letters to City Council recommending an AAC representative, with voting rights, on the Torpedo Factory Art Center Board.
  - Recommended the appointment of Mary Jane Nugent as the AAC non-voting representative on the Torpedo Factory Art Center Board.
- Awards:
  - Presented the Ben Brenman Archaeology Awards to recipients Judy McConville, Wesley Pippenger, and (posthumously) Ellen Pickering.
- AAC Planning:
  - Adopted new AAC Strategic Plan

## **II. GOALS FOR FY2011**

The Archaeological Commission set as its goals for July 2010 – June 2011:

- Working with other City organizations or civic groups which are interested in historic preservation and the waterfront for greater co-ordination on issues concerning the waterfront, including planning for Civil War Sesquicentennial;
- Incorporating archaeological and historic resources into discussions and planning involving tourism and economic development;
- Improving archaeological staffing levels while better utilizing dynamic volunteer group and promoting cooperative efforts with the larger history community;
- Enhancing the presence of archaeology and history on the waterfront to increase resident and visitor awareness and improve visitor experience by improving the Archaeology Museum, office and storage space; and
- Improving funding for the Alexandria Archaeology program.

## **III. AAC Activities Conducted in FY2011**

The Archaeological Commission pursued a variety of activities during FY2011. These activities are set forth below and are organized within headings taken from the City's Strategic Plan in order to facilitate an understanding of how the Commission's activities relate to the vision, goals,

and objectives of the City. The AAC met 12 times during the fiscal year and its Waterfront Plan subcommittee met eight times in a two month period this fiscal year.

## **QUALITY DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT**

**Waterfront Planning:** The AAC established a Waterfront History sub-committee, at the behest of the Historic Alexandria Resources Commission, to draft a Waterfront History Plan. Archaeological Commission members, working with City staff and members of the public, created the Waterfront History Plan to provide substance and historical content for the City's 2010 draft Waterfront Concept Plan. The History Plan provided a series of historical narratives, recommendations for preserving, interpreting, and promoting historical sites, events, and eras along the Waterfront and was organized around the City's draft Planning Outline for ease of use and to assist in future planning. The Planning and Zoning (P&Z) staff included the AAC's Waterfront History Plan as Appendix 6 of the draft Waterfront Small Area Plan. Sub-committee Chair James McCall presented the Waterfront History Plan to P&Z, the Waterfront Committee, the Planning Commission, the Commission for the Arts and other City and civic groups and organizations. The Commission also wrote letters to the Planning Commission and City Council regarding the draft Waterfront Small Area Plan in which several recommendations to enhance historic character were made.

The AAC continued to engage in an ongoing collaborative approach to integrating arts and history themes in public art along the Waterfront. The Commission wrote a letter to the Planning Commission supporting the general concept of the Waterfront Arts Plan (Appendix 5 of the draft Waterfront Small Area Plan) and recommending that a committee of art and history representatives be formed to participate in designing and implementing a master arts and history plan.

## **THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH OF CITIZENS**

**Fort Ward:** Commission member Tom Fulton continued to serve as a representative and chair on the Fort Ward Park and Museum Stakeholder's Advisory Group, which produced its final report in January 2011. Mr. Fulton served as the Advisory Group's speaker, regarding the final report and recommendations, at a City Council Work Session on Fort Ward. AAC Chair, Kathleen Pepper spoke at the Work Session in support of the Advisory Group's recommendations and for additional funding for archaeology at Fort Ward. The AAC also sent a letter of support advocating adoption of the recommendations in the final report. The AAC also sent City Council letters requesting additional funding be allocated in the FY2012 budget for continued archaeological work at Fort Ward. City Council accepted the AAC's recommendations and voted for the FY2012 budget to include \$75,000 for a Stage II Archaeology and History Report and \$75,000 for archaeology associated with storm water drainage planning to insure graves and cultural resources are protected.

## **FINANCIALLY SUSTAINABLE, EFFICIENT, AND COMMUNITY ORIENTED GOVERNMENT**

**Torpedo Factory Art Center and Archaeology Museum:** The Commission wrote a letter to City Council, and Chair, Kathleen Pepper, spoke at a public hearing on the proposed Torpedo Factory Art Center (TFAC) Board and urged City Council to include a representative of the AAC as a voting member of that proposed Board so long as there is an Archaeology staff and/or Museum in the Torpedo Factory. The Commission endorsed member Mary Jane Nugent to represent the AAC as a non-voting “invited participant” on the TFAC Board.

**Alexandria Budget for FY2012:** The members discussed budget issues for FY2012, including the result of the FY2011 Sunday staffing reduction on operation of the Archaeology Museum on Sundays. That staffing reduction resulted in the loss of a paid position to work the Sunday hours of 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Throughout FY2011, volunteers have worked Sundays to keep the Museum open, but a staff person had to be present on-site for security purposes. Members noted the increasing difficulty in getting volunteers to work consistently in the Museum on Sundays, a day which accounts for one-fourth of the annual Museum visitation. Members approved sending a letter to City Council recommending that funding be added to the budget so that the Museum would not close on Sundays.

**Friends of Alexandria Archaeology:** The AAC held its annual joint meeting with the Friends of Alexandria Archaeology (FOAA) in April to discuss support for the Waterfront History Plan.

**Alexandria Archaeological Commission Strategic Plan and Goals:** Led by Vice-Chair Vincent LaPointe, the Commission continued to refine its Strategic Plan in light of City Council’s adoption of a new City Strategic Plan in 2010. The members approved four goals involving (1) People – Alexandria Archaeology staffing, volunteers, and the history community; (2) Archaeology Museum/ Lab/ Education Center/ Storage; (3) Resource Management – funding; and (4) Archaeology, History, and Preservation. A variety of objectives within each goal were also approved:

**Alexandria Archaeological Commission Off-Site Meetings:** The AAC continued its tradition of learning about different historic places and issues this year. The Commission members met at several sites throughout the City, including the Office of Historic Alexandria Shop on the Waterfront, the Athenaeum which was also the joint meeting with FOAA, and the Lloyd House at the lower campus of St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes School. Members also had its annual walk-about meeting in June 2011, focused on Civil War sites in Old Town Alexandria, led by Susan Cumbey, Director of Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site.

## **DIVERSE COMMUNITY, HISTORY AND CULTURE, AFFORDABILITY**

**Freedmen’s Cemetery:** The AAC continued to keep abreast of the issues regarding the Contrabands and Freedmen’s Cemetery and Memorial Park. AAC Chair Kathleen Pepper represents the AAC on the Contrabands and Freedmen’s Cemetery and Memorial Park Design

Steering Committee and AAC member Lillie Finklea represents the Friends of Freedmen's Cemetery on that committee. Both are also members of the sculpture committee.

**Morrison House Talks:** The AAC continued to support the series of history and arts talks presented at the Morrison House on the first Tuesday of each month. The series is sponsored jointly with the Torpedo Factory Artists' Association and the Morrison House Hotel.

#### **IV. GOALS FOR FY2012**

The Archaeological Commission set as its goals for July 2011 – June 2012:

- Working with other City organizations or groups which are interested in historic preservation and the waterfront for greater co-ordination on issues concerning the waterfront, including planning for the Civil War Sesquicentennial, and Fort Ward Park;
- Continued active involvement in the Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery and Memorial Park;
- Incorporating archaeological and historic resources into discussions and planning involving tourism and economic development; and
- Improving archaeological staffing levels while better utilizing the dynamic volunteer group and promoting cooperative efforts with the larger history community;
- Enhancing the presence of archaeology and history on the waterfront to increase resident and visitor awareness and improve visitor experience by improving the Archaeology Museum, office and storage space; and
- Improving funding for the Alexandria Archaeology program.

#### **V. RECRUITMENT, LEADERSHIP SELECTION, AND SUCCESSION**

The Archaeological Commission recruits members by referral and the recommendation of sitting members, by advertisement on the City's website, and/or by other City organizations they will represent. In addition, the Archaeological Commission seeks an active presence throughout the City, holding its scheduled meetings at widespread locations to allow the public to learn more of its activities and opportunities. Both Commissioners and staff attend historically-related events, presentations, tours, etc., at which they may promote AAC and also service on the Commission. Nominees are encouraged to attend Commission meetings prior to formal application to City Council to help inform them of current issues, and the activities and makeup of the Commission. The AAC's brochure is distributed and appears on the OHA/Alexandria Archaeology website.



The Archaeological Commission chooses its officers by simple majority vote from among nominees proposed at the October AAC meeting: Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary. A slate of officers is presented for this vote by the Slate Committee in September. Any additional names may be included from the members before the October vote. Individual members may not nominate themselves. Terms are not staggered. The leadership serves a one-year term, and an unexpected vacancy is filled for the remainder of the term. Leaders may serve again at the discretion of the Commission, but must be re-nominated in competition with other nominees and chosen again by simple majority.

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair acts in its stead, both at AAC meetings and representing AAC at HARC and other meetings. The Vice-Chair has also headed strategic planning for the Commission, ensuring continuity and depth of understanding of goals and activities. Individual Commissioners also act in a leadership capacity, heading subcommittees or representing AAC at Council, or at the meetings of other City commissions and organizations. Service on these committees helps prepare Commissioners as future officers of the AAC.

## **VI. STRUCTURE OF THE ALEXANDRIA ARCHAEOLOGICAL COMMISSION**

The Alexandria Archaeological Commission serves in an advisory capacity to the Mayor and City Council on matters relating to the City's archaeological resources and related issues within the City. Included among the AAC's responsibilities are the establishment of goals and priorities which contribute to the history and heritage of colonial, federal and historic Alexandria; propose local ordinances and state statutes to the City Council and the City Manager which promote the goals and aims embodied in Ordinance No. 3733; plan, develop and recommend short-, mid-, and long-term archaeological plans and programs for the City; encourage the integration of archaeological and historical information and site preservation into master plans and development efforts; study and make recommendations to City Council with respect to additional activities involving the City's archaeological program and artifacts; promote the use of the highest professional standards by Alexandria Archaeology staff; and enhance the visibility of the City of Alexandria as a leader in archaeology throughout Virginia, the United States, and the world.

AAC meetings are held at least 10 times per year, on the third Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Alexandria Archaeology Museum and, several times a year, at other sites of interest to the Commission. The fourteen (14) members of AAC include five (5) members at large, three (3) citizen members representing each of the City's three planning districts, and six (6) members representing various City organizations.

Elections are held in October of each year. The Commission officers consist of a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary. Due to changes in membership and elections, person serving on the Commission may be listed in more than one representative or leadership capacity.

The following people served on the Commission during Fiscal Year 2011:

**MEMBERS AT LARGE:**

Ann Davin  
Lillie Finklea  
James McCall  
Peter Petersen  
Edward (Ted) Pulliam

**PLANNING DISTRICT MEMBERS:**

Planning District I: Vincent C. LaPointe, Vice-Chair  
Planning District II: Donald Kent, Jr.  
Planning District III: Janice Magnuson, Secretary

**ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES:**

Alexandria Association: Tom Fulton  
Alexandria Historical Society: Georgia (Katy) Cannady  
Alexandria Society for the Preservation of Black Heritage: S. Kathleen Pepper, Chair  
Chamber of Commerce: Ellen Hamilton  
Friends of Alexandria Archaeology: Mary Jane Nugent  
Historic Alexandria Foundation: Seth Tinkam