

STN #2006-0002 & 0003
200 Block of North West Street

REVISED -12/4/06
(revisions underlined)

Docket Item #4 A&B
STREET NAME CASE #2006-0002
200 block of North West Street
between Cameron and Queen Streets

Planning Commission Meeting
December 5, 2006

ISSUE: Consideration of approval for naming two existing public alleys located in the 200 block of North West Street, between Cameron and Queen Streets.

STAFF: Department of Planning and Zoning

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends **approval** of the suggested alley names.

I. SITE DESCRIPTION

The two subject alleys are located within the 200 block of North West Street and run parallel, north to south, between Cameron and Queen Streets. The alleys run the entire length of the block, approximately 335.8 feet, and are approximately 10 feet in width. The two alleys are separated by a two lots, one of which is developed by a single family dwelling having frontage on Queen Street to the north and the other which is an area used for parking running about three-fourths of the length of the block from north to south. The area surrounding the alleys is developed with single family, townhouse, and multi-family dwellings.

II. BACKGROUND

On September 20, 2005, City Council approved Special Use Permit #2005-0105 to construct a single family residence on a lot without street frontage. The lot created by the SUP has frontage on the westernmost alley and is currently being developed with a single family dwelling. The address for the property under the SUP application was 219-A North West Street. The applicant was Sarah Allen. As a condition of SUP#2005-0105, the westernmost alley was to be named. Staff has received a citizen request to name the westernmost alley “Jones Alley.” In addition, staff has also received a citizen request to name the easternmost un-named alley “Hollis Alley” for identification purposes.

III. DISCUSSION

The Planning Commission has the authority to name all new public streets/alleys in the City. Two unnamed public alleys exist within the 200 block of North West Street. The westernmost alley is now proposed to be named because of a condition of SUP#2005-0105 for a new residential unit being built on the interior of the block requiring an alley name for addressing. The easternmost alley is being named for identification purposes.

Staff contacted the Office of Historic Alexandria regarding the history of influential residents of the immediate community surrounding the subject alleys. The Office of Historic Alexandria has no opposition to the proposed “Jones Alley” and “Hollis Alley” names.

In addition, staff would like to note that the process of recommending and determining the name of public alleys varies considerably from the standard process of naming public/private streets and that the recommendation for the alley names in this specific case should not set precedent for the proposed names of any future public or private streets within the City of Alexandria.

IV. Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends **approval** of the following alley names:

1. The easternmost alley running north to south on the 200 block of N. Nest Street, connecting Queen Street and Cameron Street, shall be named *Hollis Alley* (P&Z)
2. The westernmost alley running north to south on the 200 block of N. West Street, connecting Queen Street and Cameron Street, shall be named *Jones Alley*. (P&Z)

STAFF: Richard Josephson, Acting Director, Department of Planning and Zoning;
James Hunt, Urban Planner.