

City of Alexandria
WATERFRONT COMMISSION
November 18, 2025
City Hall Sister Cities Conference Room
301 King Street
7:30 a.m.
Minutes

Attendance

Members present:

Jan Abraham, Citizen, East of Washington St. and South of King St.
Michael Adams, Citizen, Park Planning District III
Agnes Artemel, Citizen, East of Washington St. and North of Pendleton St.
Sarah Bagley, Member, Alexandria City Council
Eldon Boes, Representative, Alexandria Environmental Policy Commission
Stuart Fox, Representative, Alexandria Park & Recreation Commission
Lawrence Gillespie, Citizen, East of Washington St. and north of King St.
Charlotte Hall, Representative, Alexandria Chamber of Commerce
Robin Jordan, Representative, Alexandria Commission for the Arts
Jody Manor, Representative, Alexandria Planning Commission
Robert Montague, Representative, Historic Alexandria Foundation
Lebaron Reid, Commissioner At-Large
David Robbins, Representative, Alexandria Marina Pleasure Boat Owners, Vice Chair
Debra Roepke, Representative, Alexandria Seaport Foundation
Louise Roseman, Citizen, Park Planning District I, Chair
Sydney Smith, Representative, Founders Park Community Association
Patricia Webb, Citizen, Park Planning District II (attended virtually)
Esther White, Representative, Alexandria Archaeological Commission

Members excused: Claire Mouledoux, Representative, Visit Alexandria

Members Unexcused: William Vesilind, Representative, Old Town Civic Association

Vacancies: None

Discontinued Representative: Old Town Business & Professional Association

Other Attendees: Jack Browand, Commission Staff Liaison & Deputy Director, RPCA; Jason North, Captain, APD; Diane Ruggiero, Deputy Director, Cultural Arts, RPCA; Catherine Miliaras, Principal Planner, P&Z; Steve Forehand; Bruce Catts

1. Call to Order: Louise Roseman, chair called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

2. October 21, 2025 Minutes were approved unanimously, Motion by Hall, second by Smith
3. Items of Information and Action
 - a. Alexandria Police Department Report (Captain Jason North, APD)
 - *Calls for service have decreased by more than half since the summer months; no specific crime pattern; 40 parking complaints in the past month; 16 police reports; 30% crime reduction across the City in 2025*
 - b. Waterfront Small Area Plan: Public Art Planning (Diane Ruggiero, Deputy Director, Office of the Arts, RPCA)
 - *Presentation provided a list of art on the waterfront; background on art provided through private development; 2025 was Site & See 7th piece*
 - *Public Art Policy provides art in public spaces through the establishment of task forces consistent with approved work plan by Commission for the Arts*
 - *In 2014, the City Council approved the Public Art Implementation Plan. This plan was reviewed by the Commission for the Arts in 2024 and found to be valid and will be reviewed by that Commission again in 2029. The plan does not include any new permanent public art on the waterfront.*
 - *RPCA Cultural Arts Division is proposing the development of a new plan that not only includes public art, it will also develop an activation plan for the waterfront and other key areas within the City.*
 - *Commission Questions:*
 - (Q) *Will there be any public art celebrating the Nation's 250th? Alexandria Courthouse will have a small art piece.*
 - (Q) *What is the City budget for art? The budget varies annually and is supported by developer contributions.*
 - (Q) *Updated Plan timeline – FY 2027 pending funding approval.*
 - (Q) *Are the Site & See pieces owned by City? No.*
 - (Q) *Is there a public art plan for City Hall renovation? There is information on City website: <https://www.alexandriava.gov/public-art/project/public-art-at-city-hall-and-market-square>*
 - c. Discussion of Future Focus of the Waterfront Commission, including the Establishment of Task Force to Review Commission Charter, Membership, Terms, and Future
 - *Considerable discussion was identified to ensure any task force meetings are open to the public. The Commission will discuss organization in December. Artemel and Roseman will develop a framework for discussion*
 - d. Policy Regarding Public Participation at Waterfront Commission Meetings
 - *Considerable discussion was offered as to how to include the public on topics. The Commission will discuss the proposed policy further in December.*

Upon a motion by Reid and seconded by Robbins, the Commission approved unanimously sending a letter to the City Manager encouraging the City to undertake a cost-benefit analysis of the recently proposed split option for the pump station (with components in Waterfront Park and at 1 Prince Street), in addition to the analysis of locating the pump station at 1 Prince Street, and delegated authority to the chair to draft the letter.

4. City Updates (as needed)

- a. Community Projects & Activities (Jack Browand, Deputy Director, RPCA)
 - Staff deferred due to length of meeting*
- b. Private Development Updates, (Catherine Miliaras, Principal Planner, P&Z)
 - 80 individuals attended the UDAC Walking Tour.*
 - The developer of Robinson Terminal North is mobilizing to add fill to the site this winter for FEMA remapping; work on the final site plan is expected to be completed in 2026, followed by the issuance of the building permit. The current West building is projected to be demolished in early 2027, and construction on the new West building should be completed at the earliest in 2029.*
 - There is no current start date for the Potomac River Generating Plant development. Buildings B and C are to be submitted for a 5-year (rather than the typical 3-year) validity approval. Building A is not currently moving forward in the first phase. The 30,000 sf of arts uses can be spread over the entire site, and not necessarily limited to Building A.*

5. Other Updates and Potential Future Discussion Topics

- Future status of Commission; Torpedo Factory Arts Center; City Marina & Tall Ships; Flood Mitigation

6. Upcoming Meetings:

- a. December 16 – *Commission elected to meet in December.*
- b. January 20 – Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St.

7. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.