

RESOLUTION NO. 371

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria possesses a unique character and heritage that is desirable to preserve for this and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the archaeological efforts in the City to date have been carried forward to the best of the abilities of the few individuals involved; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to expand the participation in these archaeological programs in order to establish goals and priorities and to preserve, promote and display the extraordinary artifacts which have been recovered and restored to date and which can be expected to be recovered in the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That there be established an Alexandria Archaeological Commission which shall be charged with the following responsibilities:

- (a) To establish goals and priorities with a view to excavating, preserving, and restoring and displaying the artifacts which contribute to the history and heritage of colonial, federal and historic Alexandria, historic Virginia and historic America.
- (b) To promote the archaeological programs of the City with the local, state and federal governments as well as the private foundations and the general public, and to seek support, financial and otherwise, to supplement or complement the City's program.
- (c) To promote and expedite the restoration and preservation of the historic artifacts recovered from the Gadsby, Market, and Bank blocks, the 300 and 400 blocks of King Street, and those to be recovered from the 500 block of King Street and the DIP Urban Renewal Project.
- (d) To promote and establish sites for the display of Alexandria artifacts.
- (e) To plan, develop, and recommend a ten-, five-, and two-year Archaeological Plan and Program for the City of Alexandria, to be submitted to the City Council and the City Manager.
- (f) In establishing goals and priorities, the Commission shall cause a Register to be made of all known lands in the City of Alexandria, whether public or private, known or believed to contain historical artifacts, and shall make recommendations concerning the excavation and preservation of historic artifacts contained thereunder. Any objects of monetary value found on private lands shall remain the property of the owner unless donated to the City. The City shall have the privilege of photographing such artifacts. The Commission shall cooperate with owners of private lands in all reasonable private attempts to excavate shafts and other areas on such lands.
- (g) To establish and implement, with the cooperation of local high schools and metropolitan colleges, programs whereby students could learn excavation, processing and restoration of artifacts as well as research and studies in local and metropolitan libraries, record rooms of courts and museum and other institutions of learning, early American and local history and the identification of artifacts and early craftsmen and colonial living (similar to the successful program conducted with George Washington University in the past) and receive high school and college credit.
- (h) To cooperate with the Bicentennial Program of the City of Alexandria and the program of the State of Virginia during the period 1974-1983 to assure its success.

- (i) To propose local ordinances and state statutes to the City Council and the City Manager to promote the goals and aims as set forth above.
- (j) To study and make recommendations to City Council with respect to additional activities involving the City's archaeological program and artifacts.

2. That the Commission shall be composed of:

- (a) Four members at large;
- (b) One citizen member from Planning District I;
- (c) One citizen member from Planning District II;
- (d) One citizen member from Planning District III; and
- (e) Three members to be nominated by the Alexandria Association, the Historic Alexandria Foundation and the Alexandria Historic Society, one from each organization

With ex-officio members as follows:

- (a) One representative of the Alexandria Tourist Council, and
- (b) One representative of the Alexandria Bicentennial Commission.

3. That the establishment of the Commission be publicized and all candidates for appointment submit their application to the City Clerk by the close of business March 19, 1975, for consideration by the City Council and appointment at the Second Regular Meeting in March. The initial terms of the members of the Commission shall be for two and three years, to be determined by lot, except that the Chairman and one member nominated by the Associations shall serve for four years. Thereafter, all terms shall be for four years.

4. That the City Council shall name the first Chairperson of the Commission and the Commission shall elect its own chairperson thereafter.

5. That the Commission is empowered to adopt rules and regulations in regard to procedure and other matters so long as the same are not inconsistent herewith, and including, but not limited to, the election of a Vice Chairperson and Secretary and the establishment of committees through which to carry out its functions and purposes.

6. That the Commission shall hold at least nine regular meetings each year, and as may special meetings each year as the Commission may deem adviseable.

Adopted February 25, 1975

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helen Vickers, Clerk of the City of  
Alexandria, Virginia