

Hollins Heritage Committee

Meeting Minutes: May 9, 2017

Attending: Jon Bohland, Idella Glenn, Brittney Flowers, Jeffery Bullock, Maryke Barber, Beth Harris, Nick Miller, Ernie Zulia, Bill Krause.

JON BOHLAND met with President Gray, who has approved plans for the tour and luncheon for members of the Hollins Community on Saturday May 13, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Several members of the committee will be in attendance, and will help direct attendees to the Green Drawing Room.

The President will open the event with a welcome, followed by a presentation from Brittney Flowers featuring genealogical research to track enslaved people working on the Hollins campus into the twentieth century and to the present day. Rain plans have been made. Brittney mentioned she has had about 50 RSVP's and people are excited about the opportunity.

Jon Bohland also spoke with President Gray about a budget request for the committee; we will have to start this discussion with the new President Lawrence this fall.

Delana Price, our new Professor of History, will join the committee this coming Fall.

The committee will have three main priorities for 2017-18 (below). Jon Bohland suggested that the full committee meet once per month and share progress; in between, working groups will meet for each of these three goals.

Memorial: Idella Glenn, Jenine Culligan, Bill Krause, Jeffery Bullock, Nick Miller, possibly also Bob Sulkin, 2-3 students and one or more members of the Hollins staff. Sarita Herman, an alum who has worked on a similar project at UVA, has also been invited.

USS Conference: Jon Bohland, Bill Krause, Nick Miller, Maryke Barber.

Archival & Archeological Research – (members of current working group will continue).

Leann Pace of Wake Forest University will be doing preliminary work with Jon Bohland and Beth Harris to determine the location of homes, work areas, burial places and other spaces related to the lives of the enslaved at Hollins. Current unknowns include the location of residences and who lived where, as well as the exact boundaries of the campus at the time. The goal is a state grant to support archeological field work. A J-term class will hopefully include students in this work during January of 2018.

A suggestion was made to tie in an event featuring information about genealogical research for African-American families, with an invitation extended to the Hollins community, possible those in the larger Roanoke area. Beth Harris mentioned that the Library of Virginia can sometimes provide speakers free of charge; Maryke suggested also inviting the genealogy experts from the Roanoke public library's Virginia Room.

In addition to these three areas, outreach for the Fall was discussed including a speaker. It is hoped that the Lemon project's Jody Allen may be able to come. Maryke suggested repeating the open discussions for the campus community.

Ethel Morgan Smith's book about the African American enslaved and employees at Hollins College, *From Whence Cometh My Help*, is once again available from the University of Missouri Press:

<http://press.umsystem.edu/catalog/productinfo.aspx?id=472&AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>

Committee members would like to see the video of Hollins Day on the website. Maryke explained that it is not possible to use certain sections, as the music used is under copyright and permission to use it had not been arranged. Clips without the music are a possibility, but we have to contact those appearing in the video to request their permission. Maryke will work on this over the summer.