

York County Historical Committee

Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office,
159 Goodwin Neck Road, Yorktown, VA 23692

Attendance: Mary Clark, Joseph Gadea, Bob Norman, Lee Ann Shelhorse, Sarah Sherman, Lois Winter, Jennifer McPeters, Carolyn Weekley, and Bart Yates.
and Jessica Kercado

Absent: Walt Akers, Bonnie Karwac, Deborah Seraydarian, and Tim Smith.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Joseph Gadea.

Invocation and Pledge

Minutes:

- May 2026 Minutes
- June 2026 Meeting

The May and June meeting minutes were presented and shared with all members. Sarah Sherman motioned to approve the minutes as presented, and LeeAnn Shelhorse accepted. All were in favor and none opposed.

Treasurer's Report: Lee Ann Shelhorse presented the Treasurer's report, and all members received a copy. She noted that the checking account has a monthly \$5 service fee. Joseph Gadea asked for a motion. Bob Norman motioned to accept the treasurer's report as presented, and Jennifer McPeters seconded. All were in favor and none opposed.

Old Business: The Treasurer's Audit meeting is scheduled for the end of July in compliance with the County.

New Business:

- Executive Committee Update – Beverly Powell accepted a position with York County and has resigned as Chair and from the Committee due to her new position. Per the Bylaws, Vice Chair Joseph Gadea will fill the position of Chair through the remainder of the term ending in November 2026. The Committee discussed filling the Vice Chair position. Member Bart Yates volunteered to fill the vacancy through the end of the term in November 2026.
- Nomination Committee – The Nomination Committee to recruit new Executive Members for 2027 has been selected and will consist of members May Clark and Bob Norman.
- Committee Events Book – The members decided to create a binder with the history of each event, a "pass-down book." This book will share important reminders, notes, and instructions for each event the committee is responsible for. It was suggested that a committee be established to update the Events Book, with the update to be voted on at a future meeting. The members suggested including Mary Clark and Jennifer McPeters.

Subcommittee Updates

A. History Fair (April 2027) – N/A

B. Memorial Day (May 31, 2027) – N/A

C. Fourth of July (July 4, 2026) – N/A

D. Zweibrücken

1. Student Exchange – The contact for the Adult Exchange program shared that there is no student exchange program scheduled for 2026. There have been no updates received from the school division.
2. Adult Exchange – Joseph Gadera thanked the members of the committee who participated in the adult exchange Wreath Laying ceremony on Tuesday, July 7th. Having it held in York Hall was much appreciated, as the redoubt was overgrown with grass.

E. Yorktown Day (October 19, 2026) – A wreath will be presented at the Thomas Nelson grave, like last year. Further information on the parade will come from Lee Ann Shelhorse.

F. Veterans Day (November 11, 2026) – Tim Smith was absent but has reported he is coordinating this event.

G. Tree Lighting Ceremony (December 4, 2026) – The committee will discuss the Tree Lighting Ceremony at the August 20 Executive Committee meeting.

1. Monument Area
2. Waterfront

H. Christmas Card Signing – Lee Ann Shelhorse is coordinating cards for the Veterans' hospital, local heroes, park rangers, and firefighters.

I. Lecture Series (Fall 2026 / Spring 2027) – York Hall needs to be reserved for three Fall Lectures.

1. Sunday, September 6
2. Sunday, November 8
3. Sunday, November 22

J. Fact sheet and Black History books – N/A

K. Volunteer Tracking Hours – N/A

Staff Liaison Report: N/A

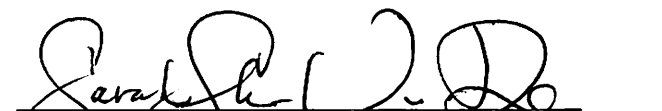
Adjournment: 7:43 pm

Next meeting:

- Executive Committee – August 20, at 6 pm, held at the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office
- Full Committee – August 20, at 7 pm, held at the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office



York County Historical Committee, Chair



York County Historical Committee, Recording Secretary