

Approved Minutes
Art and Architectural Review Board
January 9, 2026, at 10:00 am
Patrick Henry Building, East Reading Room
1111 E. Broad St, Richmond, VA 23219

1.0 ADMINISTRATION

1.1 CALL TO ORDER – 10:01am

Members Present: Gaby Rengifo, Megan Melinat, Jill Nolt, Stanley Rayfield, Anne Smith, Anca Lipan (Vice Chair), Lynden Garland (Chair)

Absent: None.

Department of General Services Staff Present: Sarah Burns, Melissa Dallesandro

**A quorum was established.*

1.2 PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

1.3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to Approve: Anca Lipan

Second: Stanley Rayfield

Vote: 7-Y 0-N

1.4 OTHER BUSINESS

None.

2.0 CONSENT AGENDA

2.1 Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) / Big Survey Work Center

(Final Approval)

Department of Historic Resources (DHR) Comments: DHR is required to review all demolitions (Section V.2 of Division of Engineering and Buildings Directive #1, Revised 1984 (§ 2.2-2402 Code of Virginia).

Board Comments:

1. No historical resources impacted.

Motion to Recommend Final Approval Pending DHR Comments: Anca Lipan

Second: Gaby Rengifo

Vote: 7-Y 0-N

2.2 Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) / 1221 E Broad Street Parking Lot Guard Shack

(Final Approval)

DHR Comments: Per the 2025 Programmatic Agreement Between the Virginia Department of Transportation and the Department of Historic Resources Regarding Interagency Coordination for State-Funded Virginia Department of Transportation Projects Within the Commonwealth of Virginia; DHR review is not required.

Board Comments: None.

Motion to Recommend Final Approval: Anca Lipan

Second: Gaby Rengifo

Vote: 7-Y 0-N

2.3 Virginia Tech (VT) / Kentland Farms MAAP Modular Unit

(Final Approval)

DHR Comments: VA Tech has been coordinating this project with DHR and is currently under review.

Board Comments: None.

Motion to Recommend Final Approval Pending DHR Comments: Anca Lipan

Second: Gaby Rengifo

Vote: 7-Y 0-N

2.4 Virginia Tech (VT) / Shed Replacement at Middleburg Agricultural Research and Extension Center

(Final Approval)

DHR Comments: DHR is required to review all demolitions (Section V.2 of Division of Engineering and Buildings Directive #1, Revised 1984 (§ 2.2-2402 Code of Virginia). We received a demo request for Middleburg AREC Bldg. 0800 only.

Board Comments: None.

Motion to Recommend Final Approval Pending DHR Comments: Anca Lipan

Second: Gaby Rengifo

Vote: 7-Y 0-N

2.5 Virginia Tech (VT) / Modular Unit at Southern Piedmont Agricultural Research and Extension Center

(Final Approval)

DHR Comments: DHR is not required to review this project.

Board Comments: None.

Motion to Recommend Final Approval: Anca Lipan

Second: Gaby Rengifo

Vote: 7-Y 0-N

2.6 University of Mary Washington (UMW) / Replacement of Press Box

(Final Approval)

DHR Comments: DHR is not required to review this project.

Board Comments: None.

Motion to Recommend Final Approval: Anca Lipan

Second: Gaby Rengifo

Vote: 7-Y 0-N

2.7 Virginia Community College System (VCCS) / Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus CP Parking Garage Safety Fencing

(Final Approval)

DHR Comments: DHR is not required to review this project.

Board Comments: None.

Motion to Recommend Final Approval: Anca Lipan

Second: Gaby Rengifo

Vote: 7-Y 0-N

2.8 Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) / Omega Psi Phi Commemoration Marker

(Final Approval)

DHR Comments: VCU reached out to DHR regarding this project We have no concerns about impacts to historic architectural resources. And no concerns re: archaeology because that part of campus looks like it has been disturbed by previous development and demolition.

Board Comments: None.

Motion to Recommend Final Approval: Anca Lipan

Second: Gaby Rengifo

Vote: 7-Y 0-N

3.0 PROJECT REVIEWS

3.1 Virginia Tech (VT) / Virginia Tech-Carilion School of Medicine

(Preliminary Approval)

DHR Comments: DHR will need to review this.

Board Comments:

1. Further study the plant palette to meet native species goals and be more resilient to floods.
2. Consider alternative ways for Hokie stone to be more prominent. This could mean adding and/or choosing other locations.
3. Provide additional renderings/images at “eye” level showing use of Hokie stone specifically as well as the pedestrian approaches to the building.
4. Encourage review of how brick meets the metal panel on NW view.
5. Study how volumes may better articulate entry locations and support clarity of the floor plan.
6. For final submission, provide material and color palette for review.

Motion to Recommend Preliminary Approval with Board Comments, and Pending DHR

Review: Anca Lipan

Second: Jill Nolt

Vote: 7-Y 0-N

3.2 George Mason University (GMU) / Basketball and Academic Performance Center (RAC Addition)

(Final Approval)

DHR Comments: DHR reviewed this and there will be no adverse impact to historic resources.

Board Comments:

1. Consider the color of concrete and how it ties in the new and existing construction together.

Motion to Recommend Final Approval with Board Comments: Jill Nolt

Second: Anca Lipan

Vote: 7-Y 0-N

**3.3 Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) / Grace and Laurel Residence Center
(Final Approval)**

DHR Comments: VCU has been in consultation with DHR on this project, the related demolitions and new construction. Consultation is ongoing. Demolition within the limits of disturbance for the new construction will likely not need mitigation but this will be determined when the demolitions are submitted to DHR for review. The scale of the proposed construction of the project will adversely impact the setting of the Broad Street Commercial Historic District. A memorandum of understanding outlining mitigation is forthcoming.

Board Comments: None.

Motion to Recommend Final Approval Pending DHR Review: Stanley Rayfield

Second: Anne Smith

Vote: 6-Y 0-N; 1 Abstain (Jill Nolt)

4.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 4.1** The next AARB meeting will be held on Friday, February 6, in the Patrick Henry Building in the East Reading Room.

5.0 MEETING ADJOURNED – 12:32pm