



Waynesboro City Council Agenda Briefing

Meeting Date:	December 13, 2021	Staff/Council Member(s): Mike Hamp, City Manager
Agenda Item #		
Ordinance		
Department:	City Manager	
Subject:	Public Hearing-Removal/Relocation of the Wm. Harman Monument	

Background: Since 1926 a marker memorializing the life and military service of Waynesboro native William H. Harman has been located in what is now commonly known as Constitution Park, near the western bank of the South River and just north of the terminus of Short Street.

Colonel William H. Harman was born in Waynesboro, February 17 1825; he later resided in Staunton. He served in various positions of command and leadership in the military and notably was a veteran of the Mexican, a general of the Virginia Militia, and a Confederate Infantry Commander. Col. Harman was killed in action, in the battle of Waynesboro on March 2, 1865.

In 1926, the United Daughters of the Confederacy placed the marker honoring Harman. Since that time, marker has been a focus of historical interest, honor of service, and periodic ceremony.

As plans for the South River Preserve North Project were formed, it became apparent that the original location of the marker could not be preserved and included in the project. In August of 2020, the marker was vandalized and removed for repair and anticipated relocation. After the removal a number of interested individuals and groups communicated interest in the marker's history and future. The origin of the marker was clarified.

Section 15.2-1812 of the Code of Virginia requires localities to hold public hearings regarding the removal and or relocation of monuments. In this case, the removal occurred due to the vandalism and conflict with the anticipated SRP-North project.

Council is not asked to make a determination this evening, simply hold the public hearing and receive comment. Several organizations have made inquiry regarding the marker.

City Manager's Recommendation: Hold the public hearing.

Suggested Motion(s): None required.

Attachments:

William Henry Harman Wikipedia Page

Information from Lee Lodge 209