

Sugar Hill Historic Preservation Society Meeting
Wednesday, May 19, 2021 7:00 P.M.
City of Sugar Hill City Hall
Meeting Minutes

Approval of the Agenda

Kathryn Baskin convened the meeting at 7:02 PM. and indicated the Howerton exhibit and opening reception was a huge success and lots of fun. The family was very pleased, and it was rewarding to witness Diane and her brother Eddie admire tier mother’s accomplishments on display. This exhibit will be up through May 23rd. Diane intends to bring her children and grandchildren to see the exhibit on June 5th for Diane and Ted’s 50th wedding anniversary, and it would be especially nice for as many members as possible be there to welcome Diane and her family on June 5th.

Kathryn expressed her appreciation for Kim Landers to work with the family to get the artifacts, and her working with Steve Samples to get all the items worked up and photographed prior to displaying the exhibit. Steve spent two days photographing the collection prior to install and Kim helped in designing the exhibit. Steve not only donated his time but his equipment to ensure the collection was professionally photographed and digitally preserved. Many thanks to Margaret Neal for loaning some of her Howerton artifacts including the paintings, pottery and the old book which was probably worn by Charlotte during her WWII service. Brandon Hembree and Darrell Pruitt also helped with the genealogy, goldmining and installing the exhibit. Kathryn also thanked Nicole Klein, and Donna McKinney with the Arts Commission for setting up the art gallery side of the exhibit. Nicole also assisted with designing the signage and the handout cards. Ane Mulligan with the Player’s Guild was also gracious enough to loan us one of their tables to display the WWII shadow boxes on and helped with cutting and pasting captions for the exhibit. Tina Lowe, volunteer helped with cutting and pasting of the captions. Chase Rehak was hired to man the museum for the city, she is a history major at Georgia Gwinnett College, and she is going to be a great asset to our team. She helped with deciding on the arrangements of the displays and cutting and pasting the captions. Last, but not least thanks to Jude Sterling, Kathryn’s grandson for all his help and understanding with the military uniforms, devices and other materials used in the display.

Kathryn called for a motion to approve the agenda. Stephanie made a motion to approve the agenda. Lindsay seconded the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously.

The following members, volunteers, and guests were in attendance:

NAME	TITLE
Kathryn Baskin*	Board Member/Chairman
Joann Burel	Board Member/Treasurer
Tiffany Hale Carter*	Board Member
Lindsay Davis*	Board Member
Ryckie Fernandez	Board Member
Stephanie Isaacs*	Board Member/Vice Chairman
Kim Landers	City Liaison/Secretary
Margaret Neal*	Board Member
Darrell Pruitt	Board Member

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The following members were absent:

NAME	TITLE
Ryan Butts	Board Member
Bill Harting	Board Member
Brandon Hembree	Board Member/City Council, Post 1
Chris Walker	Board Member

*Indicates committee chair.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Kathryn called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from January 20, 2021. Darrell made a motion to approve the minutes. Stephanie seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Kathryn also mentioned the special email that Diane sent about the exhibit and passed around to everyone to see.

Kathryn indicated the scholarship was very nice, she passed around a copy of the awarded essay.

Treasurer's Report

Kathryn indicated she purchased frames, shadow boxes, replica uniform, patches, and wig at various places, along with other miscellaneous supplies at Walmart (hammer, level, nails, hooks), in addition to the signage, poster and cards for the Howerton display. The outstanding expenses yet to be submitted was \$1626.71, \$492.31 is for the Howerton exhibit, \$134.40 is for the frames in the reference library and office supplies, and the additional \$138.71 is for the signage, poster and cards for the Howerton exhibit. Kathryn called for a motion to approve a blanket amount of \$2,000.00 to cover these expenses. Darrell made a motion to approve. Tiffany seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously. Joann presented the Treasurer's report and indicated the current balance was \$8,049.96. Kathryn indicated this did not include the \$1,000.00 scholarship, nor the expenses just approved but we should end up approximately around \$6,300.00. Kathryn also reminded everyone they still have around \$500.00 worth of books to be ordered from the donation from the DAR on genealogical study. Burel was unable to attend the meeting. Kathryn called for a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Ryckie made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Darrell seconded the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously.

Committee Chair Reports

Museum Committee

Tiffany stated museum looks different from last time, everything has been taken down from previous exhibit and ready for new exhibit. Tiffany mentioned the Howerton exhibit and the dates it would run, she touched on the new tracking program. Tiffany indicated she spoke with Megan, and they plan to make it easier to track hours. BWASH would also be volunteering for the museum. Kathryn indicated the DAR has new volunteers as well.

Tiffany indicated that she, Avery, and Mercy had an idea for SHHPS to partner with BWASH along with the city on Juneteenth program on June 19, 2021, from 5-8 pm at the bowl and indicated there would be vendors, food trucks and will be awarding a senior \$1,000.00 scholarship by raffling off baskets. Tiffany stated this can be a means to get people excited about the museum and gallery if

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they can go over to museum to get a free ticket. Tiffany indicated that they had a good turnout last year even with Covid. Kathryn indicated her concern with directing people into the museum for a free raffle, people racing to get tickets, too many people being in the facility at one time, the need to protect the artifacts on display are all a concern and asked if there was a way to do that in shifts. Tiffany indicated they are still trying to decide the details. Lindsay indicated they could do it as a visual interest by having them post a picture of their favorite thing on our social media using a hashtag to receive a free raffle ticket. Tiffany indicated this was a good idea. Kathryn indicated that Tiffany also needed to communicate with the Arts Commission as well since it is shared property. Tiffany indicated she is just trying to get people over to see the exhibit, she will check with Avery to see if the Arts Commission has been notified. Darrell pointed out again this was a combined exhibit. Kathryn discussed her concerns with having a scavenger hunt in the museum with kids, she is seen kids unattended, jumping on the stools and museum/art gallery staff needs to always be conscientious of the priceless artifacts and the need to protect them. Tiffany indicated this was an idea of the city and questioned who she would consult with. Kim indicated there should be a distribution list for ALL parties involved for ANY event planning/staging in the museum so everyone can collaborate.

Tiffany asked about future exhibits. Kathryn stated that quarterly makes sense, but topics are needed, some that have been thrown around are farming and goldmining. Kathryn indicated Brandon had suggested Lake Lanier and Varessa Butts has artifacts she can bring from Gwinnett Public Utilities on Lake Lanier and building of Buford Dam. Tiffany indicated she will need to follow up on this, Lake Lanier will be a good exhibit. Kathryn indicated she has a book of houses and buildings that is very interesting and includes what people were paid for the properties. Tiffany indicated she is giving it a week or two and then schedule a time to meet on this. It was agreed that Lake Lanier will be the next exhibit. Kathryn indicated she would like to see if it is possible use the media and extract some information about the building of the dam from the audio interviews Kim has been doing along with the video interviews Darrell has been doing about the Sunday afternoon drives and have that run on the TV screen. Kim indicated she would get with Ned and Amit.

Budget Committee

See treasurer's report notes.

Scholarship Committee –

Lindsay indicated that Varessa played a huge role in getting everything done on the marketing and social media on the scholarship, and that Kathryn and Kim assisted with coming up with the rubric and thanked all the other SHHPS members that assisted with the Judging. It was a huge success, there were 8 individuals apply, 2 of which were ineligible. The \$1,000.00 Scholarship was awarded at the May Council meeting to Reese Robertson, and she read her essay at the Council Meeting. Lindsay asked if this can be published on the public Facebook page? Kathryn indicated she could go ahead with this. Lindsay went over Reese's plans for college. For future scholarships Lindsay would like to include the rubric along with the application and have things organized a little earlier. Also, she will coordinate timely to make sure the announcement of the scholarship goes out with both sets of gas bill notices. Lindsay indicated she is truly enjoyed working on this.

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Digital Archives Committee –

Kim Landers indicated with the Howerton exhibit current photographing and scanning needs, entering the digital archives into the Omeka system has been postponed. Kim stated Steve did the professional pictures for the Howerton Exhibit before it was installed in the museum and indicated she did not know what they would have done without him. Kathryn indicated Brandon was looking at applying for the grant and she was not sure on the other grant that was due June 30th. Steve Samples expressed interest in the digital archives. Kim indicated she would connect with Steve to get him additional information on the digital archiving and set something up.

Cemetery Committee –

Kathryn indicated there was a good turn out on the cemetery clean up, there were approximately 70 people that came out to help. Buford Church of Christ came out and helped with the gravel placement and cleaning the headstones. Four gallons of D2 was gone through and there is still some gravel left. SHHPS plans to schedule another clean up day in the fall. Kathryn thanked Stephanie for all her work in the cemetery. Stephanie indicated the workday included working from section to section at church street and then they moved in the middle section. There was a volunteer along with Bill going around with a cart to hand out water. Bill got the blue flags and marked the veteran graves. Stephanie is working to get historic recognition for the cemetery. She is worked on it previously and will continue to work on it but needs more eyes on it. It is very similar to doing a grant. Kathryn indicated that she would love to work on it. Stephanie indicated they need a map, and it cannot be a drone map it must be individual, or community tied. Kathryn asked for Stephanie to send the general information on this. Stephanie discussed reworking the entrance to the cemetery and where a plaque could be located. Stephanie asked about the unveiling of the marker, Kathryn indicated she was not sure and would have to check with Brandon.

Research Committee –

Stephanie indicated that the research committee will assist as needed with exhibits and projects that require research.

Old Business

Kathryn asked if there was any old business. Being there was none, she then reported on New Business.

New Business

Kathryn indicated there is a new volunteer sign up process run by the city, and you cannot tell who is volunteering nor the times they are volunteering. Kathryn indicated the most traffic for visitors in the museum occurs on the weekend between noon and 4 pm. Kim indicated that it is needed to follow up with Avery on the Open sign for the Museum/Gallery, people do not know it is open. Kathryn indicated she would send another email to Chase on this.

Memorial Day Celebration is Monday, May 31st at 10:15 am. The Youth Council and City will be participating and there will be recognition of the 4 veterans at the fountain, everyone is invited. Chase will be working the museum.

Sugar Rush will be 2 days this year October 16th and 17th.

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The next meeting will be June 16th and details for the Juneteenth event will need to be wrapped up.

Stephanie indicated that she has the markers for the cemetery, she has been working with Mike Reilly with Lanier High School and MTI who is supplying the materials which are engineered countertop pieces they are providing at no charge to the city. The prototype has survived the landscapers.

No other discussion or questions were noted. Kathryn stated she appreciated everyone that came out tonight. There being no further business, Kathryn adjourned the meeting at 8:12 PM.