

**Sugar Hill Historic Preservation Society Meeting
Wednesday, August 18, 2021, 7:00 P.M.
City of Sugar Hill City Hall
Meeting Minutes**

Approval of the Agenda

Kathryn Baskin, chairman, convened the meeting at 7:00 PM and welcomed everyone.

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

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

NAME	TITLE
Kathryn Baskin*	Board Member/Chairman
Darrell Pruitt	Board Member
Stephanie Isaacs*	Board Member/Vice Chairman
Steve Samples	Board Member
Margaret Neal*	Board Member
Joann Burel	Board Member/Treasurer
Tiffany Hale Carter*	Board Member
Lindsay Davis*	Board Member
Ryan Butts	Board Member
Varessa Butts	Volunteer
Nicole Scheriff	Visitor
Davin Atkins	Visitor

The following members were absent:

NAME	TITLE
Ryckie Fernandez	Board Member
Bill Harting	Board Member
Kim Landers	City Liaison/Secretary
Brandon Hembree	Board Member/City Council, Post 1

*Indicates committee chair.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Kathryn called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from July 21, 2021. Joann Burel made a motion to approve the minutes. Ryan Butts seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Kathryn called for a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Kathryn advised that Bill had submitted an invoice for \$100 and she had just turned it in. Kathryn asked for approval of the treasurer's report. Stephanie Isaacs made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Darrell Pruitt seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Museum

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Kathryn spoke about the art gallery space and didn't feel comfortable using it for the last night of myths and legends at the museum. (Kim and Stephanie had already walked the space and did not feel comfortable also.) Kathryn then announced that we would need to work on communication for the future and that this Friday night's event would be in the History Room at City Hall. Darrell volunteered to be at the museum at 6pm to direct people to the History Room at City Hall. Kathryn would also make a sign to place temporarily on the door.

Kathryn spoke to Ansley in Events in regard to the history museum/art gallery hours posted on the website. The City is providing a part time person but hours are subject to change. She noted that she believe the website was updated to ask people to call before coming to the museum. Hours were removed for the museum and the telephone number was put on the website. Days open would be Tuesday through Sunday. Kathryn emphasized that the days and times for volunteers would vary.

Kathryn made a card for the museum and gave some out at the meeting. It shows the telephone number and will be placed at Customer Service and the E Center. Lindsay suggested using a Google calendar but Kathryn did not think that could be done. There is a volunteer app and it is used for all the venues. There is a new link for each month.

Committee Chair Reports:

Budget Committee

Kathryn passed out the handout of the budget. The following were in her report:

Bill Harting's expenses for flag holders and goldmining display	\$100
Sluice Box Pump	\$200
Pay Dirt 2oz. (1 case = 30 bags @\$2.05 ea) = \$61.50	
Pay Dirt 2 oz (120 bags = 4 cases @ \$61.50) = \$246.00	
Pay Dirt budget to include shipping, taxes, other supplies etc.	\$350
Other misc items for Sugar Rush	\$200
Total Budget Request for Approval	\$850

Remaining 2021 Budget = ~ \$3927.23

Ryan Butts made a motion to approve the budget report with the amendment to change the size and amount of the pay dirt bags. Steve Samples seconded the motion. The motion passed without objection.

Kathryn noted that there were guests attending the meeting. She asked the guests to introduce themselves.

Sugar Hill Historic Preservation Society Meeting
Wednesday, August 18, 2021, 7:00 P.M.
City of Sugar Hill City Hall
Meeting Minutes

Guest Nicole Scheriff said she enjoys history and a lot of things associated with it. Guest Davin Adkins also indicated that they are interested in preservation work. Both had been at the DAR monument cleaning event at Island Ford.

Kathryn initiated going around the table to introduce members and volunteers and also explained various aspects of the board and how it operates.. If not on the board, a volunteer member has an equal voice – just does not vote. She stated that everyone welcomed the guests.

Digital Archives Committee –

Margaret Neal, Steve Samples and Kathryn Baskin discussed the metadata work. They noted that it has been very challenging. Margaret commented that Steve Samples had provided technical support and the committee was making progress. The next committee meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2021, at 12 noon.

Research Committee –

Stephanie Isaacs said that the Research Committee is supporting whatever needs to be done and is ongoing.

Museum Committee

Tiffany discussed the response to the Lake Lanier/Buford Dam exhibit. ? There has been lots of attention. The storytelling on myths and legends included Bill Harting who told the legend of Fish-head; Brandon Hembree who told the legend of Pete; Tiffany Hale Carter who told the story of Oscarville; and the upcoming one with Stephanie Isaacs about the Lady of the Lake. She added that two authors had given presentations and held book signings..

Tiffany, Kathryn, and Stephanie advised that the current exhibit will extend to mid-September. The response to the Lake Lanier exhibit was great.

Kathryn recommended to continue having some events in conjunction with the history museum exhibits but limiting them. Varessa added that maybe we should do just an opening night for some events, perhaps with a presentation. Stephanie also added for the next exhibit that perhaps an opening night and do Brandon's presentation.

SHHPS agreed at the July 2021 meeting that the next exhibit should be Gold Mining to complement Sugar Rush.

Scholarship Committee –

Lindsay Davis advised that will be starting with a topic in December. Kids are just getting back to school, so better to wait.

Cemetery Committee –

Brandon Hembree was not in attendance, so Stephanie Isaacs added some items.

Monument work is completed at the cemetery by Madison Monuments who stabilized obelisks and stones and did amazing work. Some of the monuments fixed were those leaning forward and there were concerns about safety.

Sugar Hill Historic Preservation Society Meeting
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Stephanie commented that Mike Reilly, STEM teacher at Lanier High School has done 14 stones to be placed at Sugar Hill Cemetery for unmarked graves. These will be placed during the volunteer event on Saturday, August 21, 2021 from 8 am to 1pm. Alexis Torres is spearheading the event in conjunction with Stephanie Isaacs and Brandon Hembree. There is a sign up form online but volunteers can also sign up on site.

In addition to the stones being placed, repairs will be made to lots that need dirt compacted, and gravel laid. The main focus will be on the entire Lyles family lot, which is towards the back of the cemetery near the trees and is in disrepair. James Lyles (JR) was a WWII veteran who only has a funeral home marker to indicate his grave. A military stone was applied for from the Veterans Administration (VA) and has been received. Once the lot is graveled, the stone will be placed as a footstone for JR. After placement, arrangements will be made with the Sugar Hill chapter of the American Legion, so they can do a military salute and dedicate the stone. More details will be coming.

Boy Scout projects are progressing to repair smaller stones and also to make a veteran searchable database on the cemetery for the SHHPS and Veterans Memorial websites. Stephanie advised she has been in touch with the sponsor of the National Honors Society at North Gwinnett, and they will be helping to place more stones for unmarked graves in the future.

Old Business

Kathryn advised she is meeting with city staff about Sugar Rush, which will take place on October 16 and Oct 17, 2021. Event staff will be advised about providing the sluice box for just 1 day to discuss. Ryan Butts added that if we do it for 2 days, perhaps we could do it for limited hours and maybe use students.

Kathryn commented that Kim Landers had reported back after looking at the sluice box in storage and was unsure if the sluice box may have damage; there are a lot of things piled on top of it. Ryan Butts agreed to meet with Brandon and report back on the condition of the sluice box. Kathryn suggested that a committee be formed for Sugar Rush. A meeting could be done by Zoom. If the sluice box cannot be fixed, then we may need to do something else.

New Business

Nothing noted.

There being no further business, Kathryn adjourned the meeting at 8:25 PM.