

Sugar Hill Historic Preservation Society Meeting
Wednesday, September 16, 2020 7:00 P.M.
City of Sugar Hill City Hall
Meeting Minutes

Approval of the Agenda

Kathryn Baskin convened the meeting at 7:10 PM. She called for a motion to approve the agenda. Ryckie Fernandez made a motion to approve the agenda. Margaret Neal seconded the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously.

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

NAME	TITLE
Kathryn Baskin*	Board Member/Chairman
Stephanie Isaacs*	Board Member/Vice Chairman
Ryan Butts	Board Member
Varessa Butts	Volunteer
Joann Burel	Board Member/Treasurer
Ryckie Fernandez	Board Member
Margaret Neal*	Board Member
Brandon Hembree	Board Member/City Council, Post 1
Tiffany Hale Carter*	Board Member/joined via Zoom
Sherry Smith	Volunteer
Terese Steinbach	DAR Regent, Suwanee Creek Chapter (NSDAR)
Rebecca Jordan	DAR Vice Regent, Suwanee Creek Chapter (NSDAR)

The following members were absent:

NAME	TITLE
Chris Walker	Board Member
Bill Harting	Board Member
Kathy Harting	Volunteer
Kim Landers	City Liaison
Darrell Pruitt	Board Member

*Indicates committee chair

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Kathryn Baskin called for a motion to approve the last meetings minutes. Joann did ask for a correction that Phyllis Davis was not born in Sugar Hill, but has family in Sugar Hill. Ryan Butts made a motion to approve the amended minutes. Margaret Neal seconded the motion.

Councilman Brandon Hembree introduced the evening's speaker, Terese Steinbach, Regent, Suwanee Creek Chapter, National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR). He extolled the great things that the DAR has done for the community and continues to do.

Terese Steinbach gave a PowerPoint presentation for the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), that was later emailed to Chairman Kathryn Baskin, who then shared the presentation with the SHHPS membership.

Highlights of the presentation:

- Explained about DAR/ formed in 1890 by four women
- Non-profit, non-political, volunteer organization

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- Reports to Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution
- Educates youth
- Fosters good citizenship
- Honors Ancestors
- Does historic Preservation
 - o Suwanee Town Marker in 2018
 - o Calloway Cemetery in 2019
 - o Benson- Kile Cemetery in 2019
- Patriotism
 - o Wreaths across America
- Education
 - o Constitution Week

Ms. Steinbach wanted to know how DAR can help with upcoming Sugar Hill Museum. They may have objects to donate for the Sugar Hill History Museum; books to donate for the research part of the museum; and provide volunteer support for the history museum.

Veterans' Day planning was discussed briefly with participation to be expected from the SC-DAR chapter and the American Legion.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was presented by Joann Burel, in which she stated no expenditures had been incurred as of yet. Ms. Baskin called for a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Brandon Hembree made the motion to accept the report and seconded by Stephanie Isaacs.

Committee Chair Reports

Museum Committee

Presented by Brandon Hembree. Tiffany was on Zoom, but connection and volume was not good. City approved contract for vendor to begin. Have to organize what and how to display. Construction was approved at the council meeting.

Kathryn Baskin added that some books have been donated for the research part of the museum. Also added was that SHHPS will need to concentrate more on communications, especially to scan documents to display at the museum. Another point was that SHHPS will need volunteers on the weekends so that the community has access to the history museum once it's opened.

Teresa Steinbach from DAR said that she will do a survey with members in order to get books to donate (maybe also DAR books). She also mentioned about the Heritage Press softbound books. She advised that we should be aware of the possibility that materials could be taken and that SHHPS should consider some security and protection measures. Monitoring of some sort would be a good option and allowing only pencil and paper in the research area, as not to damage any materials. DAR could loan exhibits to display. A listing of exhibits could be provided based on different topics. DAR also has lessons for little kids/focus on children. There are other DAR focus areas too: Hispanic history, Black history, genealogy.

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Brandon Hembree said that Joann would like to have files by families and that there are Gwinnett books available. He added that people who have ties to community can come and look at documents at the museum.

Research Committee –

No further report until more work to establish how items will be displayed and what will be displayed. There is a research outline that can be used as a guide.

Scholarship Committee –

No report. Ryckie and also Varessa will be talking this week about historical topics. The Scholarship Committee is in the process of deciding the topic.

Digital Archives Committee –

Solar box – not going that route. Possibility of using QR codes or scanning. Not applying for grant this go around but could use grant for the future.

Trying to grasp technology

Stephanie Isaacs shared with group her trip to Roswell Cemetery, where they are using QR codes on signs in the cemetery to raise funds for preservation.

Cemetery Committee –

Brandon Hembree discussed about D2 to use on cleaning headstones. He has some D2 to use. Stephanie Isaacs reported that the City has a large container of D2 stored in the basement area. She will check on pricing for additional D2.

Cemetery cleanup was decided to be done on Saturday, November 7th. Brandon will post on Facebook.

Pre-flagging to be done at the cemetery on Saturday, November 7th. Also discussed wreaths across America.

Sugar Rush will be virtual this year. Will SHHPS be doing anything? Not sure what yet.

Old Business

Zach Brown was given picture from dedication of marker for 1908 Train crash.

The marker for schoolhouse will be dedicated separately in October. Perhaps brick around it – suggested by Troy Besseche with the city. Free Library will be dedicated later, as it is not finished yet.

New Business

Communications team to be established for SHHPS. Kathryn Baskin suggested Varessa for marketing, brochure, etc.

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Brandon Hembree spoke about speaker for next month – perhaps about land grants.

Stephanie Isaacs suggested that SHHPS dedicate a new grave marker for Margaret Powell, who was killed in the cyclone of 1924 and is buried at the cemetery. She noted that there is a base for her marker, but the marker is gone. Ms. Isaacs will check on the cost for the marker and will report at next meeting. This might be done for some unmarked graves as well.

Brandon Hembree reached out to the Boy Scouts. A new project: Verifying all the veterans in the cemetery with their service information. An Eagle scout wishes to do this.

Joann Burel and Sherry Smith will get with Ned Jasarevic to scan items. Kathryn Baskin said she would email Ned Jasarevic and Kim Landers about this.

No other discussion or questions were noted. Kathryn Baskin adjourned the meeting at 8:50PM.