

Minutes of the Greensboro Historical Society
Meeting- April 13, 2021

Attending: Nancy Hill, Lise Armstrong, Clive Gray, Kyle Gray, Jenny Stoner, Willie Smith, Mckenna LaPierre, BJ Gray, Paula Harmon, Janet Long, Mark Snyder, Leslie Rowell, Gail Sangree, Alison Gardner, Wendy Parrish, Erika Karp (by phone)

Minutes submitted by: Alison Gardner, temporary secretary

History Moment: Alison presented information on the life of Timothy Hinman and the Hinman Settlement Road.

President's Report: Nancy Hill reported that the VT state sign commemorating the Hinman Rd. and its starting point in G'boro has been finished and is waiting to be transported to G'boro and installed. Nancy has contracted Warren Hill to pick it up. It will be stored at the Town Garage and the road crew will install it at a later date. There will be a dedication ceremony with state officials sometime this summer.

The VTHS "Lively and Local" exhibit, an exhibit of 17 of VT's 170 local historical societies is currently running at the VT History Museum in Montpelier. Leslie, Jenny, Willie, Kyle and Nancy worked on the one featuring G'boro which is well featured with the others. The display and museum is free to GHS members. Nancy and Alison have both seen it.

Nancy was recently asked where the name Caspian lake came from. The shape is reminiscent of the shape of the Black sea which was likely confused with the Caspian Sea and thus the name—Caspian Lake. The alternative name for the lake was Lake Beautiful. (2nd history moment)

Secretary Report: The new format of the minutes was approved, along with the minutes from the March meeting without changes.

Treasury Report: Not much financial activity in the past month. The Vanguard account increased about \$1000 and the checking account currently has around \$14,000. No formal monthly report was necessary this month as we decided to receive financial reports every other month.

Newsletter Report: Jenny's list of articles for Spring Newsletter was discussed and volunteers solicited. The deadline to get the articles to Jenny is May 17th.

Action/follow-up:

- Alison and Nancy will write a short article on the VHS "Local and Lively" Exhibit
- Alison will write an article on the Hinman Rd sign dedication with background on HR and Timothy Hinman and will share a copy of the map of Hinman Rd. with Jenny for inclusion if possible
- Kyle will write an article on the Barn project and ask for barn owners to provide photos/information and also for volunteers to "adopt" barns to research

- Jenny is writing a short item about the life of Lib Bishop
- Gail and Leslie will compare the articles they are writing commemorating Pat Haslam's work with the GHS and HRD. Articles about Pat will appear in the newsletter and HRD
- Gail will write a short overview promoting the 2021 issue of the HRD
- The Membership renewal/donation envelope is being revised by the MI committee later in April for printing and inclusion with the Spring newsletter
- Kyle will write a short section: "What's new on the GHS web and Facebook pages?"
- Leslie and Willie will write a section: "What's new in the Archives?" with information on Pat Haslam papers
- Nancy and Alison will write a short article on the "updated and expanded" 2021 Self-Guided History Walks in GB and G'boro villages
- Thank you column—this issue's column dedicated to the Town of G'boro and its ongoing support to the GHS (help with DRB and HR sign, ongoing building maintenance [painting and refinished floor], yearly grant to support programs)
- Nancy/Wendy will write a short item on "The Bend Day" at the GHS museum/exhibit
- Written Announcements/Shorts: Requests for book donations, where to leave and when and archive donations??
- Shorts: Requests for volunteers and how to sign up???

Archive Update: Leslie has been working downstairs and now that both Willy and Leslie have been vaccinated, they can work together. Leslie is continuing to work on integrating Pat Haslam's extensive papers, surveys and genealogy files into the archives with the objective of extending the reach and making them more accessible.

Nancy mentioned that the Turrell Fund (a foundation with a mission to improve the lives of children) recently sent the society old photographs of the southeastern area of Caspian Lake where the Turrell family owned a property for many years in the past. (The Nicely's own this property currently.) If anyone knows this property and could help identify the photos, please let Leslie know.

Leslie is continuing to work on 35 yrs. of Hardwick Gazette (HG) photos and continues to download/clip current HG articles on G'boro. Janet Long clipped obituaries from HG until March 2020 when it went digital. Leslie is now downloading/clipping obituaries from the digitalized HG.

Action/follow-up: Janet to send her HG obituary articles to Leslie and McKenna

Hazen Road Dispatch Report: Gail is busy with a number of new articles and is still unsure of the length of the 2021 issue. One article has been put off until next year and another is waiting on information from the Craftsbury town clerk. An article written a couple of years ago by Paul Wood for the HRD was lost, but has been located. To complement the GHS's focus this year on the Hinman Rd., Gail's is shortening/editing her article on Timothy Hinman from a past VHS

journal for the coming issue of the HRD. She will share it with Alison so that she can write an introduction with information about Hinman road, etc.

Gail would like to have the HRD printed by June 10th. At the latest it needs to be available by the GHS exhibit opening reception scheduled for July 3rd.

Action/follow-up: By the GHS May meeting, we need to know number of HRD to print and number of pages so that the printer will provide an estimate.

Web Page Update: Kyle has updated the web site registration and now that his family has switched to Star Link as an internet provider he has broader bandwidth and is able to up and download more easily.

Building Report: Lise reported that 3 bids for painting the GHS building were received. In compliance with protocol, the Select Board reviewed the bids and selected the contractor. Jeff Montgomery was chosen and the town will pay his fee (\$7,850) directly.

Membership Initiative Committee: The Committee met once in the middle of March and will meet again in-person on April 27th 10am at the GHS building. Lise has provided background information useful to the membership review process. A copy of the MI committee minutes is included with these minutes and once the committee has finished its work, it will make recommendations to the Board. Anyone is welcome to join!

The Greensboro Bend Revitalization Initiative (BRI) and GHS: Several members of the GHS are involved in the BRI and in recently planning an outreach effort of visiting the homes located in the Bend village and on French Hill to discuss the BRI and the municipal planning grant. The GHS has been asked to donate copies of the book, "The History of Greensboro—The First 200 Years" so that they can be offered to the households visited. Up to 50 books may be donated, however, it is believed that a large number of the books are available and that not all households will accept a book. The Board approved this request.

GHS Summer Plans:

- Ongoing Summer Events
 - **Updated Self-Guided History Walks** in G'boro and The Bend villages
 - Willy, BJ and Nancy have volunteered to do this with help from Emily Purdy and Alison. Meeting will be scheduled for next week.
 - **Museum Exhibit:** Greenfield Highland Beef exhibit (Highland Cows and history of cows in G'boro) – Nancy will be meeting with Janet Steward and Ray Shatney to discuss the exhibit

- **On-line Barn Exhibit project:** Kyle will be sending the interview questions for volunteers to use when interviewing their respective barn owners

- **Self-guided Hinman Road Walks:**
 - Follow-up: Select sections of Hinman road for walks and worthwhile sites to be marked and described on an informational map. There is a rudimentary map available from the Barr Hill walk.

- Program of Summer Events with Tentative Dates
 - Opening Reception for the Greenfield Highland Beef exhibit--July 3rd
 - Official opening of the museum July 6th
 - **Follow-up/Action:** A volunteer is needed to organize the museum docents for Tues-Thurs. and Sat. morning shifts

 - Ice cream social with Highland Cow Exhibit and Summer Book Sale—Sat. July 31st
 - **Action/Follow-up:** Paula volunteered to organize the ice cream social

 - Hinman Rd. Sign Dedication and Hinman Road Walk-- tentative date: Wed. July 21st
 - **Follow-up:** Nancy to check with state officials to select a date
 - **Follow-up:** Nancy to check with potential guides for the walk- Larry Lumsden, Wayne Young and Richard Carbonetti.
 - Select sections of the Hinman Rd. for the group and self-guided walks
 - Develop HR map (also used for self-guided walks) and print
 - Develop Hinman Rd. publication (reprint of Gail's edited article; info from G'boro history and copy of map of road)

 - Annual Meeting: Possible Topic: Timothy Hinman and the Hinman Settlement Rd
 - Speakers: Possibly Peggy Day Gibson and Gail Sangree
 - **Follow-up:** Nancy to contact speakers to see if they are willing
 - Date: August 9th, 7pm (usually 2nd Monday in August)

 - First annual "Bend Day" at the Exhibit/museum with special invitation to residents of Greensboro Bend —tentative date: TBD
 - Something to make it exciting and special??

Wendy volunteered to make posters to publicize our summer events!

Other Business

- **Pat Haslam's book:** Since the GHS has no copies of Pat Haslam/Jill Baker book, The G'boro Blockhouse Project, on hand to sell, Leslie asked about purchasing some copies to sell along

with other GHS publications, and Willey's has expressed interest. However, they are expensive— around \$45 for one, so the Board recommended purchasing only up to 5 copies.

- Leslie will purchase 5 copies of Pat's book

- ***Inventory of GHS Publications:*** Alison volunteered to do an inventory of GHS publications and any other books the GHS has for sale. Knowing what publications we have along with their prices and short descriptions will help us to promote sales.

- ***A discussion of grants was postponed until the May meeting.***

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 11th at 10 am. Paula Davidson would welcome us to meet in the upstairs room in the library.