



**Greensboro Historical Society**

**Meeting Minutes (January 9, 2024)**

**10:00am @ the GHS and Zoom**

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*Attending: BJ Gray, Nancy Hill, Jane Johns, Debbie Kasper, Skip Hoblin, Paula Harmon, Willie Smith, Kyle Gray, and Larry Lumsden; Lise Armstrong, Renée Circosta, and Clive Gray on Zoom.*

### ***To-Do in the Coming Months/Assigned Tasks***

- ❖ Everyone
  - Think about exhibit materials for the 2024 summer exhibit on railroads. Contact Kyle with ideas and to join the Committee.
  - Review the GHS [ongoing task calendar](#) and add missing tasks (edit directly or send to Renée)
  - Review and add to any [Procedures](#) files that are in process (edit directly or send to Renée).
  - Attend the monthly book cull at Janet Long's, last Monday of the month.
- ❖ (Lise) Update budget to reflect line item change for 2024 exhibit.
- ❖ (BJ) Tote bag art with Lakeview. Final clean-up of museum for winter. Return conserved land community art canvases to owners. Return any relevant items from 2023 exhibit to Circus Smirkus. Update mailing list to correct for returned newsletters.
- ❖ (Amelia) VHS Achievement Award application. Process volunteer hour estimates.
- ❖ (Nancy) Winter meeting planning including reserving UCC room. *Hazen Road Dispatch* next-steps. VHS Achievement Award application. Disaster management plan. Final clean-up of museum for winter. Return items from 2023 exhibit to Hillcrest Nursery. Work with Kyle on Hill Family Exhibit Timeline.
- ❖ (Renée) Policies and Procedures files. Winter meeting planning. Summer exhibit. Check on Acura formatting the HRD for us and determine whether Jon Jesmonth is still there. Talk to Leslie about archiving 2022-2023 exhibit materials. Purchase floor rack for land trust exhibit panels (coordinate with Skip and Kyle).
- ❖ (Skip) Clean GHS museum sign. Check the GHS shed for vintage signs. Send an email reminder to the whole group to report back with any leads on vintage signs.
- ❖ (Kyle) Hill Family Exhibit Timeline with Nancy. Summer exhibit. Gather and post changes to the mailing list based on returns from newsletter mailing.
- ❖ (Leslie) Create draft agreement for tasks and priorities (like a job description). Disaster management plan. Check archives for vintage signs.

*President BJ Gray called the meeting to order at 10:05.*

**Changes to Agenda:** None.

**History Moment:** Larry Lumsden shared history and lore about the Baker Hill Cemetery in Greensboro. Thank you, Larry!

**President's Report (BJ):**

**Thank yous:** Thank you to Clive and Nancy for a lovely holiday party. Thank you to Renée for packing up the land trust materials, redecorating the window, and tidying the exhibit space.

**Committee Chairs:** Kyle has agreed to chair the summer exhibit committee.

**Expression of support:** The group approved a suggestion to include a note about GHS's support for and long relationship with Lakeview Elementary, to be included in Bobbie Nisbet's planned remarks at the community meeting tonight (on January 9).

**Secretary's Report (Renée for Amelia):**

**Approve November minutes:** The November meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

**Volunteer hours:** Renée requested that someone pass around a piece of paper to record volunteer hours for the past month, which likely relate mostly to budgeting and the newsletter. She also noted that since we started informally collecting information about volunteer hours last spring we have counted almost 900 hours.

**Treasurer's Report (Lise):** Lise indicated that, pursuant to the discussion at our last meeting, she moved \$5,000 from checking into a 7-month CD at 5%. She also noted that Vanguard increased by almost \$5,000 last year. Last month's financial report was approved.

**Follow-up from Previous Meetings**

**Summer 2024 Exhibit:** Kyle will meet with other group members interested in helping with the exhibit. Renée reminded the group that there are two binders with resources (news clippings, book excerpts, photographs, archival research, maps, artwork...) related to the StJ&LC Railroad (including materials from our 2009 exhibit on the railroad in The Bend), as well as a [Google Doc](#) with links to these and other resources, most of which have been digitized. BJ showed some railroad spikes that could be part of the exhibit.

**Winter Meeting:** Nancy states that everything should be on track and that she will reserve Fellowship Hall. Nancy and Renée (and anyone who wants to help) will meet next week to move things along. Renée notes that Amelia will be able to do the marketing flyers next month.

Nancy asked that people think about ways we can extend the marketing to reach sledders and ice fishermen and encourage them to come to the presentation. She also reminded everyone that we always provide refreshments at the meeting. BJ requested that we be sure to include information about the fishing derby in the presentation.

**Fall Wrap-Up and Preparing Museum for Winter:** BJ noted that there are still a few items that need to be winterized and covered up. BJ and Nancy will take care of that. Renée described the packing up of the 2022-2023 exhibit materials and requested that various items be returned to their owners. Renée will coordinate with Leslie on whether certain other items will be archived.

**Hill Family Exhibit Timeline:** Kyle will meet with Nancy to move this project along. He suggested that we redo the existing timeline in a slightly smaller font so that we can fit that plus the more recent years on the same wall space.

**VHS Achievement Award:** The application deadline was pushed forward to February 16. Renée will circulate a draft application next week.

**Vintage sign acquisitions:** Nothing to note. Skip will check the GHS shed and also send an email reminder to the whole group to report back with any leads on vintage signs.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Building and Maintenance:** Michael LaPierre made a very sturdy and functional snow guard for the vent for the Renai heater.

**Archives:** Leslie submitted a written report, read by BJ, indicating that she has been working on accessioning items (there is a backlog) and making storage space available for them. This involves rearranging archival storage boxes by type to maximize shelf space, grouping like materials when possible, and updating new locations of items in our Access database. She also stands ready to work with children in their family research in coming months as they take part in the Storykeepers program by Natalie Kinsey Warnock, hosted by the Greensboro Free Library.

**Budget:** Clarifying the motion from last month, Nancy made a motion to increase Leslie's hourly rate to \$25, effective January 1, 2024. The motion was seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The group reviewed the budget circulated by Lise. Renée noted that most line items looked to be in order but that the proposed budget of \$300 for the 2024 summer exhibit was too low. After some discussion, Skip made a motion to raise the budget to \$1,000. The motion was seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Newsletter:** There were eight returns from the mailing; the mailing list will need to be updated. BJ noted an error in the President's Corner column (missing photo of our mascot, Eliot) and proposed that next time we put a photo of Eliot in the President's corner. BJ thanked Jenny for

her great work on the newsletter and noted that the mailing was a bit late, but that this was due to a delay at the publisher. She wondered whether Jon Jesmonth was still at Acura, as there seems to have been a decline in the quality of the service. Renée will check on that next week.

**Website and Tech:** Kyle requested information and images for any calendar items and publicity.

**Hazen Road Dispatch:** Nancy reported that Stefanie Cravedi has agreed to be the editor of the 2024 HRD. They are meeting with Tim Breen this week to discuss the content of the next issue, and some articles have already been submitted. Nancy requested that anyone send her ideas for articles.

**GLT Permanent Display:** Skip reported that the flipboard display does not seem to be an option due to cost and configuration. A floor rack seems to be the most likely option, and it would be nice to pair the floor rack with the map that shows all of the parcels and where each one is located.

#### **Other Business:**

**Tote bags:** BJ is meeting with the Lakeview art teacher this week to discuss the students designing artwork and lettering for the tote bags. We will need to decide if this will be an item we will sell at the museum. Renée noted that we are low on or out of many sizes of the t-shirts we sell, and having a tote bag would be a nice sales item. BJ notes that she is also working on the junior membership card, and giving a card to the students who complete the art project would be nice. She could also see if the students can generate any artwork that would be appropriate for the membership card itself. Skip suggested that in addition to featuring student artwork, the card could say something inspirational such as “I’m history smart!”

**Policies and Procedures:** Renée was not able to write any new materials last month. She will continue to work on them next month. All current drafts are on the GHS Google Drive in the Procedures folder or on paper at the GHS building. All edits and additions are welcome.

*President BJ Gray adjourned the meeting at 11:27pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Renée Circosta for Amelia Circosta (Secretary)

***NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING: February 13, 2024 @ 10:00 am, GHS Museum***

Greensboro Historical Society, P.O. Box 151, Greensboro VT 05841