



**Greensboro Historical Society**

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

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

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*Attending: BJ Gray, Erika Karp, Lise Armstrong, Nancy Hill, Jane Johns, Paula Harmon, Mark Snyder, Leslie Rowell, Kyle Gray, Nan Perron, Jenny Stoner, and Clive Gray, plus Amelia Circosta and Renée Circosta on Zoom.*

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

- ❖ Everyone: Please contribute any time, ideas, or materials for the summer exhibit. Remember to watch for any St.J&LC/Greensboro Bend railroad memorabilia and stories. See Kyle for more information on how to get involved.
- ❖ Everyone: Consider attending the Vermont History Day presentation at the Craftsbury Library on April 16 at 6:30. See below for details. Bonus: Cake will be served!
- ❖ Anyone: Attend the LLHSM annual meeting in White River Junction on May 10 to accept the Award of Excellence on behalf of the GHS (9:30-10:30) and/or to attend the conference. See below for details.
- ❖ Anyone: We are still looking for someone to update the Greensboro portion of the Hill exhibit timeline.
- ❖ Nancy: Check with Bob Merrill about possibly speaking at the summer meeting and/or leading a tour of nearby geological sites.
- ❖ Nancy: Update the Hill Family sections of the Hill exhibit timeline.
- ❖ Renée and Amelia: Update the US and VT sections of the Hill exhibit timeline.
- ❖ BJ, Kyle, Nancy, Leslie, Renée: Write requested newsletter articles. Submit to Jenny by May 14.
- ❖ Leslie: Archive or discard the land trust exhibit materials on the old post-office desk.
- ❖ BJ: Look into the feasibility of selling conductor hats at the museum (Erika's request).

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

**Changes to Agenda:** No changes.

**History Moment:** Mark Snyder brought in a miniature 3D model of the train station in Greensboro Bend, which he will leave with the GHS to include in this summer's railroad exhibit. He told the group about some of the station's interesting history, including how the buildings are arranged on a slight curve to follow the tracks, how his property is one of very few original (not heavily renovated) stick-style depots left in the U.S., and how the buildings' future is more uncertain than it once was, because conflicts with the Vermont Agency of Transportation have left Mark in possession of the buildings but not the land.

## President's Report (BJ):

**Meeting time changed:** The group agreed to change the time of our monthly meetings to Tuesday at 10:30 instead of Tuesday at 10:00.

**LLHSM Award:** BJ notified the group that the GHS received an Award of Excellence from the League of Local Historical Societies and Museums for our "Saving Land, Saving History" exhibit. GHS members are encouraged to attend the award ceremony at the Hotel Coolidge in White River Junction on May 10 from 9:30-10:30. We would like to have at least one GHS representative there--BJ said to let her know if you want to attend. [Side note: The VHS posted the conference schedule shortly after our meeting. You can find it here: [2024 Conference.](#)]

**Winter meeting:** Thank you notes and \$100 each were sent to the Hardwick Sno-Flake Ridgerunners and the Coles Pond Sledders to show our appreciation for their involvement in this year's winter meeting.

**2023 Summer Exhibit:** BJ and Kyle took down the land conservation exhibit panels.

## Secretary's Report (Amelia):

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

**Volunteer Hours:** Volunteer hour estimates were collected for work done in the past two months.

## Treasurer's Report (Lise):

**Approve February report:** The Treasurer's report for February was approved as submitted.

## Follow-up from Previous Meetings

**Summer 2024 Exhibit:** A committee agreed to meet at 11:00 on Friday 4/12 at the GHS Museum to discuss plans for the summer exhibit. BJ mentioned that she has a few items from the Hardwick Historical Society to include in our exhibit. We need a theme for the light-up board. Jane posted on the Around the Bend Facebook page requesting artifacts, stories, and mementos related to the Bend railroad for the summer exhibit. She checked on finding models of the railroad buildings in the Bend, but it turned out that they were not specific to our area.

**GA Grant Submission:** Renée submitted the grant on time. We requested \$800 towards updating the Hill Exhibit timeline. While the final design hasn't been fully planned, we proposed using professionally-mounted photos and text (materials similar to those we used for the land conservation exhibit) and integrating small wall-mounted shelves and shadow boxes to display artifacts related to an entry or time period. We would like to have the new timeline in place this summer.

## Committee Reports:

**Building and Maintenance:** Lise found a key that seems to be to the locked storage shed door, and she will see if the key works.

**Archives:** The group archive tour will happen next month. Leslie reported on progress with the Davis collection. The collection is full of account books from 1894-1964, and Leslie has started formulating a finding aid. More generally, Leslie has new forms and tracking methods to help her make better use of the space in the boxes in the archives. Additionally, Leslie and Jenny used our archives to support a student from Craftsbury researching historical bathing suits for Vermont History Day. Five students will present their historical research on April 16th at the Craftsbury Public Library at 6:30pm.

**Newsletter:** Jenny circulated a list of requested articles, and the GHS summer calendar was discussed. Exact dates and times for museum hours and events still need to be decided. Jenny would like articles and final dates by May 14.

**Website and Tech:** No update.

**Hazen Road Dispatch:** Nancy reported that April 15th is the deadline for submitting HRD articles.

**GLT Exhibit:** Kyle and BJ took down the panels (as previously mentioned). Renée noted for Leslie that there are still artifacts from the exhibit (primarily from the “Willey’s case”) on the old post-office desk that need to be archived or discarded.

**Hill Family timeline:** The GA grant materials contain images of some preliminary timeline design ideas. Renée has photographed all of our existing timeline entries and is working on transcribing them as a starting point for the new timeline. If anyone has time to help transcribe from the photos, please let Renée know and she can set you up with some images and a template for entering the information. Amelia and Renée will update the US and Vermont history entries. Nancy will update the Hill family entries. We still need someone to do the Greensboro entries.

## Other Business:

**Tote bag cover design:** BJ is continuing to work on this and get the student designs organized.

**Policies and Procedures:** Renée has continued working on updating the procedures for the maintenance binder and Kids Corner. There are plenty more to do, so please let Renée know if you want to write a policy or procedure and she can give you the list of options and any existing materials.

**Railroad hats:** Erika asked about the possibility of selling railroad hats during the summer exhibit. BJ will work on this.

**Rail Trail photos:** Jane Johns presented Bend photos of rail-to-trail development for the summer exhibit.

*President BJ Gray adjourned the meeting at 11:50am.*

Respectfully submitted,

Amelia Circosta (Secretary)

***NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING: May 14, 2024; 10:30am @ the GHS Museum and on Zoom***