

Greensboro Historical Society  
May Board Meeting Minutes  
May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Attending:** Janet Long, Jenny Stoner, Erika Karp, Martha Niemi, Willie Smith, Nancy Hill, Alison Gardner, Leslie Rowell, Lise Armstrong, Paula Harmon, BJ Gray, Kyle Gray, Clive Gray

**Guests:** Renee Circosta, Leo Circosta, Amelia Circosta

It was the first in-person meeting in over a year and was attended by the Circostas as they are interested in volunteering for the GHS.

**History Moment:** Leslie presented the history moment on the topic of Stereopticons, a very popular entertainment device to view cards; it was invented in the 1800's. Using it, one could view the world in a 3-dimensionally. It was donated by Lewis Hill and is part of the GHS Hill Collection. Leslie shared 2 articles from HRD on stereopticons and also were shared along with a recently purchased book by Richard Petit about Carlyle Goodrich (Stereoscopic Photographer 1875-1881) "A Brief History of His Life and Work".

**President's Report:** The guests were introduced and mention was made of all the behind scenes work being done by the Membership Committee, the group revamping the Self-guided History Walk, the updating of the mailing list, the Archives Committee and the work on the current issue of the HRD.

Nancy also provided an update on the state historic sign to commemorate HR that will be placed at Tolman 4 Corners. It has undergone some difficulties during transportation and will be arriving in Greensboro once it is fixed and placed where HR originated at Tolman Corners. Wednesday July 21st was selected for the dedication.

One possible project is to mark the length of HR that runs between G'boro and Glover. Peggy Day Gibson, an authority on Timothy Hinman, has agreed to speak at our annual meeting and Gail Sangree (another expert on Hinman) will also be invited to speak.

**Secretary Report:** The minutes from the April meeting were accepted as is.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lise related that our finances are basically the same compared to last month and we have nearly hit the budgeted amount for donations.

**Volunteering Ideas for Leo and Amelia Circosta:**

The group brainstormed volunteering suggestions for the Leo and Amelia as follows:

- Write articles for the Hardwick Gazette about G'boro from the past, drawing from the History of Greensboro and HRD articles and relating them to current happenings.
- Lead walks with young people potentially on the Self-guided history walks or walks similar to the ones held in past summers, i.e. Bayley-Hazen Rd. walk, Barr Hill History Walk.

- Figure out ways to involve other young people in GHS activities and/or develop ideas for activities to attract young people to GHS events.
- Help with the interactive “Cow and Kid” component of the Highland Cattle Summer Exhibit
- Volunteer as docents or substitute docents
- Develop a bike route connecting the barns involved in the Barn Project

**Follow-up:** Nancy will meet with Leo and Amelia next week to agree upon activities starting in June.

### ***Standing Committee Reports***

**Newsletter:** Jenny reported on the articles still needed for the newsletter (a list of articles and responsible authors was included in the last newsletter. The summer event calendar and the GHS museum opening hours needs to be finalized. If you haven’t finished your article the deadline is May 17<sup>th</sup>. Expect printing early in June and to have a “stuffing party” that will need 5 to 6 volunteers once it is printed.

**Follow-up:** Everyone who volunteered to write an article please finish and e-mail to Jenny by the end of the day on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

- Nancy to finalize the Summer Event Calendar
- Nancy and Martha figure out the hours the exhibit/museum will be open. Alison will review the GHS museum sign-in, compile attendance to provide information for decision making.

**Hazen Road Dispatch:** Gail Sangree provided a written report. All articles are finished, she has been lining up photos and editing for grammar. The HRD will be going to the printer the week of May 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Archives update:** Leslie and Willie are continuing to work together on the archives Thursdays; others can join if vaccinated

**Website Report:** Kyle is continuing work on barn history project with 8 to 10 volunteers. The GHS Face Book page hasn’t been updated recently. Leslie’s stereopticons report will be added along with a calendar of the scheduled GHS summer events.

**Building Report:** The painting of the building will be starting soon.

### ***Other Business***

**Summer exhibit:** Jane Steward and Ray Shatney came to talk about the exhibit with Willie, Nancy, BJ and Leslie. Nancy would like to add a “Cows and Kids” interactive component to the exhibit and she has contacted Heather Lumsden to see if a local 4-H group would like to participate. Kids and Cows volunteers: BJ, Erika, Nancy, Willy, Alison

Bringing a cow/calf to ice cream social was discussed with Jane and Ray and they are agreeable if on-site logistics can be figured out.

**Clean-up Morning at the Museum:** Prior to having a professional cleaning a group is needed to wash windows and pick-up and organize the exhibit room and book shop. The date of June 1<sup>st</sup> at 10am was chosen. Nancy, Paula, Alison, Lise, Willie and Erika (maybe) volunteered.

**MI Committee Report:** The MI group met last month and updated the donation envelope and decided to use the Susan Goodby GHS notecard for thank you notes for all general donations, donations in honor or memory of a person and blank cards for archive donations and large donors. Notecards were printed with text for general donations and donations in honor/memory of.

Later this month the MI Committee will meet to discuss and propose ways to do outreach for the GHS.

**BRI and GHS Collaboration:** As part of the BRI, all households in Greensboro Bend were visited to update residents about the recently awarded municipal planning grant. 70 households were visited and provided copies of the History of Greensboro along with a bookmark made by Nancy and BJ. People were pleased to receive copies and many of those visited are recent residents and not familiar with book or the history of the village.

**Grants' discussion:** Greensboro Association grants are due at the end of May. Last year because our proposal was sent in very close to the deadline, it wasn't considered. Nancy spoke with John Schweizer informally and he suggested submitting a grant for two years of funding along with a letter explaining why.

**Follow-up:** Nancy to call John for further advice on applying for a GA grant this year.

Ideas for the GA grant and other donors such as the Pleasants Fund and VCF NEK Initiative:

- The barn project—Kyle research and web development
- The Self-guided History Walk could use funds for the laminated descriptions so they last more than a year (\$92), funds to cover the carpenter's labor to build new placards, funds for the development/printing of brochures/maps for the 2 walks.
- Improved lighting for the museum
- Funding to further develop/improve the GHS web page

**Museum Hours and Docents:** Martha and Nancy will work together to identify docents. Lise volunteered for the Tuesday morning slot.

## **Other**

Nancy Buckley recently donated a horse blanket and bowl to the GHS. It was suggested she be invited to discuss the history of her farm during the History moment.

Developing a Committee to plan and organize the Hinman Road sign dedication event was postponed to the June meeting.

Four copies of Pat Haslam's book, The Blockhouse Project, were recently purchased for the GHS Book Shop.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 10:00am