

Town of James Island History Council
Tuesday, December 8, 2020 Meeting
6:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes
Meeting was held virtually in a Zoom webinar

In Attendance: Chair-Paul Hedden, Inez BrownCrouch, Mayor Bill Woolsey-liaison to History Council, Susan Milliken, Jim Morrisette (joined the meeting late) Absent: Michael O'Neale

Meeting called to order by P Hedden, Chair. Approval of Nov. 10, 2020 meeting minutes: P Hedden made a motion to approve, seconded by I BrownCrouch. Unanimous vote to approve Nov 10, 2020 meeting minutes.

Correction to agenda for tonight's meeting by S Milliken: re "New Business: Joseph McGill - Living Historians Group-April 5, 2021"-corrected to April 11, 2021.

P Hedden gave quick overview of his recent meeting with M. O'Neale and J. Morrisette re. First Shot reenactment plans. It was decided to reach out to folks who had helped with 2011 event and others. Several local historians were invited to tonight's meeting and were not able to attend.

Stamp Act Defiance Remembrance was canceled in November due to late response from CofC on use of premises approval (Covid pandemic likely impacted their delay).

Status of James Island History Booklets - Mayor Woolsey reported there are 3,500 left. The Council may discuss a 2nd edition when all those booklets are distributed.

Oral Histories Project - Discussion deferred to January 2021 meeting.

Black History Month 2021- Discussion on this deferred to January 2021. P Hedden mentioned that he is meeting with County Councilmember Anna Johnson and will invite her to participate and get her ideas. S Milliken is waiting to hear back from Michele Johnson, JICHS teacher about having JICHS students participate/assist with Black History Month.

First Shot/April 11, 2021 event – P Hedden will continue to try to get in touch with local historians/re-enactors to assist. S Milliken suggested that maybe a letter from Mayor Woolsey to possible participants might help. Mayor Woolsey said he can write a letter, but it's difficult because our plans are not finalized yet. P Hedden reported that the SCV will not be participating on April 11. Council discussed one piece to the event being a First Shot re-enactment and another piece featuring Joseph McGill's Slave Dwelling Project/Living History Group. Council discussed if both events should be on the grounds of Fort Johnson or if Pinckney Park should be location for Living History presentation. P Hedden and S Milliken will look at grounds on Fort Johnson to see what areas might be workable and report back.

S Milliken spoke with Joseph McGill (Slave Dwelling Project) last week and has forwarded to history council Joseph's price list for Living Historians. Joseph McGill has April 11, 2021 reserved for the TOJI event. S Milliken described what Joe McGill's Living History group could provide on 4/11/2021 in terms of a presentation of slave crafts and culture from the Civil War era e.g. storytellers, brickmakers, cooks, historical figures represented, 54th Mass.—whichever historians we choose. Motion was made by S Milliken to move forward w/ Joe McGill and Living Historians on April 11, 2021, seconded by P Hedden, approved unanimously by the council. Discussion then centered around cost and cost sheet provided by Joseph McGill. S. Milliken read out loud the different fees for the living history presenters. The Council can choose how many and which ones to invite. Cost could run around \$3-4K for the event depending on which historians are chosen and how many. Mayor Woolsey stated that the Town could likely fund this with Hospitality Tax funds, but it would need council approval. S. Milliken asked if Town Council could take this up at their December meeting as Joe McGill needs to know soon if we are moving forward and schedule the historians. P Hedden stated that he will speak to Joe McGill and report back, that Joe McGill could pencil us in now for April 11, 2021 and that later we can get final approval for the funds and make decisions re. the specific plans at a later date closer to the event. S. Milliken stated she would like to see this finalized sooner than later and Joe McGill has stated that he to know soon. S. Milliken asked about the cost of the 2011 First Shot event, and stated that the Town should do more to support minority non-profits and minority businesses. Mayor Woolsey stated

that the cost of the 2011 event is irrelevant as that was a previous town and the event was planned by Mayor Clark. History Council Chair P Hedden removed S Milliken from working with Joseph McGill on the Living Historians event portion of 4/11/2021, P. Hedden will deal directly with Joseph McGill and report back to the History Council on details and costs. S Milliken asked if the History Council may have input into which historians and crafters are chosen.

P Hedden will discuss the African American Cultural Heritage Fund in more detail next meeting. Next meeting will be January 12, 2021. Motion to adjourn meeting was made by S Milliken and seconded. Meeting adjourned at approx. 7:15 p.m.

NOTE: Town of James Island History Council member Michael O'Neale resigned on December 9, 2020 by way of emailing all members notifying them of his resignation.

Minutes prepared by Susan Milliken