

James Island History Council  
Minutes  
Tuesday June 2, 2020

The James Island History Commission held its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, June 2, 2020 in Council Chambers at the James Island Town Hall. The Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by chair Paul Hedden. The following members attended: Chair Paul Hedden, and Inez Brown-Crouch. Town Administrator Ashley Kellahan was also present. Dr. Pat Sweeney, a member of the public, adjunct Professor at The Citadel and potential member, was also present.

Old Business – Camp Road History Update - Kellahan had emailed prior to the meeting a draft of the Camp Rd. History write-up from research provided by Brown-Crouch. All agreed with some minor edits it was in good draft form to send to Camp Rd. Middle School for their use in the new building.

James Island Arts & Cultural Center (JIACC) - Kellahan discussed plans are moving forward and we will have one final stakeholder meeting before the upfits go out for bids.

History Budget - Mayor Woolsey discussed the budget cuts that were made at first reading, however funds are still available for purchase of another historical marker. History events could possibly be funded elsewhere in the Town's Special Events budget.

New Business - Proposal regarding collection of oral histories on the COVID-19 pandemic on James Island. Kellahan will draft a press release for Hedden's review and will look into ways to collect the oral history. Perhaps it could be a student research project.

Plan for additional Remembrance Days:

1. Commemorate "Stamp Act Defiance" - Nov. 7 or 14 - Old Exchange interested in participating along with Sean Willis, Ken Scarlett. Rebecca Mott Chapter DAR.
2. Commemorate Invasion of James Island by British Forces Jan-Feb 1780 (Dill PReserve/Ft Johnson)
3. Commemorate Invasion of James Island by Union Forces May 1862 (Sol Legare Island / Baxter / Patrick Library)
4. Commemorate July 4, 1864 attack on Fort Johnson by Union Troops

Mayor Woolsey thought the First Shot should be commemorated and a Revolutionary War event as well. Last event was very successful. Group discussed moving forward with planning for Stamp Act day in November and then the following April 12th plan for the First Shot Event. Need to look for some patriot groups to participate. Will shoot for Veteran's Day Wkd for the event. Dr. Sweeny suggested looking at volunteers who reenact at Fort Moultrie.

Hedden discussed his proposal for Greenbelt funds to be used for a History Trail on James Island for 2021. Mayor discussed the potential of taking it in small bits and discussed section on Dill Property between George Griffith and Camp Rd as well as improving the pedestrian access and signage to the Fort Johnson site.

Meeting adjourned around 7:15. Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Aug 4th @ 7: 00 pm.

Submitted by Ashley Kellahan