



**History Commission Minutes**  
Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at 6 pm  
James Island Town Hall  
1122 Dills Bluff Road, James Island, SC

**I. Call to Order**

Co-Chairman Michael Williams called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

Present: Commissioners: Michael Williams, Inez Brown Crouch, Tom Robinson, Jay Reese, Randy Hillyer, Bill Lyon, and Jim Morrisette (6:19)  
Other Attendees: Mayor Brook Lyon, Mike Hemmer (staff liaison)

**II. Changes to / Approval of Agenda - none**

**III. Approval of Minutes from March 11, 2025**

Motion to approve by Inez Brown Crouch, seconded by Jay Reese; approved.

**IV. Public Comments – none**

**V. Reports:**

a. Historic Markers in Progress:

The Commission discussed that the Seashore Farmer's Lodge marker has been received, and the Three Trees application will be resubmitted soon. There was more discussion regarding the South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH) online historic marker map that shows the coordinates of the existing markers and how that aligns with where the physical location of markers will be installed. The Seashore marker was further discussed, and it was noted that they would like to do a celebratory event after it is installed by the Town. It was also noted that the spot needs to be chosen and utilities located before the Town can install.

Future markers included the Payne RME application (to be sent to the Commission Members) and Inez Brown Crouch said she expected to have the Saint James Episcopal application soon.

b. Outreach Efforts:

The Commission discussed recent events since the last meeting and noted that the booth is working well. The general plan is to develop themes for each event such as "agriculture history" for the next Town Market.

Inez Brown Crouch noted that there was a Rosenwald School presentation in Park Circle and that she also was part of recent efforts by the schools, along with Randy Hillyer.

- c. Pinckney Memorial Marker:  
Michael Williams and Mayor Lyon reviewed the status of the marker project, noting that the marker is in-process and that the site needs to be flagged for the installation company. Once complete, the Town will schedule a presentation ceremony.

**VI. Old Business:**

- a. The historic marker policy and list was discussed. There has not yet been criteria suggested for the Town sponsored applications, but the Commission seems to be in general agreement that, if they select and invite an application, the Town should pay the \$250 to apply.

**VII. New Business:**

- a. The Commission discussed objectives in general, and noted that we are far enough into the year that planning is essentially for 2026. Specific actions mentioned included being at 10 Town Markets, seizing other special event opportunities, reconsidering a Stamp Act event, setting up a process to receive and gather artifacts, and listing other events that took place on Jame Island. All of these activities should have a facet of grant funding included.
- b. It was also discussed that the Audio Driving Tour brochure and recording needs to be fixed and reprinted to reflect the hours of Fort Johnson and DNR.

**VIII. Recommendations for Chair and Vice Chair:**

Inez Brown Crouch encouraged that Michael Williams should again serve as Chairman. Jim Morrisette indicated he has other obligations at the moment, and didn't think he could continue in a Co-Chair position, but a Vice-Chair would work.

Michael Williams motioned, and Jay Reese seconded to change from a Co-Chair structure to a Chair and Vice-Chair structure; motion carried.

Bill Lyon motioned, and Tom Robinson seconded to recommend to the Town Council that Michael Williams be appointed as Chairman and Jim Morrisette be appointed as Vice-Chair; motion carried.

**IX. Commissioner Comments:**

Inez Brown Crouch remarked at the success of the Town Market booth and displays. Mayor Brook Lyon thanked each Commissioner and staff for the recent outstanding work and the new energy evident in the History Commission.

- X. It was noted that the next meeting will be May 13, 2025 at 6 pm at James Island Town Hall.

**XI.** There being no further business, Michael Williams moved to adjourn at 7:26 pm, Inez Brown Crouch seconded; meeting was adjourned.

Minutes provided by:

Mike Hemmer, staff liaison