



History Commission Minutes
Tuesday, March 11, 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 6:02 pm.

Present: Commissioners: Michael Williams, Inez Brown Crouch, Tom Robinson, Jay Reese, and Bill Lyon. (Absent: Jim Morrisette, Randy Hilyer)

Other Attendees: Mayor Brook Lyon, Mike Hemmer (staff liaison)

II. Changes to / Approval of Agenda - none

III. Approval of Minutes from February 11, 2025

Motion to approve by Bill Lyon, seconded by Inez Brown Crouch; approved.

IV. Public Comments – none

V. Old Business:

a. Historic Marker Policy/List Discussion:

The Commission discussed the criteria for making the list whereby the Town would sponsor an application for a SCDAH historical marker. It was noted that we have a previously approved policy, but criteria is needed to be on the list. Michael Williams asked the group to send in what they thought those criteria should be prior to the next meeting.

b. Status of existing Historical Marker applications:

It was noted that the Seashore Farmer's Lodge marker should be arriving soon and the Three Trees application still appears to have been lost in the mail. The check will be canceled and the Three Trees application resent.

c. Michael Williams updated the Commission on the status of the Pinckney Park Memorial noting that Worth Monument has been contacted and is verifying dimensions. The site needs to be flagged, photographed, and mapped for them in advance.

d. The 2025 Goals and Objectives were briefly discussed and the Commission generally felt that what was needed was specific Objectives defined, potentially by quantifying the deliverables that are connected to each objective. The Commission felt that this should be a new business item at the next meeting.

e. Outreach Efforts were discussed throughout the meeting. There was discussion that there was a need to fix/adjust the brochure and walking tour site to note that Fort Johnson has limited hours of operation. Ross Printing could reprint

brochures. The Commission has been very pleased with the outreach efforts at the Town Market and is excited about the upcoming DNR Open House and Lighthouse Point picnic. Commissioners Lyon, Brown Crouch, and Robinson indicated they are generally picking themes for each event and developing displays related to that theme.

VI. New Business:

a. SCDNR Open House:

The Commission discussed the Open House times from 10 am to 4 pm. Jay Reese indicated that the Commission's booth would be in front of the powder magazine. Discussion also occurred regarding what the theme of the booth would cover with the Commission seeming to settle upon a general outreach theme that covers all activities.

b. Videos:

The Commission discussed Michael Williams existing video efforts and noted that it should indicate that they are from the "History Commission of the Town of James Island" just so it is clear who is behind them. When the Town is able to launch a YouTube Channel, the videos can be hosted there.

c. Other:

Inez Brown Crouch indicated that she recently attended an event with Coach Randy Hilyer regarding educational outreach and that he is on several ideas to expand the historical knowledge of James Island and that she would continue to work with him.

VII. Recommendations of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2025:

The Commission recommends the Chair and Vice-Chair to the Town Council and the Council appoints the officers each year; typically taking the Commission's recommendation. Michael Williams suggested that the Commission may want to table this item until Co-Chairman Jim Morrisette could be in attendance.

Motion to table by Bill Lyon, seconded by Jay Reese; motion to table approved.

VIII. Commissioner Comments:

- a. Inez Brown Crouch – expressed her excitement and hope at the direction the group is taking. Bill Lyon – Indicated he really like the videos. Jay Reese – Noted he may have photos for the outreach efforts.

IX. Next Meeting will be April 8, 2025 at 6 pm in the Lobby of Town Hall

X. There being no further business, Inez Brown Crouch moved to adjourn at 7:23 p.m., Michael Williams seconded; meeting was adjourned.

Minutes provided by:

Mike Hemmer, staff liaison