

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
FOR THE CITY OF HOSCHTON
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023 AT 3:00PM
HOSCHTON COMMUNITY CENTER
65 CITY SQUARE STREET, HOSCHTON



MINUTES

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER at 3:07pm by Chairman Joe Vogt

AGENDA APPROVAL motion to approve by Marsha Hunter, seconded by Carole Tanner, and all in favor

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Items For Time Capsule

Dr. Hunter detailed the plan to gather photographs to be compiled in a book that Bob Loveland will have printed through Shutterfly. All pictures should be sent to her or to Mr. Loveland by mid-October to allow enough time for book printing.

The City charter and other official papers will be added to the capsule. Also included will be a list of the current cost of grocery items and a copy of the time capsule dedication invitation.

Dr. Hunter proposes to save the historic paper documents to a flash drive stored within a special pouch specifically made to preserve such items. Ms. Tanner mentioned that flash drives might be obsolete in 40 years. Dr. Hunter acknowledged that to be true but said that it's the best method to include all the documents without taking up too much space.

The exterior shell of the time capsule displays an aerial view of downtown Hoschton and a dedication plaque.

The time capsule will be dedicated at the Jingle Mingle to be held December 8th and will be opened in 2081 to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of Hoschton.

Chairman Vogt thanked Dr. Hunter for all the time she has devoted to this project.

2. Christmas Tour

Dr. Hunter explained that the idea is for people to visit decorated homes and locations at Christmastime.

Tickets would be sold as a fundraiser.

DDA Director Jessica Greene and Dr. Hunter will be working on securing a list of homes and locations.

3. Budget Discussion-Fundraising

Dr. Hunter shared that she found two locking glass cabinets to fit in the Hoschton Community Center niches instead of the custom glass cabinets that had previously been discussed. The cost of the two cabinets is around \$1000.00 on Amazon, compared to the \$10,000 cost of the custom design. These cabinets will display historic Hoschton items. Chairman Vogt asked if she would be ordering them and Dr. Hunter explained that she is waiting for approval in respect to the budget. The DDA has moved all items out of their storage unit rental, saving approximately \$825.00 over the next three months, so that would almost break even with the cost of the selected cabinet units.

Members plan to auction two art pieces at the Fall Festival to be held October 6th-8th utilizing a silent auction format.

Dr. Hunter mentioned that an idea has been brought up to hold a BBQ fundraiser, but they want to be careful not to conflict with the DDA's planned similar event.

4. Ghost Tour

Ms. Greene asked if the members of the Hoschton Women's Civic Club discussed this topic at their recent meeting and Ms. Blankenship answered yes. The Civic Club decided that they have too many commitments to work on a ghost tour this year, but they would like to plan for next year near Halloween.

The Civic Club previously put on their ghost tours with a circuit of downtown locations that were traveled on foot by small groups of attendees and at each stop a story would be told. Roughly, the route would be gazebo-Bell Ave-cemetery-Blankenship home-Larry's garage (old theater building)-DelaPerriere building. On a good year, they welcomed several hundred attendees. Light refreshments were served. Also mentioned were the idea of adding a dinner, inviting high school drama students to perform at the locations, and evaluating the need for transportation for attendees who might be unable to walk the route (maybe golf carts could help). Members can look at neighboring cities who have held ghost tours for more ideas like cemetery location, using trolley, etc.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Vogt mentioned attending a Department of Community Affairs meeting advertised as discussing funding but ended up being more about organizing. He is still interested in exploring fundraising, grants, etc.

Resident Nicholas Sutton asked if Hwy 53 is historic and if that is why it cannot be widened. Vogt responded that the issue is more the lack of physical space to widen the road without moving buildings. Mr. Sutton also asked that downtown businesses be included in any City events. Dr. Hunter responded that the DDA-hosted Jingle Mingle event is explicitly for attendees to visit the downtown businesses. Mr. Sutton then asked for donations toward his campaign and/or groceries.

Ms. Blankenship asked Ms. Greene if there was any update on the painting at the Darby building. Ms. Greene replied that she has reached out to Mr. Shepherd over the past two months, but has not heard back. The planned porch/deck around the Darby building is on hold until the Depot restaurant opens.

ADJOURN motion to adjourn at 3:45pm by Dianne Blankenship, seconded by Marsha Hunter, and all in favor.

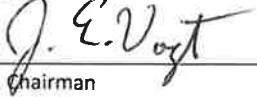
Roll Call:

Joe Vogt, Chairman
Dr. Marsha Hunter, Co-Chair
Dianne Blankenship
Dot McAlvin
Dr. Fredria Sterling
Carol Tanner

Also Present:

Jessica Greene, DDA Director
Jen Williams, Assistant City Clerk

Approved:



Joe Vogt, Chairman

10/26/23
Date



Jennifer Williams, Assistant City Clerk