

THE
HARTSVILLE
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Minutes

City of Hartsville, South Carolina
Hartsville Museum Commission Meeting
Wednesday, August 16, 2023 – 6:00 PM
The Hartsville Museum, 222 North Fifth Street

PURSUANT TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT SC CODE 30-4-80: WRITTEN NOTICE WAS DELIVERED TO THE PRESS BY EMAIL ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 2023, AND DULY POSTED AT THE HARTSVILLE MUSEUM LOCATED AT 222 N. FIFTH STREET AND ON HARTSVILLESC.GOV. THE HARTSVILLE MUSEUM IS AN ACCESSIBLE FACILITY, FOR ASSISTANCE CALL 843-383-3005.

Members present: Chair, John Nichols, Vice Chair, Sue Brand, Treasurer, Colin Hungerpiller, Davita Malloy, Phylis Fields, Paula Alvarez, and Leo Rondeau

Members absent: Kathy Lawhon (excused), David Hoffman (excused)

Staff: Hartsville Museum Manager, Andrea Steen and Director of Tourism and Communications/Public Information Officer, Michelle Byers Brown

1. Call to Order and Welcome

Nichols thanked everyone for coming and called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

2. Motion to Approve Minutes from Commission Meeting February 15, 2023 – APPROVED

Motion: Fields; Second: Rondeau; Carried: All Ayes.

3. Oath of Office and Related Business

- Election of Officers: Motion to nominate Nichols for Chair, Brand for Vice Chair., and Hungerpiller for Treasurer. Motion: Malloy; Second: Rondeau; Carried: All Ayes.
- Oath of Office administered by Michelle Byers Brown for Commission Members Malloy and Rondeau.

4. New Business – Steen

a. Operating Report

The museum budget was included in your agenda packet. This printout shows our new budget and our current expenditures. At the beginning of this new fiscal year, we have incurred a few reductions and will adjust to stay within the new operating budget. The staff position for Museum Assistant Manager is still on hold and I feel confident this will pivot in a new direction very soon. Nichols states: this is a budget of the City and is simply on here for information only. Brand asks: do any donations come in through the city's accounts? Nichols states: no; money donated is directed to the Hartsville Museum Foundation.

5. Updates – Steen

a. Virginia Fouché Bolton print framing

Funds raised from last year's dinner theater fundraiser were used to frame 28 prints by Hartsville native, Virginia Fouché Bolton. Kit 'N' Kaboodle frame shop used three styles of high-quality wood frames, museum glass and coordinating matboards to create an impressive look for this exhibit. We are working to hang these pictures on the large exhibit wall in the Gallery room of The Edition sometime in September. Afterwards plans will be made to host a drop-in reception.

b. Denny Bros. Jewelers Clock

Yes! The glass has been painted! I found a hand-painter glass artist, Jeff Williams of Sun, Signs and Lettering out of St. Petersburg, Florida. I drove the glass pieces, personally, to him and he turned the project around in five weeks, mailing them back via Federal Express. The next phase is handing them over to Phil Gandy (a leader from the beginning of this project) who will set the glass in place and commence the last steps of reassembly.

Phil was informed on June 2 the glass was back and said he would be by the museum during our weekday hours. Our goal is to have the clock finished and installed at the same time we plan to host a drop-in reception for our new art exhibit at The Edition. Hungerpiller: where will the clock be hung? Steen: in the reception hallway of the Edition, over the water fountain. Hungerpiller: will there be any verbiage about the Denny Clock? Steen: Yes, there will be interpretation about the jewelers and the location of their business and a timeframe of where and when the clock came down. Steen shared a rendering of the downtown businesses during 1903-1918, showing the location of the jewelry store.

6. **New Business – Steen**

a. **Accommodations Tax Grant**

The A-Tax Grant was included in your agenda packet. I am happy to say this grant was fully funded. We have missed several opportunities this year to stop and capture the stories people voluntarily share with us as they visit our museum. This equipment will allow us to easily capture both impromptu and planned interviews.

b. **Darkside Tours**

This year we will be offering Darkside Tours. Chris Hoffman will be our in-house ghost guide along with Hannah from SPC and Sarah from Coker University. Our dates have been set for October 19, 20, 21 and 26, 27, 28. Two shows each evening at 7:00 and 8:00. Shows will last approximately 90+ minutes, with a capacity of 25 guests per show. Haley Gates is designing us a new flier with a new look. Tickets will go on sale September 19th and will be available through our website or in person at the Museum. We are working on improving our fan-favorite stories and ways to add a few more characters and theories to the line-up.

7. **Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.**

John Nichols, Museum Commission Chair

Attest _____ Andrea Steen, Museum Manager

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