
**Gwinnett Historical Restoration & Preservation Board
Monday, June 12, 2023 – 6:00 PM**

Lawrenceville Female Seminary, 455 South Perry St, Lawrenceville GA 30046

Present: Demetrios Lambros, Sara Howe-Silvers, Ann Bender, Amelia Porter

Absent: Justin Walsh, Matt Butti

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome/Opening Remarks
3. Approval of Agenda:
{Action: Approved; Motion: Lambros; Second: Howe-Silvers; Vote: (3-0) Lambros-Yes; Howe-Silvers-Yes; Bender-Yes }
4. Approval of Minutes: April 17, 2023
{Action: Approved; Motion: Howe-Silvers; Second: Bender; Vote: (3-0) Lambros-Yes; Howe-Silvers-Yes; Bender-Yes }
5. Announcements (Board Members)
 - a. Chair Lambros acknowledged the second year of Juneteenth as a national holiday and encouraged everyone to attend upcoming Juneteenth celebrations throughout the County.
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Project Updates
 - a. Staff member Cammie Mansfield presented on the following:
 - i. Preservation Hall of Fame
 1. During this presentation Chair Lambros requested staff investigate the possibility of producing a brochure or posting information on the county website to provide more detailed information about each Preservation Award recipient.
 - ii. Cemetery at Alexander Park
 - iii. Interpretive Signage
 - b. Staff member Glenn Boorman presented on the following:
 - i. Gate upgrade at Elisha Winn Site
 - ii. Livsey Family Big House at the Promised Land
 1. Board Member Bender provided a list of questions pertaining to this project which staff member Boorman responded to.

2. The Board made a motion to include in the meeting minutes a detailed summary of staff member Boorman's responses to Board Member Bender's questions (document attached)
{Action: Approved; Motion: Bender; Second: Lambros; Vote: (3-0) Lambros-Yes; Howe-Silvers-Yes; Bender-Yes }

9. Program Updates

- a. Staff member Jason West presented on the following:
 - i. Presentation on Local History Teacher Immersion Program (presentation attached)
 - ii. Upcoming Historical and Cultural Programming June - August, 2023

10. Exhibit/Artifact Updates

- a. Staff member Brian Boggs presented on the following:
 - i. Exhibit and Artifact Updates: April - June 2023 (document attached)
 - ii. The 2023 Black History Month Exhibit received a National Association of Counties (NACo) 2023 Achievement Award

11. Comments from Audience

12. Adjournment at 7:42pm

{Action: Approved; Motion: Howe-Silvers; Second: Bender; Vote: (3-0) Lambros-Yes; Howe-Silvers-Yes; Bender-Yes }

1. When asked at the April 17th meeting about a timeline we were told that there is no timeline, why is there a delay? Where can the updates and timeline be viewed?

The timeline for the restoration process includes current meetings held with Lord Aeck Sargent (LAS) to plan and coordinate the community outreach and engagement phase which is planned to take place this Fall. This will include at least two events which will be planned at different times of the day/week to allow for greater participation. Additionally, we've discussed having an online survey be available for input and feedback.

At the conclusion of this initial process, the information and input received will be compiled to provide design direction for the County and LAS to develop a request for proposal for a Construction Manager at Risk procurement of a historic restoration construction manager (CMAR).

2. What specific actions have been taken on the project since 2018?

- *March 2019 Additional 1.8-acre land parcel purchased for the Promised Land site*
- *October 2019-through 2022 Research and development for interpretation plan began and continues*
- *January 2020-April 2020 Demolition of non-historic structures completed by Gwinnett County and an external vendor*
- *August 2021-October 2022 Partnership with Atlanta History Center for oral histories initiated and continues*
- *January 2022 SPLOST funding becomes available for house restoration planning and development within 2017 SPLOST Funding*
- *July 2022- Contract development with LAS began*
- *December 2022- BOC approved contract with LAS*
- *February 2023- Contract with LAS executed*

3. Where can I see maintenance records for the Big House?

Inspection and other maintenance records for the house and site can be provided to HRPB Board Members. Staff will provide these documents.

4. Is Ruth Abram still involved in the project? will any of her work be used? Or is that part of the project being handled by Lord Aeck Sargent?

Ruth Abram is not involved in the restoration project. Lord Aeck Sargent has a specialized team of historic preservation architects which focus on analyzing and restoration of historic structures.

5. Will the HRPB be able to review the RFPs/RFQs before a qualified contractor is selected by Lord Aeck Sargent?

LAS will not be selecting the CMAR. The CMAR must be selected through the procurement process managed by the County Purchasing Division, which doesn't involve outside entities. The RFP process will be limited to vendors that have extensive experience with similar types and scope of building restorations.

6. The contract requires Lord Aeck Sargent to attend one community outreach meeting. Will the CM at Risk be required to attend more community outreach meetings, or will this be the responsibility of DOCS staff?

The extent of the community outreach has yet to be determined but LAS will be involved to the extent necessary. There would be no reason for the CMAR to attend any community outreach.

7. What other projects have been started and/or accomplished since 2016?

Numerous projects of all different sizes and scopes which were budgeted for have been completed since 2016. There was no specific funding allocated to this project until 2022.

8. Please provide a breakdown of the approximately \$630,000 of 2017 SPLOST money that has been spent on the Promised Land Project as stated by Dr. Patterson (refer to Gwinnett Historical Restoration & Preservation Board Monday, September 19, 2022 – 6:00pm).

As provided via email on July 15, 2022, below is a summary of expenses to date for The Promised Land Project:

- *Land Acquisition (incl legal fees and taxes assoc. with purchase) - \$464,601.43*
- *Appraisals - \$15,650*
- *Consultants (includes historical structure report & boundary surveys) - \$74,456.54*
- *Additional Consultant R. Abram - \$61,276*
- *Additional Consultant E. Olson (Genealogy) - \$9,800*
- *Additional Consultant B. Stock (Genealogy) - \$4,830*

Total of expenses: \$630,613.97

9. During the July 18th, 2022, HRPB meeting we were told that “stakeholder involvement occurs during the phase of the project after the RFP is awarded”.

This references an RFP for design services. Because this is a specialized project the design services can be procured through an exemption in the Purchasing Policy guidelines, which is how we contracted with LAS. Stakeholder involvement will be through the public engagement process where any interested party may attend and all stakeholder voices will be included.

10. I know many members of the community would like to be involved with the project – How can community members get involved?

The community members will have the opportunity to engage in at least two open houses where input and involvement will be encouraged. These events will be advertised through social media, County web site, signs and banners and any other means to help maximize turn out.

Historian Porter suggested including advertisements in the Gwinnett County Water Bill Newsletter.

11. Are community outreach meetings scheduled? What are the dates of these meetings?

They have not been scheduled yet. Historically the summertime is not a good time for gathering input and getting community involvement. The plan is to continue planning this summer and have the events this Fall.

Local History Teacher Immersion Program



The Purpose

- Introduce Gwinnett teachers to the county's historic sites
- Share local history
- Make connections to curriculum standards
- Explore educational enrichment options at local historic sites





Collaborative Effort

- 5 Day Program (June 5 – 9)
- 14 Bus/van trips
- 30 Hours of instruction
- 20 Historic sites visited
- 27 Collaborative partners



Monday

- Gwinnett geology
- Rock shelter
- First inhabitants
- Fort Daniel



Monday

- Elisha Winn Site
- Blacksmithing



- Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center
- Chesser-Williams House



Tuesday

- Female Seminary & Isaac Adair House
- Lawrenceville Cemetery



- Freeman's Mill
- Methodist Campground







Wednesday

- Yellow River Post Office Site
- Salem Missionary Baptist Church
- Promised Land
- New Bethel AME Church







Thursday

- McDaniel Farm
- Buford
- Duluth
- Alice Strickland





Friday

- Charlotte Nash
- Wayne Hill
- Beauty P. Baldwin
- Brooks Coleman



Friday

- Hooper Renwick Alumni



- Tina Fleming



Friday

- Judge George Hutchinson



- Dr. Judy Jordan Johnson



Teacher Comments

- "For sure, it opened my eyes to the history all around us in Gwinnett!"
- "The program was incredibly beneficial to my understanding of Gwinnett history."
- "I loved this immensely. Would recommend 1,000,000% to other teachers."
- "Local history connections can make BIG STANDARDS real."
- "Loved the walking field trips!"
- "I have been formatting aspects of this experience into lesson ideas."
- "I have seen many of the sites we visited this week, yet I knew very little about their importance or significance."



Teacher Comments

Thank you for a wonderful experience. This is the most fun I have had being a teacher in 24 years! My role was reversed and instead of teaching, I was able to learn so much in one week. I definitely have information to take back to my students.

Questions?



Walter.West@GwinnettCounty.com
B2Anywhere.com



Exhibit and Artifact Updates

Community Services

May 2023 – June 2023

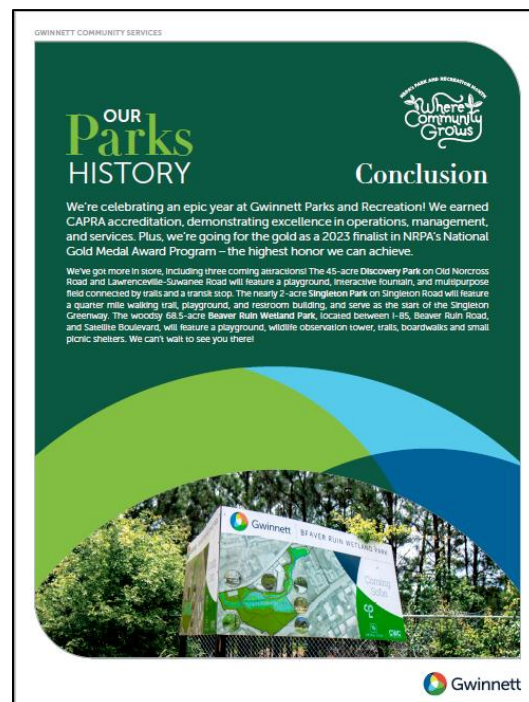
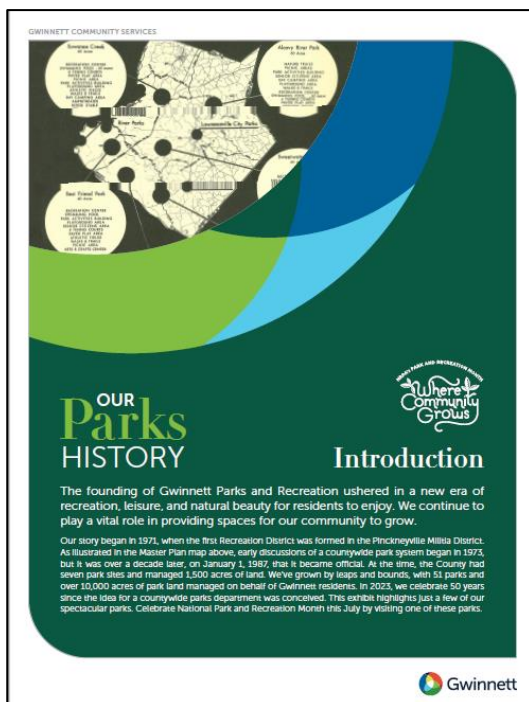
Exhibits:

Our Parks History

July 1-31, 2023

Celebrate Park and Recreation Month by learning about the history of some of Gwinnett's own parks. On display during the month of July at the following locations:

- Lilburn Activity Building
- Best Friend Gym
- Lucky Shoals Activity Building
- Pinckneyville Park CRC
- George Pierce Park CRC
- Rhodes Jordan Park CRC
- Bethesda Senior Center
- Gwinnett Historic Courthouse
- Lawrenceville Female Seminary



Recently Donated/Loaned Artifacts:

1 original student desk from the Hooper-Renwick School donated by an alumni



Oral History Collection:

Between May and June, 19 additional oral histories have been recorded for roughly 5.5 hours of new recording. Seventeen of these oral histories were recorded in partnership with the O’Kelly Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Loganville, in celebration of their anniversary.

Events Attended/Outreach:

In May the Cultural and Historical Interpretation team attended the following events to promote historic preservation and the collection of oral histories:

Cross Culture Streetfest - May 6, 2023 (6pm-9pm), Best Friends Park

Multicultural Festival - May 13, 2023 (10am-2pm), Gwinnett Place Mall

The Cultural and Historical Interpretation team will be participating in the following events:

City of Lawrenceville Juneteenth Celebration – June 16, 2023, 7pm-10pm, Lawrenceville Lawn

United Ebony Society Juneteenth Celebration - June 17, 2023, 12pm-6pm, Rhodes Jordan Park