



Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2023

Mickve Israel

In Attendance

Juliana	American Prohibition Museum
Adam Cusick	American Prohibition Museum
Luciana Spracher	City of Savannah Municipal Archives
Kelly Zacovic	City of Savannah Municipal Archives
Glenda Anderson	Georgia Historical Records
Joe Stahl	Botanical Gardens
Alena Pirok	Georgia Southern University
Elyse Butler	Georgia Historical Society
Jacey Thomas	Georgia Historical Society
Breana James	Georgia Historical Society
Chris Sergi	Andrew Low House
Ginger Varner	Andrew Low House
Elizabeth Srsic	Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace
Danielle Christian	Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace
Allison Beckelhymer	Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace
Christian Carr	SCAD
Billie Stultz	Savannah African Art Museum
Tara Kelsey	Massie Heritage Center
Steve Smith	Massie Heritage Center
Wilma Wheten	Individual
Laura Seifert	Fort Pulaski
Rita Elliot	LAMAR

Dan Elliot	LAMAR
Jami Brantley	Girlscouts FHQ
Sarah Logan-Reyab	Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace
Christy Crisp	GHS

Institutional Introductions

- Institutional Updates have been moved to the end of the meeting to give time to our presenter.

Board Updates

- Approval of meeting minutes from January
- Approval of meeting minutes from February
- Treasurers Report
 No new income since Feb 2
 Expenses: Brian(Lunches), Website Renewal (go-daddy), Microsoft 365
 \$1096.03 in expenses broken up between the above purchases.

 \$9211.80 in the General Operating budget
 \$3462.22 in Kiah Fund

New Business

- Kiah Fund Committee Report
 - The Kiah Fund Committee suggests to use the existing Kiah fund to pay for internships.
 - An intern at a CMA member institution would have access to apply for the Kiah fund grant that would be the monetary compensation for their time working on the project.
 - The institution must develop the internship project that would qualify for the Kiah Fund Grant.
 - This would be open to High School Students, College Students, and Young professionals (1-2 years post grad)
 - The institution and the student must apply together for the Kiah Fund, up to \$500
 - Students with community service hours can apply to cover supplies and transportation.
 - Some membership thought it was important for students to become members of CMA to apply
 - It is suggested that the membership application be tweaked for students to apply at a lower cost
 - Should more than 1 student apply to the Kiah Fund Grant. A special event should be made to showcase projects or presentations. Perhaps even a networking event.
 - Creating paid internships and using the Kiah Fund as an in-kind funding source, \$500 is not a lot of money when comparing to summer jobs.

Kiah Fund Q&A

Luciana: Should it be limited to a certain amount of applications and approved grants per year as not to drain the Kiah Fund and remove access from other members?

Laura: I don't think anyone expected this project to be so wildly successful. This hasn't been discussed by the committee, but it will be brought up.

Luciana: We have a cap on the number of Kiah Fund grants an institution could get but it should be considered to also extend to students.

If everyone gets \$500 we could do 600 per year between both interns and institutions. Consider limits for this program and what could they be?

Laura: The institution would also apply to this so they would not be able to apply for another Kiah Fund grant in that year should the intern project be accepted.

Joe: I think a reserve should be kept aside in case the Kiah Fund is overused. Has the Kiah Fund ever run out of money?

Laura: We could, I think the challenge in CMA's history is members were not utilizing the Kiah Fund enough so money was just sitting there.

Glenda: At one time we had the thought we could have 1 applying per year at various levels, 1 high schooler, 1 college student, etc. but we never came to a final decision on that.

Luciana: I think that the committee should re-meet to discuss this further before bringing it back to membership.

Christian: Another point to consider is syncing up the deadline cycles to college internship requirements so that students doing their internship for credit do not miss out on this opportunity. Also consider the limits on X # per year in conjunction with the academic deadlines for universities.

Luciana: Once this is finalized and if approved, everything should be on our website with clear guidelines for use.

Laura: The Kiah Fund guidelines should also be addressed and updated for the addition of internships. The application and guidelines should just be an expansion of what we already have not a complete change.

Awards of Excellence

- Nomination Deadline is April 15
- Online and emailed out
- Award committee – Non CMA Members

Officer Nominations

- Nominations for Treasurer and Secretary.

Program

Jacey Thomas - Georgia Historical Society

Jacey Thomas graduated from Georgia Southern University in 2021 with degrees in History and English. She is currently a graduate student at Georgia Southern University, where she is pursuing a master's in Public History. During her time as a graduate student, Jacey has served as a graduate assistant at the Georgia Historical Society. Over the past year, Jacey has been working with the Public History Program at Georgia Southern University and with the Georgia Historical Society to create a Public History project. The project is an online exhibit focused on the migrations into and out of Georgia from the pre-colonial period to the present day.

"Migration in Georgia"

A Public History Project by Jacey Thomas

Migration in Georgia

A Public History Project by Jacey Thomas



- This will be an online Exhibit that is through the Georgia Historical society that will look at important historical dates, groups of people, events, and trends of migration that have occurred through GA's history
- Focusing on factors that have influenced immigration. (Policies, ethnicities, historical events, etc.)

Migration, Policies, and People

- An online exhibit for the Georgia Historical Society
- Highlights important historical dates, groups of people, policies, and events related to migration within Georgia from pre-colonial times to the present day.
- Highlights factors that influenced, deterred, or forced certain groups of people to migrate into or out of Georgia.

Overview of the Exhibit

- Timeline
 - Ranges from the pre-colonial era to the present day
 - Features key trends, policies, and groups
 - Case Studies
 - Based on oral history interviews
 - Highlights personal experiences related to migration
 - Target groups:
 - Greek immigration
 - Chinese immigration
 - Latino immigration
 - African American emigration during the Great Migration
 - Cherokee Removal
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- The exhibit will be broken down into two parts:
 - A timeline and Case Studies
 - Each section will include subsections as listed above.

Methodology

- Primary Sources
 - GHS collections
 - Digital collections
- Secondary Sources
 - United States immigration
 - Georgia immigration
- Oral History Interviews
 - Research on topic and community
 - Preparations prior to the interview
 - Recording equipment
 - Consent forms
 - After the interview
 - Transcripts
 - Preservation and Presentation

- The oral histories interviews will be recording the histories of those who have migrated or are direct descendants of those who have migrated and will be documented through audio recording with an accompanied transcript.

Started preliminary research in 2022 Spring, with GHS and committee at GSU. Hoping to have it complete in April 2023.

One primary source that has been of great benefit from GHS is the Army Dan Abrams Collection on Cherokee relocation. This collection comprises of letters from those involved in the relocation of the Cherokee population. This is included in the case study.

Other methodologies are recording of oral history.

- Attended webinars on documenting oral history
- Consulted with professors on best practices for documenting oral history

Case Studies

- Greek immigration and the Savannah community
- Chinese immigration and the Augusta community
- Puerto Rican immigration and military service
- African American emigration to the North and the Great Migration
- The Cherokee Removal from North Georgia

Target groups for this part of the project.

Includes immersing oneself into the communities to find people who are willing to participate in this project.

- Attending festivals
- Contacted museums
- Contacted heritage groups

Begin preparations for recording.

- Preparing questions
- Preparing equipment
- Creating forms to accompany the digital recordings so proper documentation and sources could be recorded and accompany the transcripts

After the interviews transcripts are provided to the interviewees for accuracy and approval before anything is published.

- This will include a formal presentation of the project
- The transcripts, recordings, and any other documentation in relation to this project will be submitted to the GHS

Challenges

- Confronting and presenting difficult topics
- Working with vulnerable communities
 - Immigrants
 - Minority Groups
- Safety and protection from harm for interviewees

The challenges were primarily around the oral history component.

There were challenges with difficult topics and giving time for the interviewees to discuss painful and sometimes traumatic histories or experiences.

For safety you have to be aware and consider their place in the community, and any histories or stories that may put them at risk in their own community. Their safety has to be put first over the project.

Q&A Discussion

Tara: Did you find that with those that you interviewed did you feel that you were venerable with you or did you feel that any held back?

Jacey: I think it is depending on the person being interviewed. I had a few that were very open and forthcoming within the first few minutes of the interview. They opened up right away. The questions were spaced out so that the difficult questions were not brought up first so that the interviewee could be comfortable talking with me before we addressed any difficult topics.

There were a few people interviewed that it was harder. They had to take extra time to discuss those challenging topics. We would bounce between more difficult topics to those topics that are not so challenging. This also has a lot to do with age. Younger people were more open to share as where those in the older generation had more reservations.

Joe: Did some of the people you interviewed, were they willing to write down their history at all or just talk about it?

Jacey: One lady I interviewed said several members of the community were wanting to write their stories down but she didn't feel like it was ready to be shared with the public just yet. Perhaps one day.

Glenda: For more resources check out the Georgia Archives on projects on Chinese History in Augusta presented by the Georgia Records Advisory Counsel.

Steve: How did you select these minority groups?

Jacey: These groups were selected based on advisor input and records available in the GHS archives. Also based on recent immigrations and when immigration policies were loosened in the early 1900s, there was an influx of waves of migrations in and out of GA. These were the largest groups that allowed for the most diversity within this project.

Member/Institutional Updates

GHRAC	Glenda	<p>Email sent out in January about the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Counsel. Last year we had 3 winners from this area of the state. All 3 were CMA members. Nominations are accepted until June 1. Grants will be announced later this month about preservation, and access of historical records. June 30 deadline in 2024. Grants to be announced in November of 2023.</p> <p>CEMA Hurricane Conference – April 11, Savannah Convention Center on Hutchinson Island. Email to come!</p>
Massie Heritage	Steve Smith	<p>Shout out to Luciana and Kelly from the archives for the history on wheels presentation! 3 presentations in February.</p> <p>Walking Tour Series Irish of Savannah – Email to come Famous Women of Savannah – March 22 at 5:30 Emails to follow.</p>
Savannah African Art Museum	Billie Stultz	<p>Looking for Interns and Volunteers! Highlight the new exhibit. <i>Between Two Worlds: Connecting the realms of the Seen and Unseen</i>. This was an intern project.</p>

Next Meeting

When: Wednesday, April 5, 2023, | 12:00 Noon

Where: Massie Heritage Center. - 207 E Gordon Street, Savannah, GA 31401

Program: CMA Annual Member Showcase

Save the Dates

- April 15, 2023 - 5:00 pm - Awards of Excellence nominations due.
- May 3, 2023 - 12:00 pm - CMA Membership Meeting
- June 7, 2023 - 6:30 pm - CMA Annual Awards Ceremony