

Gullah Geechee Land and Cultural Preservation Task Force
Meeting Minutes

November 5, 2018 – 1:00 PM
Council Chambers – Town Hall

Task Force Members present: Lavon Stevens, Shani Green, Joyce Wright, Todd Theodore, Palmer Simmons

Town Council present: None

Town Staff present: Jayme Lopko, Jennifer Ray, Carolyn Grant, Shawn Colin, Josh Gruber

- Chairman Stevens called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM.
- The agenda for today's meeting and the minutes from the September 25, 2018 special meeting and October 1, 2018 meeting were approved by consent.
- Joyce Wright gave an update on the Gullah Resource Center. Ms. Wright is working with Carolyn Grant on content and making sure everything is in line with legal requirements. The web content should be live in 45 to 60 days.
- Jayme Lopko gave an update on the heirs' property identification. There has been no progress on this item. A process and identification of roles to accomplish this project will need to be discussed. This should be something that the Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator should maintain.
- Jayme Lopko gave an update on the progress of the Gullah Geechee Culture Preservation Project. The consultant's next visit will be November 14-16. There will be a Strategy Building Workshop Wednesday November 16th at 5:30pm at The Northridge Event Venue. Conceptual strategies from research and the workshop will be presented to the Task Force at their November 16th meeting at 1pm. The Task Force requested that information from the consultant be made available on the Town's website.
- Shawn Colin gave an update on the Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator position. Mr. Colin stated that the Town received 49 applications for the position, 26 from South Carolina, and 12 from Hilton Head Island. The selection process will include 3-5 on-site interviews and a couple members of the Task Force will be involved with the interview of the top candidates.
- Jayme Lopko discussed a possible 2019 meeting schedule. The Task Force decided that at this time no schedule would be adopted for 2019 but will be discussed further at the next meeting.
- Chairman Stevens opened the meeting for public comment on items unrelated to today's agenda and the following was received:
 - Shawn Colin informed the Task Force that Tom Barnwell and Louise Cohen presented an educational session to Town staff on the Gullah culture that was very well received. The hope is to repeat this for other Town staff.
- Chairman Stevens adjourned the meeting at 2:35 PM.

Submitted by: Jayme Lopko
Meeting date: November 5, 2018
Approved: December 17, 2018