



LAWRENCEVILLE

GEORGIA

HERITAGE TRAIL MEDALLION COMMITTEE AGENDA

Tuesday, September 17, 2019
5:00 PM

Council Assembly Room
70 S. Clayton St, GA 30046

Call to Order

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

1. August 19, 2019 Regular Meeting

General Discussion

- [2.](#) Update on City Projects
- [3.](#) Discussion of Existing Heritage Plaques on the Lawrenceville Square
- [4.](#) Discussion of Existing Heritage Trail Medallions
- [5.](#) Discussion of Former Nominees for Heritage Trail Medallions

Final Adjournment



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1.

AGENDA REPORT

MEETING: HERITAGE TRAIL MEDALLION COMMITTEE, SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

AGENDA CATEGORY: APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Item: August 19, 2019 Regular Meeting

Department: Communications/Community Development

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Fiscal Impact:

Presented By: Lisa Sherman

Action Requested: Approval of August 19, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

Attachments/Exhibits:

Minutes – Heritage Trail 8-19-19



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2.

AGENDA REPORT

MEETING: HERITAGE TRAIL MEDALLION COMMITTEE, SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

AGENDA CATEGORY: GENERAL DISCUSSION

Item: Update on City Projects

Department: Communications/Community Development

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Fiscal Impact:

Presented By: Lisa Sherman

Action Requested: No action; information purposes only

Summary: General overview of City Projects

Attachments/Exhibits:
City Projects Update



City Projects

April 10, 2018



Vision Statement

- *Lawrenceville will be known as the **heart of Gwinnett** and **the college town of tomorrow**, where **inclusion** is a way of life, new **urban living** is just living, and **art** comes alive in a **talent-rich, regional epicenter of community***



LAWRENCEVILLE
GEORGIA

A New Story



**LAWRENCEVILLE**
GWINNETT • METRO ATLANTA



HEART art SMART
WHERE art IS A WAY OF LIFE

**GWINNETT MEDICAL CENTER**

**AURORA THEATRE**

**GEORGIA GWINNETT COLLEGE**

City of Lawrenceville is home to a state-of-the-art medical center, award-winning theatre and a nationally ranked 4-year college. Lawrenceville, where ART is a way of life.

www.LawrencevilleGa.org

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Let's Get St**ART**Ted





Public Works Facility

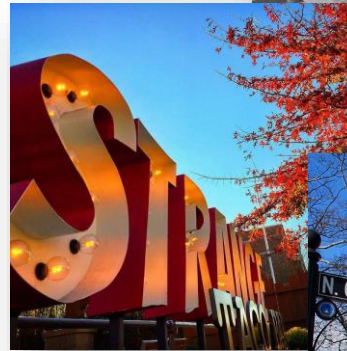
- **Project Description:**
 - \$20M Public Investment
 - 5 City Operations
- **Status:**
 - Complete February 2018
 - Essential to South Lawn Development





Downtown “Project Wins”

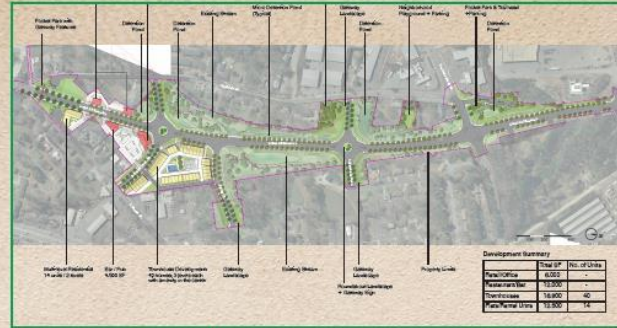
- Slow Pour Brewery
- Strange Taco Bar
- Computer Sleuths
- Books for Less
- Boulder Creek Coffee Shop
- NV Bath Body Bar
- Avoir Salon & Spa
- AR Workshop Lawrenceville
- **Foggy Bottom BBQ (August 2018)**
- **Beer Republic (Coming Soon)**





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CURRENT PROJECTS

1. City View Project
2. South Lawn Project

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

3. Future Mixed-Use Development
4. Future Public/Private Development
5. Future Mixed-Use Development
6. Future Cultural Arts Facility Project
7. Future Hotel Development

STREET IMPROVEMENTS

8. LCI Two-Way Conversion Project
9. College Corridor 2.2 mile Linear Park Project

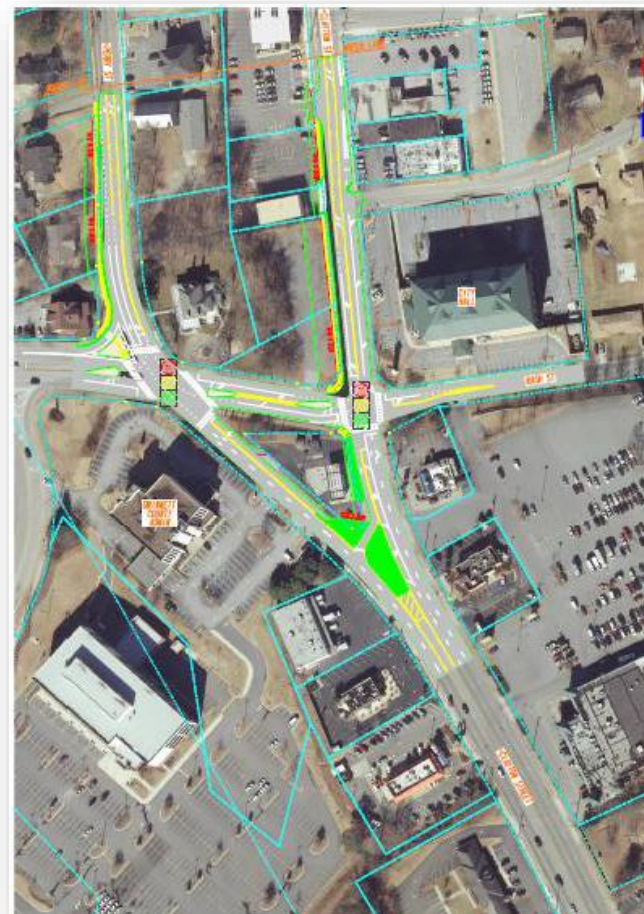
CITY LANDMARKS

10. Historic Courthouse
11. Gwinnett Justice & Administration Center
12. Heritage Trail
13. Cemetery
14. Lawrenceville Lawn
15. Central Gwinnett High School
16. The Train Depot
17. Gwinnett's First Brewery, Slow Pour Brewing Co.



LCI One-Way to Two-Way Project

- **Project Description:**
 - Conversion of Perry & Clayton Street from one-way to two-way, traffic signals, storm water and sidewalk improvements
- **Status:**
 - 50% complete
 - Complete early fall 2018





South Lawn

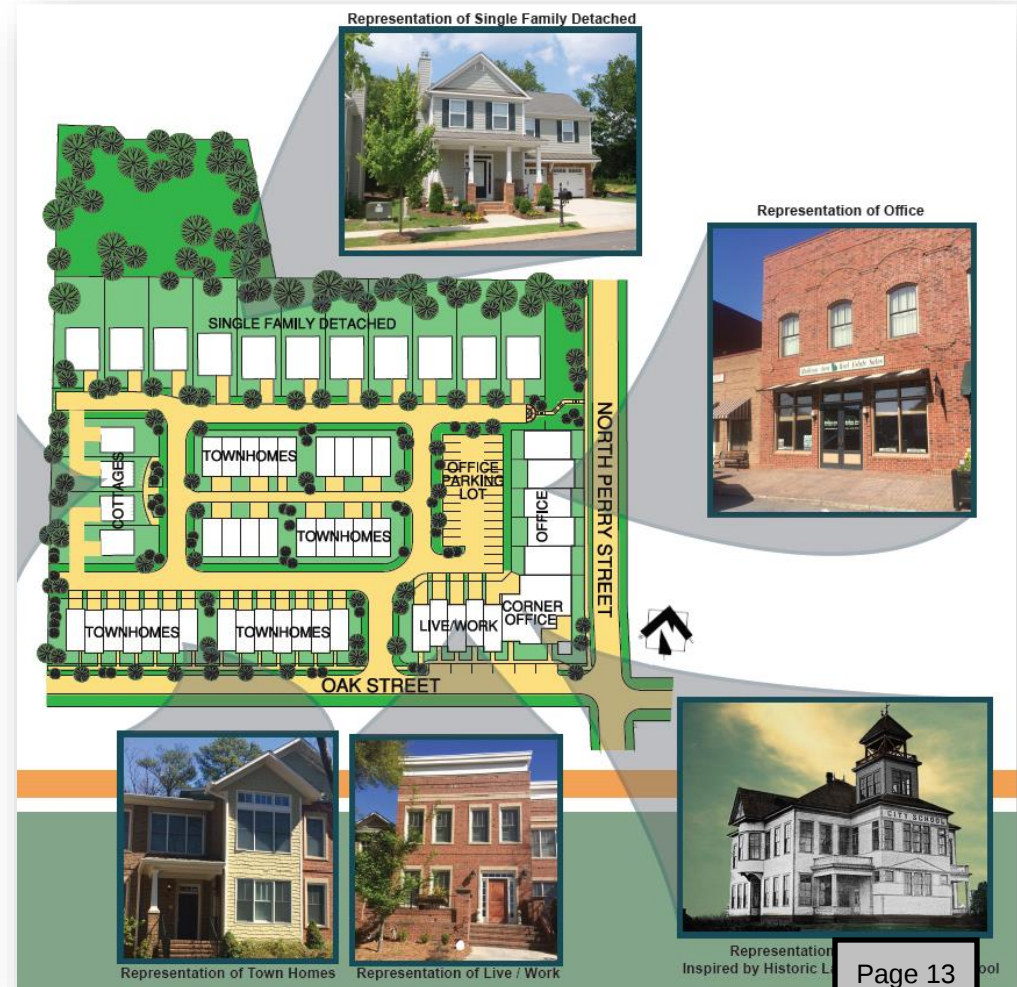
- **Project Description:**
 - \$200M Mixed-Use Project
 - 600-Residential Units / 15,000 sq-ft Retail
- **Status:**
 - Property Closes in June
 - Multi-Family Residents by 2019 and Single-Family Residents by late 2019





City View

- **Project Description:**
 - \$20M Mixed-Use Project
 - 58 Residential Units / Offices
- **Status:**
 - Under Construction
 - Vertical Build-out begins Summer 2018
 - Residents move-in 2019





Aurora Theatre Expansion

- **Project Description:**
 - 550 seat theatre, Cabaret space, support space and Education space
 - 58,000 sq-ft
- **Status:**
 - Program complete
 - Ground Breaking
 - Winter 2018
 - Grand Opening
 - Summer 2020





Downtown Parking Deck

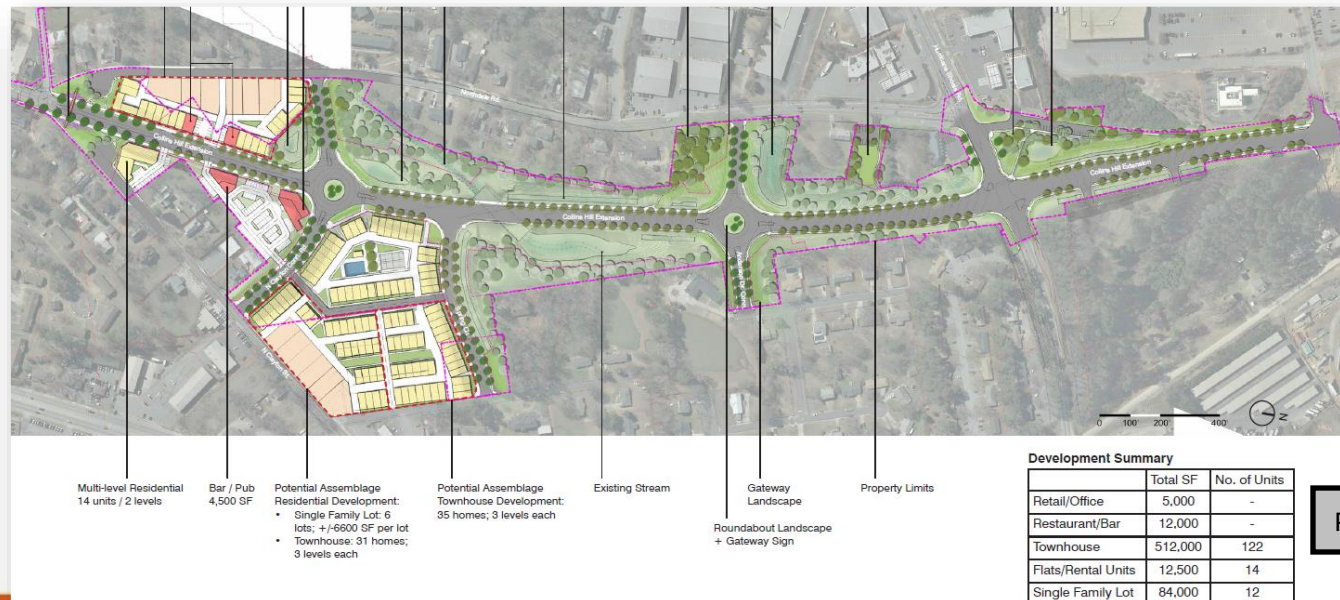
- **Project Description:**
 - Parking deck for downtown and Aurora Theatre Expansion connecting to possible hotel
 - Over 400 spaces
- **Status:**
 - Evaluating delivery method: possibly 2019 construction





GGC Corridor Project

- **Project Description:**
 - Improvements for connection with Georgia Gwinnett College
- **Status:**
 - Phase 1 under construction (Square – Depot District)
 - Phase 2 Summer 2018 (Depot District – GGC)





Hooper-Renwick – Library Relocation

- **Project Description:**
 - Historic Preservation & Renovation
 - Relocation of Gwinnett Library
- **Status:**
 - Adjacent to South Lawn
 - Partnership with Gwinnett County
 - Design – Late 2018
 - Grand Opening – 2020/2021





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Questions





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AGENDA REPORT

MEETING: HERITAGE TRAIL MEDALLION COMMITTEE, SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

AGENDA CATEGORY: GENERAL DISCUSSION

Item: Discussion of Existing Heritage Plaques on the Lawrenceville Square

Department: Communications/Community Development

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Fiscal Impact:

Presented By: Lisa Sherman

Action Requested: No action; information purposes only

Summary: Overview of Existing Heritage Plaques on the Lawrenceville Square

Attachments/Exhibits:

Lawrenceville Square Historic Markers

History Stroll Gazette

Discover real and true stories from Lawrenceville's colorful past. As you shop and stroll downtown refer to the **Historic Downtown Lawrenceville** brochure to find the location of each story. Simply locate the gold star that corresponds to a story on the map.

The Historic Gwinnett Courthouse

Originally constructed in 1824. The land purchased for the building included 250 acres at a total cost of \$200. This building burned in 1871 and was rebuilt in 1872, but was later torn down in 1884. The courthouse now standing was constructed in 1885. For the next 100 years it stood as the centerpiece of the downtown square, the economic and social hub of Gwinnett County. It remains the same today, with concerts and gatherings on the lawn.



*Walk the grounds of the courthouse and learn about the fascinating history of notables who once lived here.
Find the Veterans Museum inside on the main floor.*



2

Goats on the Square

Cattle, hogs and goats were important to Lawrenceville's economy in the 1840's. Unfortunately they also created a problem for the justices of the Inferior Court. Fences and gates could not keep the local livestock from running at large and settling in on the courthouse square. Goats sometimes were found wandering in the courthouse halls after spending the night. The chief justice of the court convened a session to settle the problem. He suggested offering town lawyers the opportunity to construct a brick office building on each corner of the square but only if they maintained a substantial fence around the courthouse.

At times, goats were found wandering in the courthouse halls.

Four prominent lawyers quickly took up the challenge. In 1849, the county exercised formal contracts that deeded the property to the lawyers and their heirs. The Inferior Court reserved the right to reclaim the property if the livestock outsmarted the lawyers and resumed their wanderings on the courthouse grounds. The lawyers were equal to the task however, and the goats and other four-legged visitors were properly evicted from the square.

Find these four buildings that mark the corners of the courthouse square!



★3 The Whacking Cane

Miss Philadelphia gave the proprietor fair warning . . .

Gwinnett County socialites in the 1820's were quick and firm in their crusade to fight the evils of corn liquor. One prominent leader was Mrs. Philadelphia Winn Maltbie, daughter of the first Justice of the Inferior Court. It is said that this proper lady once boldly walked into a Lawrenceville barroom and asked the owner to refrain from selling his goods to her son. Some days later, the son arrived home in an inebriated condition. This caused Philadelphia to take up her husband's heaviest walking stick, the one with a long knife blade embedded in the handle. She again entered the bar, reminded the owner of her previous request, and angrily accused him of causing her son's ruin and disgrace. Then to soothe her broken heart, Philadelphia raised her heavy cane and knocked every bottle of whiskey from the shelf, scattering shattered glass in all directions. The barkeeper attempted to take the cane from her hand but she warned him off, promising to run him through with the knife blade. The frightened proprietor backed away as she completed her smashing. For awhile, at least, the local population was saved.

The Country Doctor ★4

Dr. Webster Price Ezzard was one of Lawrenceville's most notable and recognized residents. A reliable and trusted country doctor, he served the community for over 60 years from his office on the town square, in the rear of the Jones Pharmacy building, later Montfort Drugs. Dr. Ezzard delivered babies and made house calls for only \$20. He charged his patients based on their ability to pay, often dispensing his services for free to people in need. Known for never taking a vacation, Dr. Ezzard was quoted as saying, "Retirement will come about two days before I go to the cemetery." Dr. Ezzard's drugstore soda fountain also provided a social setting for the young people of Lawrenceville. From the 1940s thru the 1960s, teens would gather for Coca Colas, malts, and dance the jitterbug to rock and roll. Dr. Ezzard's son George took up the medical practice after his father's death in 1963 at the age of 83.

One of Dr. Ezzard's most famous deliveries was 1949-51 Heavyweight Champion Ezzard Charles.



In 1915, a group of local residents gathered in front of a Crogan Street business to protest the puddles in the unpaved Lawrenceville streets. In this whimsical photo, Charles Mason and son (far right) shoot at some phantom fish in a puddle while a young boy proudly shows off his enormous "catch."

★5 Shooting Fish in the Streets

Gwinnett County remained very rural into the middle of the 20th century and the streets of downtown Lawrenceville were unpaved until the late 1920's. In those days, the businesses on Crogan St. included several general stores. Farmers would come to town on Saturdays with their horse-drawn wagons for market day shopping and visiting. The stores stocked a wide variety of supplies from underwear to dry goods and groceries, bolt cloth, millinery and farm plows. There was always a pot bellied stove and usually a barrel of mackerel. Tobacco smoking locals would gather to offer their views on the politics of the day, tell tall tales and even predict the weather. Anyone with a problem knew exactly where to find a good set of opinions.

It was a simpler time in 1905—even banking was easier. A Gwinnett farmer needing a loan could drop by the County Courthouse on any day and meet up with Mr. E. M. Brand who offered money to lend at his outdoor office, positioned on the steps, near the front door. Mr. Brand tried to help the locals but the county officials of the day decided this was not an appropriate place for his business. They banished his bank from the courthouse steps. E.M. knew the importance of a good location, however, so he did not move too far. He erected a building nearby on the courthouse square. His expanded enterprise included three employees and a separate ledger for pig and donkey loans. Today, customers of the Brand Bank can meet E.M.'s great-great grandson who lends money from the same company, in the same general location.

The Banished Bank



The Atlanta Exposition of 1890 was the site of a special celebration of the wonders of King Cotton on Farmers

leading Atlanta seamstress of the time. Bridegrooms were fitted out in suits tailored from the same material. The lucky couples were met by a reception committee and paraded in carriages to the exposition



The Cotton Bag Wedding

Alliance Day. The main attraction featured the wedding of four couples, dressed in clothing made of white cotton bagging. A huge crowd of fun loving people gathered to see the stylish bride dresses and hats designed and made by the

grounds. Atlanta's leading citizens led the parade as cheering crowds lined Peachtree Street. Each couple received \$50 in gold plus furniture to set up housekeeping. One pair of the newlyweds lived in Gwinnett County, Antoinette Petty, age 15 and George Stovall, age 24. Their cotton bagging wedding finery is on display at the Gwinnett History Museum at the Lawrenceville Female Seminary Building, 455 South Perry Street.

Tipsy Mules & Horses

As in most counties in this part of Georgia, there were a few local entrepreneurs who developed a thriving business producing a popular variety of *white lightning*. Customers came from miles around for a chance to purchase some of Gwinnett's finest *Mountain Dew*. Since the laws of Georgia and the U.S. government frowned on this industry, the Gwinnett County Sheriff spent a good portion of his time hunting down the moonshine factories. Sheriff E. S. Garner was determined to rid the area of the whiskey makers. He felt the need to convince the citizenry of the illegal nature of local corn liquor. After each successful raid of a county still, Sheriff Garner would hold a public event and make a show of pouring the whiskey down a manhole on Brandywine Circle. It is said that these distilled spirits would somehow end up in the water supply that was used for the mules and horses in the stables of Honest Alley. Many tell tales of how the animals would drink the spiked water and seem a bit intoxicated. Is it any wonder that stock purchased in Honest Alley was thought to be some of the best quality around?





Honest Alley



In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Gwinnett County's economy depended on cotton. Local farmers required quality mules and horses. And so Honest Alley, a row of stables and blacksmith barns behind Crogan Street, became an important trading spot. Livestock traders would travel to the West, purchase mules and horses, and ship them back to Honest Alley on the train. Mr. Jim Bob Oakes was one of the most prominent traders. To tout his success, Jim Bob constructed a large white plantation-style mansion at the opening to the alley, where it still stands today. Honest Alley was also notorious for medicine shows. Slick salesmen would tout the benefits of miracle elixirs from their covered wagons. Parents forbade their children to visit Honest Alley, warning of the shady characters that inhabited the place. This only added to the intrigue. Many long-time residents tell of sneaking down to the Alley to discover its mysteries. The original barns and stables of Honest Alley were destroyed in a fire in 1939.

Major William Eleazar Simmons *A Civil War Hero and a Gentleman*

One of the most respected citizens of Lawrenceville was Major William Eleazar Simmons, attorney and Civil War hero, born August 26, 1839. A young lawyer, Mr. Simmons volunteered for the first company of infantry organized in Gwinnett County in 1861. He fought in 20 major battles with the Army of Northern Virginia including Antietam, Fredricksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. During one battle, a bullet passed through his hat brim and 14 more went through his clothes but Simmons never got a scratch. He was captured and spent a year at the Port Delaware Prison, called the *Andersonville of the North*. After the Civil War, this distinguished lawyer served as a Trustee for both the University of Georgia and Georgia Tech, though he had attended neither school. His participation was said to improve the stature of each university. He married in 1869 and constructed a large Victorian home for his bride that still stands on the corner of Clayton and Pike Streets. He died peacefully at the age of 91 and is buried in Lawrenceville's historic Shadow Lawn Cemetery.



A bullet passed through his hat brim and fourteen more went through his clothes . . .



As you explore downtown Lawrenceville, be sure to visit the Veteran's Museum on the main floor of the Historic Courthouse to see a wide array of uniforms and other memorabilia that date as far back as the Revolutionary War and forward through the war in Iraq.

The museum is staffed by veterans.

Pictured with uniforms is Paul J. Packard, Retired Chief Master Sgt., US Air Force

*Thanks for taking the time to dine, shop, stroll
and share our history.*



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4.

AGENDA REPORT

MEETING: HERITAGE TRAIL MEDALLION COMMITTEE, SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

AGENDA CATEGORY: GENERAL DISCUSSION

Item: Discussion of Existing Heritage Trail Medallions

Department: Communications/Community Development

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Fiscal Impact:

Presented By: Lisa Sherman

Action Requested: No action; information purposes only

Summary: Discussion of Existing Heritage Trail Medallions

Attachments/Exhibits:

Heritage Trail Existing Medallions

Heritage Trail Existing Medallions

Current Medallions

Margaret Winn Holt
James (Jim Vic) Hood, Sr.
Dr. Webster Pierce Ezzard
William Maltbie
Daniel Ray Sosebee, Sr.
Willie Frank Bailey
Rev. W.C. Corley, Sr. & Sara Dunn Corley
Mary Frazier Long
Robert (Bob) Baroni
Giles Sanford Kelley
James Hardy McGee
William Grady Holt
Philadelphia Winn Maltbie
Dr. Donald Veal Dove
Nathan Louis Hutchins
Marvin Augustus Allison
Egbert Moultrie Brand
Hilliard Rhodes Jordan, Sr.



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5.

AGENDA REPORT

MEETING: HERITAGE TRAIL MEDALLION COMMITTEE, SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

AGENDA CATEGORY: GENERAL DISCUSSION

Item: Discussion of Former Nominees for Heritage Trail Medallions

Department: Communications/Community Development

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Fiscal Impact:

Presented By: Lisa Sherman

Action Requested: No action; information purposes only

Summary: Discussion of Former Nominees for Heritage Trail Medallions

Attachments/Exhibits:
Heritage Trail Nominees

Heritage Trail Nominees

Nominees Not Selected To Date

John E. Adams
Major William E. Simmons
Nathan Louis Hutchins II
Nathan Louis Hutchins III
R. Doyle Johnson, Sr.
Alma Peevy Frazier
John Ronald Hannon
Rubye Welburn Neal
Annette Williams Tucker