

CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS

General Meeting
February 13, 2021
Virtual Meeting

Minutes

The Clayton Library Friends (CLF) general meeting was called to order by CLF President Lynda Collins. President Collins welcomed members and guests to the second joint meeting of Clayton Library Friends and the Afro-American Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. (AAHGS), Willie Lee Gay H-Town Chapter. She remarked that due to the pandemic, the groups had not been able to meet in person since the first joint meeting, held at the Holocaust Museum, February 2020. But a year later, thanks to Zoom technology and assistance from Bernard Meisner of Texas State Genealogical Society (TXSGS), the groups were able to meet virtually.

President Collins reminded the attendees that the purpose of CLF is to enrich the resources and facilities of Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research, including the acquisition of research material for the library and support of the continuing education of the library staff. Clayton Library remains closed to the public, but the staff is available to help with specific research questions through email and telephone appointments.

AAHGS Willie Lee Gay H-Town chapter president Sheron Bruno welcomed members and visitors to the joint meeting. President Bruno noted that today's presentation would be recorded and available for AAHGS members to view on the chapter's website, htown.aahgs.org.

Nick Cimino, CLF Director of Programs, introduced the featured speaker, Debra Blacklock-Sloan. Ms. Sloan, a native Houstonian, has 25 years of experience as a genealogist and historical researcher. A member and past president of the AAHGS, Willie Lee Gay H-Town Chapter, Ms. Blacklock-Sloan has presented local workshops on African-American family research, and written articles for many publications, including African-American News & Issues, The Houston Chronicle, The Texas Historical Commission and The Texas Historical Foundation.

Ms. Blacklock-Sloan delivered her presentation, *The Answer Was Right in Front of Me: A Case Study Using Clayton Genealogical Library Resources to Help Determine the Last Slaveholder of Your Ancestor*, to the Zoom audience. After her presentation, she answered a number of questions from the audience.

AAHGS Willie Lee Gay H-Town chapter President Bruno thanked both TXSGS and CLF for the partnership. She invited the audience to visit the AAHGS website and join the group.

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CLF President Collins thanked the audience for attending the Zoom meeting. She also noted that the next Genealogy Face to Face Zoom session, open to the public, is scheduled for February 18, 2021 at 1:00 PM and the next CLF quarterly General Meeting (Zoom) is scheduled for May 8, 2021.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Signed:

Kathleen A Dickerson

Kathleen Dickerson, Secretary

Lynda Collins

Lynda Collins, President



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