

**CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS**  
**General Meeting**  
**February 19, 2022**  
**Virtual Meeting**

**Minutes**

The Clayton Library Friends (CLF) quarterly general meeting was called to order by CLF President Lynda Collins at 10:34 AM. President Collins welcomed members and guests to the first CLF quarterly meeting of the year. President Collins turned the meeting over to Director Nick Cimino.

Director Cimino introduced the featured speaker, Sheena Wilson. Ms. Wilson is the Assistant Manager and Lead Archivist at the African American Library at the Gregory School in Houston, Texas. She has been with Houston Public Library since August of 2017 and is highly knowledgeable about Houston, Texas as well as African American history. Her specialties include archives, digitization, outreach, content management, donor relations, African American history, and Houston history.

Ms. Wilson expressed her excitement to join CLF from the African American Library at the Gregory School. She thanked Director Cimino and CLF for inviting her to share some of the history and resources available at the library.

Ms. Wilson shared that the small team of nine individuals at The Gregory School are dedicated to preserving history and creating access to historical resources on the black experience and culture in Houston. She explained that the group collects personal, family and professional papers of Black Houstonians as well as the records of businesses, religious, professional and social organizations. The materials in the collections include documents, letters, photographs, videos, oral histories and other audio-visual materials.

Ms. Wilson continued her presentation by relaying the history of The Gregory School, originally established in 1870 as The Gregory Institute and dedicated to the education of the children of formerly enslaved blacks in the Houston area. The school is named after Edgar M. Gregory, a union officer and assistant commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau in Texas.

After completing her presentation, Ms. Wilson engaged in a question and answer session with the CLF audience. She indicated that any additional questions about the collection should be sent via email to [hpl.gregoryschool.@houstontx.gov](mailto:hpl.gregoryschool.@houstontx.gov).

Director Cimino thanked Ms. Wilson for her presentation. He handed the meeting back to President Collins.

President Collins thanked Ms. Wilson for her presentation. She also announced to the audience that CLF is in the process of establishing a research request service for people who want help with a specific question that can be researched at Clayton Library. CLF is looking for volunteers from the CLF membership who would like to help with the research. Anyone interested in researching these requests should contact Barbara Richards by email at [volunteers@claytonlibraryfriends.org](mailto:volunteers@claytonlibraryfriends.org).

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President Collins noted that the next quarterly meeting will be held on May 21, 2022. The speaker will be announced at a later date. Updates will be posted on the CLF website, [www.claytonlibraryfriends.org](http://www.claytonlibraryfriends.org).

The meeting adjourned at 11:41 AM.

Signed:

*Kathleen A Dickerson*

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Kathleen Dickerson, Secretary

*Lynda Collins*

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Lynda Collins, President



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