

Cayce Historical Museum Commission

March 4, 2026

Meeting Minutes

The March 4, 2026, meeting of the Cayce Historical Museum Commission (CMHC) was held in the Cayce Visitors Center. The meeting was convened at 5:00pm by Secretary Chris Tenny, in place of Chair Marcy Hayden who had an excused absence. The following individuals attended the meeting:

Name	Status
Marcy Hayden	Chair (absent)
Pamela Sulton	Vice-Chair (absent)
Chris Tenny	Secretary
James Stewart	Commissioner
Archie Moore	Commissioner
Charlita Earle	Commissioner
Keith Stephenson	Commissioner
David Brinkman	Commissioner
Kasey Lawson	Commissioner
Andy Thomas	Cayce Museum Curator
Elizabeth Lumsden	Cayce Museum Communications Assistant

Upcoming Programs & Events:

- 6:00pm on March 19, 2026: Tom Elmore, presenting on Lost Confederate Treasure
- 2:00pm-8:00pm on March 21, 2026: Cayce Soiree
- March 28, 2026: Colonial Village at Tartan-Day South
- 6:00pm on April 16, 2026: Stephen Criswell, presenting on Catawba Pottery
- Time TBD on April 23, 2026: African-American Legends of Cayce
- 2:00pm on May 15, 2026: Historic Marker dedication of Friday's Ferry
- Time & Date TBD Juneteenth event
- Time TBD on July 15, 2026: USC Students Visit/Lexington County Program
- Time TBD on August 22, 2026 (tentative): Genealogy Workshop
- Time TBD (November 2026?): Native American History event

Invocation: Mr. Thomas

February 2026 Meeting Minutes:

Following a review of the minutes from the last meeting, Commissioner Lawson motioned to approve them. Commissioner Brinkman seconded the motion. The CHMC unanimously voted to approve the minutes.

Staff Report:

Mr. Thomas provided the staff report.

Mr. Thomas provided a new update on the Cayce Historical Museum's on-going work to meet the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA, see 43 CFR part 10). The museum has 7,720 artifacts in total, all of which have been catalogued. The inventory has been transmitted to the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SC DNR). From SC DNR, the museum staff will be receiving a template and guidance and instructions for consultation with those having any lineal descendent and any Native American Tribe with potential cultural affiliation.

Mr. Thomas provided an update on social media engagement African-American history social media postings that occurred in February in celebration of Black History Month - engagement was up year-over-year and has, in recent years, spiked in February coinciding with Black History Month.

Mr. Thomas listed the upcoming programs and events; the same as listed at the beginning of these minutes. Further detail was discussed on the events immediately following:

Concerning Tartan Day South, Mr. Thomas informed the CHMC he has discussed the museum events with John Banks, Tourism Director for the Greater Cayce-West Columbia Chamber of Commerce. He also discussed advertising the event with Ashley Hunter, Spokesperson for the City of Cayce.

Mr. Thomas reminded CHMC Commissioners of the need for assistance with managing a visitor group of USC students on July 15, 2026 at the Cayce Historical Museum while museum staff is also hosting a program at the Lexington County Library.

Mr. Thomas further discussed planning an exhibit program about Catawba pottery. In addition to previously discussed participants, Mr. Thomas stated that the museum had contacted USC Lancaster professor Chris Judge, a local Native American dancer(s), and a local Native American ceramic artist(s) to participate. Mr. Thomas noted the funds for this event would need to be spent by the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Thomas provided an update on visitor and guest counts; specifically Cory France's presentation on the Palmetto Cemetery had 13 attendees. The museum recorded the lecture and will be posting it online.

Discussion of Organization Needs & City Budget for CHMC:

Mr. Thomas stated that the City had approved all requested museum budget items for FY 2027-2028. These include batteries, microphones, structural repairs, frames for the quilt collection, November 2026 Native American programs, 2026 Christmas event lantern tours, 2027 Juneteenth event, and an informative kiosk for guests with accessibility and/or disability needs.

Mr. Thomas updated the CHMC on museum purchases for the recurring Christmas event (holiday trees and storage tubs and bags).

Museum Donations:

Mr. Thomas presented to the CHMC a log of historic photographs, newspapers, and *Harper's Weekly* items that Steve Schar possesses and is interested in donating to the museum. Commissioner Brinkman made a motion to accept the donated items to the museum. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. The CHCM voted unanimously to accept the items.

Action Items:

Mr. Thomas offered August 22, 2026 as a scheduled day for the Genealogy Workshop but stated that this was still being confirmed with event participants. Commissioner Brinkman made a motion to accept the tentatively scheduled day. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. The CHCM voted unanimously to accept the date for the workshop.

CHMC Discussion of Draft Revolutionary War Exhibit Text:

Since the last meeting when Chair Hayden called for the Commissioners to provide the CHMC with feedback for Mr. Thomas to incorporate into the proposed text and the proposed text having been sent out for review, the CHMC began discussion.

Chair Hayden had indicated to Secretary Tenny in preparation for the meeting and her absence that the draft would need further review; Secretary Tenny noted the CHMC anticipated discussing the proposed text at least through next meeting with another call to continue reviewing and gathering comments for the museum to incorporate during the interim period.

Chair Hayden had indicated to Secretary Tenny in preparation for the meeting and her absence that the museum staff be requested to provide draft exhibit layout plans, visuals, diagrams, and other data to support the draft text and noted that a review of the draft text without such information limited to the CHMC's ability to understand the overall organization of the exhibit in order to provide the best oversight of the proposed exhibit development. Secretary Tenny requested Mr. Thomas furnish those items to the CHMC prior to or at the next meeting.

Commissioner Stewart compiled the Commissioners' revision comments that were made to date into a spreadsheet and provided the document. The CHMC instructed Mr. Thomas to review the comments and

incorporate them into the revisions, logging remarks on corresponding museum revision actions into the spreadsheet.

Commissioners then discussed the comments in the spreadsheet. In brief, some of the comments offered suggested defining terms and concepts outlined in the text (e.g. Regulator Movement and the Backcountry), further discussion of local history (additional historical subjects in or surrounding the Cayce area not yet included), coverage of broader segments of historical populations during the Revolutionary War (more voice to stories that have been typically “silenced”, such as those of minority groups, and more balanced interpretation between “Great Man” History Theory and “History from Below” or “People’s History”, such as extrapolative interpretation of broad patterns of social history during that time), and clarifications of how History was interpreted and remembered in the past (e.g. Emily Geiger and different views on her story). Additional details are found within the aforementioned spreadsheet of the Commissioners’ compiled comments.

Adjournment:

With no additional items on the agenda, Secretary Tenny called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. The CHMC unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at:

6:18 PM.