

Cayce Historical Museum Commission

April 1, 2026

Meeting Minutes

The April 1, 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
Pamela Sulton	Vice-Chair
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 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 TBD on May 30, 2026: Chris Judge, presenting on Congaree Native Americans
- 11am on June 20, 2026: Juneteenth event
- July 15, 2026: USC Students Visit/Lexington County Program
- Time TBD on August 22, 2026 (tentative): Genealogy Workshop
- Time TBD in November 2026: Native American History event

Invocation: Mr. Thomas

April 2026 Meeting Minutes:

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

Staff Report:

Mr. Thomas provided the staff report.

Mr. Thomas discussed past museum events. He thanked Tom Elmore for his presentation on Lost Confederate Treasure and noted the museum had uploaded a recording to the museum's YouTube channel. On the Cayce Soiree, Mr. Thomas stated the event was a success for the museum. Mr. Thomas thanked the many volunteers who helped, including but not limited to commissioners Moore, Stewart, Sulton, and Stephenson. Concerning Tartan Day South, Mr. Thomas stated the event was also successful for the museum. Mr. Thomas thanked the many volunteers who helped, including but not limited to commissioners Brinkman, Sulton, and Stewart. Assistant City Manager Crosby mentioned the event was praised at a recent local tourism organization meeting.

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:

The City will award plaques and certificates during the Cayce African American Legends' Reception on April 23, 2026 at 6pm at the Lexington 2 Innovation Center. Museum staff mentioned additional invitations could be still sent out to those interested in attending.

Stephen Criswell, Director of Native American Studies at USC Lancaster, will present on Catawba Pottery on April 16, 2026 at 6pm in the Cayce Historical Museum Visitor Center.

Chris Judge, Assistant Director of Native American Studies at USC Lancaster, will present on Congaree Native Americans at a to-be-determined time in Cayce Historical Museum Visitor Center. Chair Hayden stated she is assisting coordinate the presentation. Commissioner Moore suggested the museum should invite Lake High who donated related pottery to the museum.

Mr Thomas noted that the museum continued work on the upcoming Public Safety exhibit.

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.

Commissioner Stewart mentioned that the Archaeological Society of South Carolina affirmatively voted to hold Archaeology Field Day at a to-be-determined date.

Future Event Calendar:

Chair Hayden called for museum staff to send to the CHMC before the next meeting a calendar of upcoming events throughout the next year and to continue maintaining, updating, and sharing such calendar. The calendar should not be limited in scope of museum events and could include classes, lessons, weekend fieldtrips, and other informal events. This calendar will help the CHMC better assist the museum staff in planning and preparing the year of events. The calendar will also benefit the museum in promoting its events.

Discussion of Organization Needs & City Budget for CHMC:

Mr. Thomas stated the museum could use funds from the Cayce Historical Museum Foundation for the 250th Revolutionary War exhibit that the associated grant funds may not cover.

Chair Hayden suggested also the possibility of using leftover funds from other exhibits or museum budget for the exhibit development.

CHMC Discussion of Draft Revolutionary War Exhibit Text:

Chair Hayden emphasized that the 250th Revolutionary War exhibit is a significant opportunity for the City and local community to interpret its diverse history during the formation of our nation, development of the 250th Revolutionary War exhibit.

She highlighted that its development is a collaborative effort involving museum staff and many volunteers who have worked hard in drafting the exhibit and the CHMC as a body of City-appointed community members with unique professional and personal contributions in providing guidance to the museum. Chair Hayden thanked Mr. Thomas, Commissioner Brinkman, and Ms. Sue Kelley for their critical contributions in developing the exhibit.

Commissioner Stewart stated he had paper copies available of the matrix he compiled of CHMC review edits. He noted the matrix was also available on the museum Google Drive.

Chair Hayden reiterated the CHMC request from the March 1, 2026 meeting for examples of exhibit planning, such as charts, diagrams, maps, and other visuals to assist in further reviewing the text as a component of the broader exhibit.

Chair Hayden then called for additional comments on the exhibit text.

Commissioner Stewart suggested incorporating John Hammond Moore's research on the American versus British loyalties of persons on the west side of the Congaree River (Cayce Area). Chair Hayden followed in noting this would assist the exhibit in focusing on local history. Mr. Thomas agreed the exhibit should present on the topic.

Commissioner Stewart asked about the relationship between the timeline of the exhibit development and requirements for spending funds by the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Thomas responded that the museum intended to contract with a firm to design the exhibit and that unspent funds will be deposited into the City's general fund. Chair Hayden acknowledged the CHMC's parallel role as a partner to the design firm and that volunteers, including but not limited to Nancy Baskets, would also contribute.

Action Items:

Chair Hayden proposed the establishment of two ad hoc sub-committees:

- Native American History Sub-Committee
- 250th Revolutionary War Exhibit Sub-Committee

Commissioner Stewart noted the bylaws permitted the Chair to establish sub-committees singlehandedly. He noted at least one Commissioner would need to be a member of each.

The Chair proposed the first sub-committee would include herself, Chris Judge, Bill Harris (former Chief of the Catawba), and Nancy Basket. She stated this sub-committee would provide assistance with museum Native American History programs.

The Chair proposed the second sub-committee, which would include 2-3 others in addition to herself, would provide assistance to the museum in developing the 250th Revolutionary War Exhibit. She noted it would help steer productive and constructive review direction to the exhibit development in an effort to better assist Mr. Thomas and museum staff. Commissioner Lawson volunteered as a member of the sub-committee.

Adjournment:

With no additional items on the agenda, Chair Hayden called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioners Stewart and Lawson seconded the motion. The CHMC unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at:

6:00 PM.

