

Minutes of the Williamson County Historical Commission

A regular meeting of the Williamson County Historical Commission was held on June 13, 2019 in the Williamson County Courthouse at 700 Main Street, Georgetown, Texas. Eloise Brackenridge served as Chair and Rachel Arnold served as secretary.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Members present were: Rachel Arnold, Nancy Bell, Eloise Brackenridge, Joe Burgess, Kelly Clark, Mildred Davis, Jane DiGesauldo, Mike Fowler, Shelby Little, Michael McCloskey, Jan Raesz, Micki Ross and Wayne Ware.

No guests were in attendance.

Minutes:

The Chair called for review of the minutes of the May 9, 2019 meeting. Nancy Bell corrected that the discussion regarding the Zieschang Cemetery owner did not contact her, but a descendant of a decedent buried in the cemetery; the contact's name is Mrs. Boyce. Nancy Bell also requested additional verbiage in the under the Website discussion stating why the login information was stored at the museum. Micki Ross moved for the acceptance of the minutes and Michael McCloskey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Nancy Bell reported that the WCHC General fund has a balance of \$309.90 (going to cover the Google email, PO Box renewal, and the rest is for Wayne mileage, the Programs Fund has \$7,812.83, the Donations Fund has \$444.44 and we have \$100 of unrestricted donations.

Old Business:

Micki to put dates together for the marker executive summary. Micki spoke with Judge Gravell to bring him up to date.

Nancy Bell reported on the Pioneer's House in Leander. She requested information on May 31, 2019 to see if they had any luck getting the deed to the property conveyed to the City of the Leander from the CTRMA and getting the house secured so that vagrants can no longer live in it. Nancy also requested information in the hopes of discovering what \$300k from the \$1M fund was used for. Also checking to see if we can move the marker during construction. Micki Ross indicated that Nancy may want to speak with Pamela Opeola with THC.

There was also a question about the Wilco boulder; we are waiting to hear from Bob with THC.

Committees Reports:

Markers –

Jarrell wants to move a marker; that has been turned in. The Hudson Brother Marker and Smalley Marker; Micki is working with the City of Round Rock on this. The Smalley marker is sitting at an intersection across from an Exxon on Rabbit Hill. They city would like to move it, but there is not a good place to move it to.

All markers are due in November.

Cemeteries –

The crew is cutting weeds this summer. They have been working with the Noack Cemetery. The relatives are anxious because they cannot see the markers. Once it is cleaned up, they can evaluate any tombstone damage. The relatives seem to be interested in maintaining the cemetery after the clean-up. Wayne stated that in the past the community gets excited when a cemetery gets cleaned, so they're hopeful it'll be taken care of.

Museum News –

Mid Sommer Event is on June 22 at the Chisholm Trail from 10-3. Party Like It's 1876 will be June 29 at Chisholm Trail from 10-3. There will be a Round Rock Lunch and Learn event on July 17 11:30-1pm bring a brown bag lunch.

The new exhibit—Law and Order in Williamson County open July 5 to members at 5:30pm.

Oral History –

Tina and Jane conducted an oral for a 102-year-old man that knew Tina's great grandparents.

Website –

Added three more cemeteries to the website and continues to add pictures that are sent.

The website total costs to date is \$4500.

Speakers –

No update as David Voelter was not in attendance.

Brick Sales –

Col. Shelby Little reported that most of the bricks sold have been given to the City of Georgetown. We have 4 bricks in the queue, but he needs 6 to submit the order. Col. Little is also working on a proposal to cover all the wars. Shelby will work with Micki. We will also ask Kandy about the original agreement with the County. Col. Little is also working to change the front on the bricks.

Shelby may also sell bricks at the Cattleman's Ball if we can get it solidified before October.

Historic Bridges –

No report

Historic Places –

We will be asking the committee to pair up with another committee member and send a letter asking communities to identify the 10 Most Endangered Place in their community. We will need your help to find these critically endangered places.

New Business –

Micki mentioned the museum sent a letter seeking sponsorships for the Law and Order in Williamson County exhibit. Sponsors who provide >\$500 get their name on the sponsorship plaque for the two years the exhibit is open. Rachel Arnold motioned that the Williamson County Historical Commission donate \$500 out of the program funds to the Law and Order in Williamson County exhibit. Shelby Little seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Micki Ross abstaining.

Mike Fowler reported that they City of Hutto may purchase a house for a visitor's center, chamber or museum; please encourage the city to purchase this house. During the clean-up of this home, most of the contents were put into the trash and filled an entire dumpster. Ms. Clawson, the VP of Clawson Disposal, went "dumpster diving" with Mike and his wife and found 100s of old photographs from the home.

The chair adjourned the meeting at 5:06 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Rachel Arnold.