

Minutes of the Williamson County Historical Commission

A regular meeting of the Williamson County Historical Commission was held on January 10, 2018 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 4:04 p.m.

Members present were: Rachel Arnold, Nancy Bell, Eloise Brackenridge, Joe Burgess, Kelly Clark, Mildred Hill David, Jane DiGesauldo, Kandy Dipprey, Dan Doss, Winnann Ewing, Mike Fowler, Barbara Glasscock, Col. Shelby Little, Mickie Ross, Tina Steiner, and Wayne Ware.

There were no guests present.

Minutes:

The Chair called for review of the minutes of the November 8, 2018 meeting. Rachel Arnold needed additional information from Mickie Ross regarding "Markers" and Nancy Bell made a correction to state that her DAR chapter refinished another marker. Rachel Arnold moved that we approve the minutes as amended and Kandy Dipprey seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous hand vote.

Treasurer's Report:

Nancy Bell reported that the General Fund balance is \$1,349.28 and the Program Fund is \$6378.42. We have a new line item where the WCHC received a \$500 donation from the Williamson County Genealogy Society to use towards maintain cemeteries and tombstones in Williamson County.

Nancy also reported that the website continues to move along.

Old Business:

Nancy Bell showed a picture of the rock TxDOT has that we are working to get back.

Committees Reports:

Markers –

Mickey reported the commission will meet in January. Only application was Post Oak Island in Taylor. St. Mary's decided to wait.

Cemeteries –

Nothing new to report except the \$500 donation mentioned under Treasurer's Report.

Museum News –

January is quiet. Project RR preservation with brown bag lunches on January 16. The theme is “Meet the Neighbors—early settlers of Round Rock” bring your lunch at 11:30 to the Williamson Museum on the Chisholm Trail.

Oral History –

Winnann sent out an email with the handbook. The handbook will be in booklet form when printed. She has asked for comments. We need to settle on the procedure, especially about the preservation and working to make preservation a priority.

Nancy suggested that each Oral History be accompanied with a short summary. Upon receipt of the pdf. of the transcript and the mp3, she will post online.

Jane has done a lot of work and has turned in an Oral History of a 102 Round Rock resident. She is working on the Sheriff from Round Rock who was recently awarded historical prominence because he was the first Sheriff who didn't have any hands (they were lost in a cotton gin).

Winnann also donated a recorder to the WCHC.

Website –

Kelly has done a great job helping Nancy get the 1100 pictures and captions of the markers. Kudos to Kelly! Nancy is going through the historical markers to make sure they look consistent and putting extra pdf in stories.

The website committee will meet on January 23; the committee includes: Nancy Bell, Eloise Brackenridge, Dan Doss, Mickey Ross, Joe Burgess, Wayne Ware, and Dianne. The committee will decide when the site will go live.

The cemeteries still need to be worked on. Four Oral Histories have been put on the website. Needs to get the transcript or the mp3. She needs more than the summaries. The CDs at the museum have both the audio and the transcript; pictures if they have them.

Rachel will disseminate the new logo to the committee.

Speakers –

Winnann showed the poster that will be used to promote event. Mickey distributed tickets. Checks need to be made out to the WCHC and given to Nancy. Preservation Georgetown may attend; Winnann spoke with their president.

Mickey will seek a count near the beginning of February.

We have the enough snacks, but everyone needs to bring something. Wine, water, snacks bring items by 6:15.

“A Toast to the Past”

Brick Sales –

Col. Little noted that we got one more order. They are going to see the new county judge. He is hoping to sell 6 bricks month to month. Col. Little has some at his house and they will be getting placed once the City of Georgetown employee is available.

Historic Bridges –

No additional report

Historic Places –

Rachel confirmed those who wanted to be part of this committee. Mickey, Winnann, and Eloise will assist on this committee.

New Business:

Rachel Arnold moved to cancel the March WCHC meeting and Winnann seconded; the motion passed by a unanimous show of hands.

Nancy went to the Pioneer’s House in Cedar Park. It looks like people are currently living in it. The CTRMA gave \$1M to the City of Leander. The deed has not been accepted by the City of Leander. The \$1M should be sitting in escrow with the City of Leander.

Nancy would like to speak with THC to secure the building.

Comments:

Col. Shelby Little reported that there are two bills in the Texas House and Senate that are historical monument protection bills. He also reported about the Children of the Confederacy plaque at the Capitol.

Meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Rachel Arnold, Secretary.