



Collin County Historical Commission
Collin County Courthouse
2100 Bloomdale Road
McKinney, TX

Date 02.25.2016

Heard Craig Carriage House
205 West Hunt, McKinney
6:30 PM

Becky Airhart-Smith, Valdasta*
Alfredo Arias, Celina*
Michael Black, Vice Chair
Larry Collins, Grants
Naomi Emmett, Treasurer
Joy Gough, State Markers
Linda Hess, Josephine*
Donna Jenkins
Rick Joosten
Clyde Kerley, Lakes Trail
Lolisa Laenger, Cruises
Michael Mendenhall, Workshops*
Diane Miller, Melissa
Janice Quick, Plano
Paula Ross, Chairman
Loydell Seward, Historic Assets Survey*
Jan Thatcher, Secretary
Marianne Wells
Eric Nishimoto, Liaison

Absent*

Public Comments:

Sam Bass Day is February 27, 2016. Collin McKinney's 250th birthday celebration observed Saturday, April 16th from 1-4, on McKinney Square. The Kick off for the year-long celebration began last Friday with the McKinney Chamber of Commerce meeting. Descendants of Collin McKinney are expected to attend. A video from Grace Productions is posted on the website: collinmckinney250.org.

The files of "Collin County-The way it Was: As Told by the Pioneers Who Lived Its History", which is a bicentennial Oral history project (1976), by Mike Apsey, are now available in MP3 format for download on the Genealogy page of the McKinney Public Library's website. Also, non-circulating CD's may be found in the Genealogy Department of the McKinney Public Library.

The Plano Heritage Commission is struggling to save the Collinwood house. A PHC vote unanimously passed a draft to have the Collinwood house named a local landmark. Building

techniques have been noted. The Stairs, windows and under the shingles are Cyprus boards, similar to the 1869 Nash house in Grapevine. Most feel that if restored would qualify for the National Registry. Write or email the Plano City Council to save the Collinwood house.

Minutes: The minutes were approved with corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Year to date: out of the adjusted budget of \$50,905.00 for the Historical Commission, \$7130.45 has been paid out or encumbered for future payment. This leaves a balance of \$43,774.55. We have spent 14.01% of our budget. We are in balance with the county.

Committee Reports:

Grants: At the next Coalition Meeting, Thursday, April 21, 2016, Larry Collins will announce the start of this year's Grant Program. There will be a mandatory meeting on May 5, 2016 to begin the process.

State Markers: The County has paid fees for the two historical markers that applied this year- First Methodist church of Allen and the Murphy Family Cemetery.

The marker for Blue Ridge was delivered cracked. After many requests from the Texas Historic Commission with no response, Joy Gough contacted the County Road and Bridge Department for foundry information. After contacting the foundry, a carrier service retrieved and return the marker to the foundry. No additional word on the status of the marker.

Tax Abatement: The 2016 Historic Property Tax Abatement recommendations were sent to Eric in January. No Response. A letter of denial will be sent to the one property that was denied tax abatement. The recipient has a right to challenge the decision.

Joy Gough has received requests from two area libraries for information on Historic Property Tax Abatement. Both libraries will be conducting seminars on procedures to research the history of an owner's house. Information was sent to both libraries. They did not ask for speakers, just information. As a result of the requests from the libraries, the Historic Property Tax Abatement Packet was updated for 2017.

There is still some confusion about annual Tax Abatement applications. Joy received several emails and phone calls asking for clarification about whether an application was required. The Historical Commission sent letters to past recipients stating that annual applications were not needed. The county decided it did need an annual application.

Historical Assets Survey: GIS office was sent 75 files, which accounts for 40 locations new locations.

Cruise: At last month's meeting, Prairie Hill was on the tour. Unfortunately, it has been taken off the list of stops. The cities of Anna and Van Alstyne are planning a program near the original Collin McKinney farmstead to commemorate his 250th birthday. That is now on the tour.

Texas Film Round-Up: Janice Quick gave a 30 minute presentation about the Texas Film Round-up to the Allen Heritage Guild February 3, 2016. The committee is meeting Monday, February 29, 2016, to plan the public event to showcase the project.

Preservation Celebration: Members are encouraged to turn in complete names and addresses and possible head count. Van Alstyne citizens were mentioned as possible attendees since many feel more connected to Collin County than the county that they are actually in, Grayson.

Children's Education: Home school groups have been contacted to educate them with the "Carry along Collin" program. A list of senior groups has been compiled and need to be contacted as possible participants also.

Lakes Trail: Quarterly meeting was held, financial report passed with \$74,000.00 budgeted through the fiscal year ending August. The Civil War Museum, located at 760 Jim Wright Frwy. N, Ft Worth, TX, is celebrating 10 years. In August, there will be the Great Western Cattle Trail Meeting in Dodge City, KS. A new magazine, "Authentic Texas" will make its debut in March. Forts, Plains and Lake Trail Regions can now be found online.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40.