



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

Date 06.30.2016

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: Janice Quick and Rick Joosten attended a THC sponsored “Real Places Travel Heritage Conference” in Austin, which also included a county historical commission training program. Some of the tidbits Janice gleaned from the event included: Heritage Tourism accounts for \$7 billion annually and for every dollar spent, \$8 is returned. To get that type of return, the question to ask is: “What makes you different from everyone else?” An example of that is Beaumont CVB (City Visitors Bureau?) offering a bus tour of historic sites for hotel, restaurant and museum workers to have an answer when asked, “What is there to do in your city?” Ask questions, avoid stereotypes and focus on universal emotions like fear, bravery, sacrifice, tragedy, hope.

Janice also learned that TxDot employs historians and archeologists. We can invite the TxDot County Engineer or District Representative to a CCHC Meeting. TxDot sends letters about transportation projects so the public can weigh in. (There is the question as to who in the county receives the letters.) It was mentioned that information sent to TX Dot is not passed on to the area affected by TX Dot plans. The TX Dot website has proposed plans for areas and would be an informative way to keep up with the changes and possibly the THC website. TxDot suggests

we create a list of what we think is most important to preserve, sort of an “endangered” list and give it to TxDot and the County Commission.

Upcoming THC subjects are: Centennial for WWI (www.texasworldwar1centennial.com) and Chisholm Trail turns 150 (chisholmtrail150.org)

The Bullock Museum and the THC presents the 3rd annual “Story of Texas Workshop: Know Thyself” on September 26, 2016 from 9am-4pm. Registration deadline is August 1, 2016.

The Collinwood house was the subject of a portion of the Plano City Council meeting held on Tuesday, June 28, 2016. Five people spoke in favor of saving the house on its original site. It was compared to the Nash House in Grapevine, which has been embraced by that city. It was suggested to write letters to council member Tom Harrison.

A motion was made and approved to renew memberships to Preservation TX, National Trust and Friends of the THC.

A nominating committee was appointed for next year’s slate of officers. The committee consists of Michael Black, Janice Quick and Jan Thatcher. The results will be presented in the July board meeting, voting to take place at the board meeting in August.

Minutes: Minutes were approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Year to date: Out of the adjusted budget of \$50,905.00 for the Historical Commission; \$16,131.05 has been paid out or encumbered for future payment. This leaves a balance of \$34,060.87. We have spent 33.09% of our budget. We are in balance with the county.

Next year’s budget recommendations were presented. After some discussion, a motion to request the same amount (\$49,900.00) as last year was voted and approved.

Committee Reports:

Grants: Ann Gifford, representing the Allen Heritage Guild, gave a presentation on the grant her group was awarded. With the funds a program of “Farm Chores” was developed. Children can harvest food and get a feel of what chores children had in the past. The purpose of this project is to educate and entertain children while parents and family members look at the museum exhibit.

The Grant Committee had 10 applications this year and 10 grants were presented to the board for consideration. The CCHC board voted and approved the grant committee’s recommendation. The recommendations will be presented to the Commissioner’s Court for final approval.

The applications awaiting the approval of the Commissioner’s Court are:

Historic Preservation:

1. Plano Old City Cemetery Assn., wildflower restoration project, \$800.
2. Anna Area Historic Preservation Society, Anna Train Depot restoration, \$4500.00.
3. Bear Creek Cemetery Foundation, tree removal and pruning, \$2000.
4. Chamberville Cemetery Assn., marker repair, cleaning and leveling of monuments, \$3000.
5. Heritage Guild of Collin County, repair windows and porch ceiling for the Dulaney Cottage, \$2875.
6. John Abston Chapter National Society DAR, cleaning and leveling stones, \$4034.

Historic Education:

7. Heritage Assn of Frisco, Interactive Museum Exhibit, \$1445.
8. Heritage Farmstead Museum of Plano, publish a children's story book and create a children's tour, \$3400.
9. Collin County Historical Society and Museum, interactive history classrooms, \$2446.

Historic Preservation and Education:

10. The Murphy Historical Society, print Murphy Family Cemetery book, \$500.

State Markers: The Throckmorton marker was knocked down by a road crew working in the area. It was retrieved by Diane Miller and Joy Gough and authorities have been notified of its whereabouts. The Mantua marker is of concern for the same reason.

County Markers: A marker for the Lavon School in Blue Ridge will be dedicated this fall. The Greer House in Anna, is in the early stages of the County Marker process.

Workshops: A joint meeting was held in June with historical groups from surrounding counties invited. The counties brought information on their projects. Some receive very little to no money from their counties but do have projects. It is our hope that another workshop be held this September. Our goal is to attract the attention of the Texas Historical Commission and bring workshops to this area.

Historical Assets Survey: Things are quiet. The committee needs to get the message out. A possible suggestion was a Facebook page similar to the Pioneers of Dallas County.

Tax Abatement: 2017 packets are assembled and ready but will not be distributed until January 2017. A notebook for each property area is being compiled; i.e.: Frisco, McKinney Downtown, Wylie. It was mentioned as a possible Workshop subject for potential properties.

Texas Film Round-Up: The public showcase of videos, originally scheduled for September, at the Roy and Helen Hall Memorial Library in McKinney is postponed. It will be scheduled for a later date.

Children's Education: Marketing for "Carry along Collin" continues. Foam Boards are being delivered. The program will be ongoing through July, August and September. In November prizes will be awarded. An untapped market, Home Schoolers, show lots of interest.

Communications: Alfred is planning an education program for our social media.

Lakes Trail: The Chisholm Trail is moving along. Authentic Texas published its 2nd edition. In a future edition, Laura Bush gave an interview and will support it. The State Fair booth is still questionable. It is the hope of the remaining state regions that the THC will sponsor the booth.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Thatcher
Secretary