



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

Date: 05.31.18
Heard Craig Carriage House
205 West Hunt, McKinney
6:30 PM

Becky Airhart-Smith, Valdasta*
Alfredo Arias, Communications/Media
Michael Black, Chair
Catherine Casavant, Plano
Larry Collins, Grants
Chris Krupa-Downs, Historic Assets Survey*
Naomi Emmett, Treasurer
Joy Gough, Tax Abatement*
Linda Hess, Josephine*
Donna Jenkins, Vice Chair
Clyde Kerley, Lakes Trail
Diane Miller, Melissa
Kim Peat, Anna
Janice Quick, Film Preservation
Paula Ross, Workshops
Jan Thatcher, Secretary
Marianne Wells, State Markers
Lolisa Laenger, CCHC Emeritus*
Eric Nishimoto, Liaison*

Absent*

Call to order: 6:32 pm

Welcome Guests: Jerry Edwards with Elm Grove Cemetery.

Public Comments: Thank you, Marianne Wells, for providing dinner.

Marianne Wells announced that the Texas Historical Commission Marker Research Webinar, was earlier today, May 31, 2018. It will be posted in a few days on the THC website. She said there was a lot of good information on potential sources which Marianne was not familiar with. She recommends everyone view it.

Janice Quick noted that Alfred Arias spoke at the Collin County Genealogy meeting last month and had displays of items found on his archeological digs around the county.

Paula Ross mentioned that the Allen Heritage Guild will have a celebration on Saturday, June 16 from 1-3pm at the Allen Heritage Village. The Community Jazz Band will be performing. Daughters of the American Revolution will be present. There will be games and ice cream. The event is free and all are welcome.

Joy Gough announced Bill Haynes passing. His funeral will be June 10 at the Church of Christ on Virginia near Slaughter in McKinney.

The Collin County Courthouse will be named to honor Russell A. Steinham on Monday, June 4 at 3:30. Steinham gave his life to save his fellow soldiers during the Viet Nam War. He is the second Congressional Medal of Honor recipient from Collin County. The first was Audie Murphy.

Clyde Kerley voiced concern about unknown and abandoned cemeteries. Zion Cemetery in Frisco but in Denton County, Smith and Landrum Cemeteries in Collin County are in danger with all the development going on in the area. Builders & developers are "marching to the Red River" and he wants all to be aware. Families have been the caretakers in the past but have moved on. He feels we need to be a voice in Prosper, Celina, Anna & Wylie for these historic cemeteries. Clyde made a motion to consider a new committee, a "Cemetery Designation Committee" to add as an agenda item for our June meeting. There was a second and will be on the agenda next month.

On that note, Joy mentioned plans for a road that will interfere with the Chambersville Cemetery.

With the resignation of Lolisa Laenger from the Historical Commission, a motion was made with a second, that Lolisa have the title of Emeritus. This will be presented to the Commissioners Court for approval.

The next Coalition Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, July 21 at 9 am at the Old Courthouse, lower level.

Next month: Nominating Committee.

Minutes & Volunteer Hours: CCHC hours totaled 288. Other volunteer hours totaled 202. Minutes were accepted with corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Year to date: out of a revised budget of \$52,975.00 for the Historical Commission; \$16,442.03 has been paid out or encumbered for future payment. This leaves a balance of \$36,532.947. We have spent 31.04% of our budget. We are in balance with the county.

Special Committee Reports: Jan Thatcher presented findings for the Historical Commission official shirts for members. A motion was made to move forward in ordering long sleeved denim shirts with the "County logo and Collin County Historical Commission" embroidered on them. There was a second and the motion carried. Jan will gather sizes and request an invoice from the embroiderer. The committee consists of Donna Jenkins, Paula Ross and Jan Thatcher.

Committee Reports:

Grants: The mandatory grant workshop was **May 8 at 7:00 pm** at the Heard-Craig Carriage House with 24 historical organizations and cemetery association represented with 30 people present. The deadline

to submit the applications is **Friday June 1 at 5 pm**. The grant committee will study the applications and select grant recipients. At the meeting of the Collin County Historical Commission on June 28 the names of the grants recipients will be presented for approval. At a July Meeting of the Collin County Commissioners Court our recommendations will be presented for the court's approval.

Two grant reports were given. The Elm Grove Cemetery, which has been in use since 1859 and located about five miles east of Anna just off FM 2862, received \$4856 for marker repair, cleaning and leveling. 45 markers were identified in the initial bids. Two bids were submitted and the cemetery board chose to go with Roger McWilliams of Love Monument from Sherman TX. That bid was \$9038.00 for 15 markers. The bid did not include cleaning. The report was given by Jerry Edwards.

The Anna Area Historic Preservation Society received \$4500.00 for the Anna Depot restoration. The Society has been working on the building to prepare for its move to a new location. The new location is across the street from the historic Sherley Store. The land was a former baseball field and became available this year when the Anna ISD built a baseball complex elsewhere. The Anna Depot has been moved to its permanent location and will serve as a museum and educational facility. The report was given by Kim Peat.

Awards Committee: At Preservation Celebration on Saturday April 28 in Frisco, five awards were given under three categories: Living Legacy in Collin County, Robert (Bob) Warren; Excellence in Historical Education, Susanne Kerley and Paula Ross; and Young Visionaries, Boy Scout Troop 1814 and Anjali Shashidhar. The awards committee consisted of Diane Miller, Jan Thatcher, Naomi Emmett, Catherine Casavant and Larry Collins.

Finance/Budget: The order for the Bankhead Highway State Marker was cancelled. There was a miscommunication issue so it will be delayed. The monies for that marker have been added back into our working funds.

This year the finance committee has presented a budget increase to the Historical Commission for approval. The amount is \$54,890.00. The grant program is the main reason for the budget increase. At the mandatory meeting for the grant program, there were 24 organizations represented, a substantial increase from years past. It was also mentioned that an upgrade of bus service used by the Cruise Committee would be recommended. The motion was made with a second and unanimously approved.

It was also noted that all invoices and purchase orders be submitted by the end of July to meet the year-end deadline.

Cruise (Tour) Committee: There is nothing to report at this time.

Film Preservation: Janice Quick took three of the 10 U-matic tapes of the Candace Montgomery Trial to Action Video in Richardson to be digitized. The tapes were duplicates of prior VHS tapes that had been previously digitized. Janice did take two other VHS tapes to U-Edit Video in McKinney to be digitized.

- 1.) 1950's-era Christmas parades from the Allen Heritage Guild
- 2.) Sign Language tour of the Collin County Farm Museum.

There was a motion and a second to use \$400.00 of the Film Preservation budget for the Preservation Celebration DVD's. The motion carried.

Janice Quick is always looking for film of historic significance. It was suggested Prosper Historical Society might have some films. It was also suggested to approach veterans.

County Markers: On Tuesday, June 5th, the city of Parker will dedicate a county marker during the city council meeting. The marker is for the Johnson Store which served the community for years.

State Markers: Blue Ridge: The concrete has been poured in the gazebo where the marker will be placed. The accounting department with the county is waiting for an invoice from the stone mason before a check will be issued. Marianne Wells will stay on top of it.

Herrin-Hogge Cemetery: Donna Jenkins approved the inscription for the medallion. The Texas Historical Commission (THC) sent it to the foundry. We should have it in about a month.

Gov. James Webb Throckmorton: Eric signed the order form for a supplemental plaque. It will be mailed to the THC after the county's new financial system is operational on June 7th.

The application for 2019 markers will be posted the first week in July. Marianne Wells recommends that information should put that on the county website and have a deadline for markers being submitted to the Collin County Historical Commission.

Cemeteries: Marianne Wells visited Orenduff (Melissa) and Franklin Cemeteries (northwestern Collin County), neither of which are designated historic cemeteries. They are included on the Texas Historical Commission Atlas but with very little information.

Speakers Bureau: Janice Quick will continue to promote the Speakers Bureau at Coalition Meetings and CCHC events. However, the best way to grow the Speakers Bureau is for everyone to use it- both to find speakers for their organizations and to invite their speakers to join. The speakers Bureau is on the Collin County Historical Commission's website at:

http://www.collincountyts.gov/historical_commission/Pages/CCHC-Speakers-Bureau.aspx.

Lakes Trails: Clyde Kerley pass out the latest issue of Authentic Texas Magazine to the group. He noted that this is the 50th Anniversary of the region. The latest meeting of the group was held at Fort Worth's Cowgirl Hall of Fame and Museum. The topic was "Best Practices Gift Shop". Lakes Trails Region is comprised of 31 counties with a board and visitor's bureau consisting of salaried people. There is a division between two entities, rural & urban, and Clyde finds urban winning.

Educational Programs: Alfred Arias reports McKinney ISD school canceled his presentation due to scheduling conflict. He will connect with them in the fall.

Alfred will be attending a workshop on Altered Reality June 15th. Similar to "Pokémon Go", he wants to use it as tool to get children involved with the history of our county. His idea is to have seven moments in Collin County history. The workshop is put on by North Texas University and Alfred's goal is to find out about the software equipment requirements, eventually distributing software to museums, schools, etc.

Communications/Media: CCHC has 409 followers on Twitter ([Collin_county_historical](#)), 103 followers on Facebook ([Collin County Historical Commission](#)) and 114 followers on Instagram ([@CCHC2015](#)). Historic Grant Program had 784 hits and shared 164 times. Abandoned cemeteries had 115 hits and shared 104 times. June's posts will feature women in historical preservation.

Tax Abatement: There is nothing to report at this time.

Historic Assets Survey: There is nothing to report at this time.

Workshops: Ann Ruppert from the Sam Rayburn House Museum in Bonham is interested in presenting a 20-minute program as part of their outreach program. Options are the Coalition Meeting Saturday morning July 21 or the Thursday night meeting in September. A donation would be made from our budget.

Preservation Celebration: All bills have been paid for this year's event in Frisco. It ran over budget. Next year's host city will be Plano. Suggested venues were the Sailgling House and the Heritage Farmstead. Requirements to be considered include a sound system, kitchen and seating capacity of 120-150 people. The committee includes Catherine Casavant, Marianne Wells and Jan Thatcher.

Request for future agenda items: Orphaned Cemeteries.

Adjourn 8:55 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Thatcher, Secretary