



Collin County Historical Commission
7117 CR 166
McKinney, TX 75071

Date: 07.29.21
Heard Craig Carriage House
205 West Hunt St., McKinney
6:30 PM

Mary Kaye Adams, County Cruises
Dave Cornette, Allen *
Candace Fountoulakis, Plano
Joy Gough, Tax Abatement
Linda Hess, Farmersville
Eric Hogue, Wylie *
Donna Jenkins, Vice Chair *
Diann Jones, Anna
Colin Kimball, McKinney *
Paula Ross, Chair
Jan Samuels, Public Relations
Harold Sickler, Plano
Janet Stovall, Speakers Bureau
Jan Thatcher, Secretary/Treasurer
Marianne Wells, State Markers, Cemeteries
Nathan White, McKinney
Jane Yancey, Plano
Brittany Yurkovitch, Weston
Jennifer Rogers, Liaison
Judy Florence, Liaison

*Absent

Call to Order: 6:31 p. m.

Public Comments: Thank you, Brittany for the dinner from 5G Farm, next to Myers Park. The summer edition of the Weston Post is out. Brittany brought in extra copies to share.

Welcome to our newest member, Harold Stickler. He has been a Collin County resident for over 35 years and comes with a love of history.

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) held a Zoom meeting on July 22 for all new county chairpersons on July 22. The open meetings training is online on the THC's website. It is a requirement for all commission members to fulfill.

The THC's Real Conference will be held from February 2-4, 2022 in Austin.

Reminder: Election for CCHC Board Members will be held in August. September's meeting will consist of committee formations. If there is a committee you would like to join, speak up. If you would like to be removed from a committee, this is the time to do it.

Thursday, October 21, 2021 will be the next Coalition meeting held at MPAC in McKinney. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. Coalition meetings are held quarterly, alternating Thursdays nights (7p.m.) and Saturday mornings (9:00 a.m.). Meetings are held in January, April, July and October every year.

Minutes and Roll Call: The minutes were approved as presented. Total number of volunteer hours for the month: 391

Treasurer's Report: Year to Date: With a budget of \$49,900, a total of \$28,726.18 has been spent, \$260 encumbered, leaving a balance of \$20,913.82. We have spent 58.09% of our budget. We are in balance with the county.

Nomination Committee: An email was sent to all Historical Commission members. The slate of officers for 2021-2022 are as follows:

Chairman: Paula Ross
Vice Chairman: Nathan White
Treasurer: Eric Hogue
Recording Secretary: Jan Thatcher

At the August meeting, the floor will be opened to accept all other nominations. With that, a vote will be taken and elected members will begin the new term immediately.

Workshops: A workshop to learn what is required to apply for a Historic Texas Cemetery Designation will be held on Monday, August 2, 2021 from 10 a.m.-noon with lunch after the workshop. This will be a THC Webinar. The location is the Collin County History Museum in McKinney. It is free and open to the public. Register by sending an email to: CCHCmail@yahoo.com.

Committee Reports:

Grants: The checks have been issued and mailed to the historical groups to fund their projects. A Final Report from the Heard Craig Center for the Arts is scheduled for the October meeting.

Speakers Bureau: Janet Stovall contacted the 11 speakers that were on the website list and found 3 no longer wanted to participate. She emailed all members of the CCHC Coalition asking if anyone would like to participate. From that, 10 new names were added to the list. Janet also emailed members of the Historical Commission and found 4 new names there. With these updates, there are 18 names for the Speakers Bureau list. Janet will now contact all the names to confirm. Once confirmed, she will forward the list to Jennifer Rogers to be added to the website.

State Markers: *Orenduff Cemetery (Melissa):* The State Historical Commissioners met on Tuesday, July 27, to approve markers and inscriptions. Orenduff was approved. Three years of

work, off and on, from mapping the cemetery, getting a Historic Texas Cemetery medallion, and getting the marker approved. The next step is reviewing the inscription draft and then paying for the marker, which Judy Moody, our County Liaison, has submitted. The cost of the marker is \$1875.00.

Brinlee Cemetery (Melissa) and First Baptist Church of Lavon: Marianne Wells anticipates the approval of the final transcriptions this week for these two markers at the quarterly meeting of the Texas Historical Commission (THC).

Princeton Cemetery: The committee is waiting on the final draft for this marker. It should be up for final review by the state commissioners in October.

Strickland House (Celina): Bob Brinkman (THC) did say the house will qualify for a marker, particularly since Celina has so few markers. It is well known to locals as the Randy Travis House. The current owners have done a marvelous job of restoring and documenting the house. Marianne has asked Harold Sickler to head up the Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (RTHL) application.

Saigling House (Plano): The dedication on July 10th was a great success and was well attended. Many thanks to those who helped make the day run smoothly and those who attended. Preservation architect Marcel Quinby, who initially started the renovation project was there and made the observation that we must have a very active county historical commission! Marianne has been asked by several people for a copy of the speech and she is updating it with footnotes. It will also be placed in the archives in the Genealogy Department at Haggard Library in Plano.

Marker Restoration: There are now three Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) teams that are refinishing markers. This month five were done: First Methodist of Plano, First Christian Church of Plano, Pecan Grove Memorial Park and J. W. Throckmorton, (outside the gate of Pecan Grove Cemetery) and Finch Elementary, in McKinney. Paula Ross and Jan Thatcher joined one DAR group at the First Christian Church in Plano and saw that it is a fun project and not too difficult. Marianne has given the team six more assignments: the site of the POW Camp in Princeton, Alla School in far north Celina, Collin County Prison, the former Collin County National Bank in McKinney, the site of Muse Academy in McKinney and the Charles C. Stibbens marker in St. Paul at the St. Paul Catholic Church Cemetery. Stibbins is the only known veteran of the Battle of San Jacinto to be buried in Collin County. Marianne has written to two African-American Churches to let them know that their markers will be refinished in the coming months: Shiloh Baptist Church, located in the Douglass Community of Plano and the Drexel Street Baptist Church in McKinney.

Forest Grove Christian Church (Lucas) and Mt. Pleasant Hill Cemetery (Nevada): With the Saigling House dedication behind us and with the Historic Texas Cemetery (HTC) application's deadline on Monday, the committee will complete applications for correcting plaques to be placed below the existing marker.

First United Methodist Church of Prosper: The committee will need to order a correcting plaque once the new church campus is completed.

Frankford Cemetery: There is a need to move the existing marker several feet.

City of Prosper: The City asks that the present marker be moved to a more visible location.

City of Blue Ridge: There is a need for a meeting to discuss moving the existing marker.

Historic Cemeteries: Ross Cemetery (McKinney): The certificate for designation has been received. Plans now need to be made to conduct a presentation ceremony. Marianne Wells will have it framed.

Buckner Cemetery (McKinney): The committee needs to address the issue of boundaries for the cemetery and contact the adjoining landowner. Some of it is a surveying question going back to the original deed.

Kelly Cemetery (Anna): This cemetery is on the list to complete a Historic Texas Cemetery (HTC) designation application.

Fitzhugh Cemetery (Lucas): Marianne Wells has contacted them about a THC designation, the first step in applying for a state marker and invited them to the upcoming workshop to learn about applying for an HTC designation.

Old Richards Cemetery (Arnold/Blue Ridge): A descendant who lives nearby wants to clean-up the cemetery and apply for a marker. He plans to attend the upcoming workshop.

PGA Cemeteries (Frisco): The Landrum Cemetery located in Frisco but in Denton County, applied for and received an HTC designation several months ago and had a Texas Cemetery State Marker approved this week. Susanne Kerley, who is working on an HTC for Smith Cemetery (Collin County), will be attending the workshop with hopes of next year being eligible to apply for a state marker.

County Markers: The markers for Halltown and Collin McKinney will be delayed. Still working on the Allen Black School.

Historic Asset Survey (HAS): The committee is concentrating on cemeteries at this time. On the HAS map, some cemeteries are listed but the word “cemetery” is missing. Updates are being made. This was also the case with some of the schools listed on the map. If the word “cemetery” or “school” is missing in the title, the search engine is less effective.

Educational Programs: The committee is currently working on scheduling, when information will be dispatched to the schools and importantly, the rewards for the winners. Since we cannot use cash, which was the preferred award, through Collin County, we are considering asking for donations toward the perceived winners in the three grades which would be \$100 per grade winner. Brittany Yurkovitch asks that all CCHC members promote the essay contest.

Communications: Please “like” the CCHC FaceBook page. We are still looking for help in this area.

Public Relations: Jan Samuels is continuing to leave CCHC brochures in Chamber of Commerce offices and hotels/motels throughout Collin County. Jan has submitted an article

about the CCHC to the Fairview Magazine, Frisco Life and recently appeared in the Weston Post. She has also contacted Living Magazine in Plano, Allen and McKinney.

Tax Abatement: All is quiet. No inquiries at this time.

Preservation Celebration 2021-Anna: A train theme will be used highlighting Anna's Train Depot. Decorations and caterer have been chosen. After the brunch, guests are welcome to visit the Old Train Depot nearby. After the Preservation Celebration, the City of Anna plans to have a dedication ceremony for the Collin McKinney statue that will stand nearby.

Awards: The awards have been ordered for the Preservation Celebration 2021-Anna.

Adjourned: 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Thatcher, Secretary