



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

Date: 08.30.18
Heard Craig Carriage House
205 West Hunt, McKinney
6:30 PM

Becky Airhart-Smith, Valdasta*
Alfredo Arias, Communications/Media*
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
Lolisa Laenger, CCHC Emeritus
Diane Miller, Melissa
Kim Peat, Anna
Janice Quick, Film Preservation
Paula Ross, Workshops
Jan Thatcher, Secretary
Marianne Wells, State Markers
Eric Nishimoto, Liaison

Absent*

Call to Order: 6:30 pm

Welcome Guests: Karen Zupanic, from the Heard-Craig Museum.

Public Comments: Thank you, Clyde Kerley, for supplying the meal.

Paula Ross passed along a flyer for the Allen Heritage Village. The Village will be open Saturday, September 15 from 11am-2 pm. Tours available for a \$2 donation and asked all to visit the “Treasures Tag Sale” in the Allen Christian Church to help restore the Farmhouse.

Also visit FALLFEST at the Senior Center, 450 E. St Mary Drive. More information may be found at: www.allenheritage.org.

Janice Quick mentioned the Collin County Genealogical Society will meet Wednesday, September 12, 2018, at 6:30 (note new time) at W. O. Haggard Library, 2501 Coit Rd, Plano, TX., 75075. The guest speaker will be Becky Villareal, former elementary school teacher and author of 4 children's books on genealogy and encourages children to explore their heritage.

Janice also noted she attended Eric Nishimoto's appearance at Half Price Books in Frisco and enjoyed his program.

Marianne Wells reported the Collinwood House is in process of being moved to its new home. During the process it was discovered the cypress boards sitting on the old foundation were in great shape, which is very encouraging news.

Clyde Kerley shared the Lakes Trail meeting in Frisco the day prior was interesting and well attended.

Eric Nishimoto, our county liaison, reminded us that the CCHC that the fiscal year for the county ends August 31, 2018. He also reported there will be no budget increase this year for the CCHC. He suggested that with two new commissioners court members, the CCHC make a progress report to the commissioners of the CCHC's accomplishments in May or June of each year.

Minutes and Roll Call for Volunteer Hours: The minutes were approved as is. Volunteer hours, of those reporting were 278 hours for the CCHC and 43 hours for other groups.

Treasurer's Report: Year to date, out of the revised budget of \$52,975.00 for the Historical Commission, \$44,648.99 has been paid out or encumbered for future payment. This leaves a balance of \$8,326.01. We have spent 84.28% of our budget. However, Naomi received emails today for three more expenditures totaling \$2545.00, adjusting the balance to \$5781.01. The report was accepted as amended.

Special Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: Larry Collins represented the Collin County Historical Commission on August 14, 2018 at the Commissioners Court meeting. After waiting three hours, Larry presented reasons for increasing the budget of the Collin County Historical Commission. The request was denied.

Orphan Cemeteries (Update): The Orenduff Cemetery: the next step is working on tax exempt status. An attorney has been found to work with.

Joy Gough knows of approximately 50 orphan cemeteries and has shared the list with Marianne Wells. There is a need to update the county atlas to get these locations on the map before developers come in.

It has been mentioned before, that this would be a great subject for the workshop committee to explore. Many others going through the same process would benefit.

Discussion-New member of CCHC: Donna Jenkins shared that there are 3 open positions on the CCHC, as follows:

Precinct 1-Susan Fletcher, roughly area is far west Plano, Frisco, Prosper, Celina & NW McKinney.

Precinct 3-John Thomas (the fall election will determine the representative), roughly parts of McKinney, Allen, Farmersville, Lucas & Melissa.

Precinct 4-Duncan Webb, roughly Plano and Allen.

The CCHC has the responsibility to make people aware of positions and have them submit applications online to the Commissioner's Court for their precinct. Try to find people who are willing to work on the commission, head committees and attend monthly meetings. This is called commitment to the goals of the CCHC and Collin County.

Along that note, Donna Jenkins recalled as a new member of the CCHC, Loydell Seward sat with the new members who had just been appointed and discussed what the commission did, meeting times, projects, etc. It was informative and enlightened her as to what was expected and needed. She thinks this needs to be implemented again and she is willing to do this for future members.

Committee Reports:

Grants: On Monday, July 16, 2018, the Collin County Commissioners Court awarded \$25,000.00 to 14 grant recipients. Funds should be distributed by the end of August.

The final report of the year was from the Heard Craig Center for the Arts who received a \$1364 grant and was presented by Karen Zupanic. The Center conducted an oral history project to capture first-person accounts of history between 1915 and 1935. The project involved conducting interviews, videotaping the interviewees, preparing the findings of the information in summary transcripts, and making the oral history records available to other Collin County entities. People who lived in Collin County were interviewed. The interviewer was Cathy Apple, author of The Heard Legacy.

The Oral History Project, Phase 1 videos, sponsored by the Heard-Craig Center for the Arts and the Collin County Historical Commission are available for viewing by using the following link: <https://vimeopro.com/user1427064/heard-craig>. Interviews include Catherine Marlene Sadler Burleson, Sandra Jo Kirkland Shelton, George Clyde Webb, Claude White Frazier and John Benton Whisenant.

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

Film Preservation: There were a total of 26 oral history cassette tapes from the Collin County History Museum to be digitally transferred to flash drives. They include:

- 4 interviews with cotton mill employees (2007)
- 6 tapes from the Murphy area
- 3 tapes interviewing Alice Randall Dysart (1983)
- 2 tapes labeled "Wilson Interviews"
- 1 tape interviewing Howell Smith of Farmersville
- 1 tape on Quilts and Mayfair (1983)
- 1 tape covering Altoga families & communities
- 1 tape interviewing E. A. Randles about the Youth Park
- 1 tape by Lolisa Moores (Franklin/Laenger)
- 1 tape interviewing John Strother on the Highland Cemetery
- 1 tape by Cecil Hays
- 1 tape interviewing 3 people about the Lovejoy Schools; a former principal, a teacher and a student
- 1 tape interviewing Mattie Luscombe on Anna history
- 1 tape interviewing Elizabeth Shaeffer
- 1 tape is a tour of the Collin County History Museum by director Elizabeth Pink

County Markers: County markers for Cattleman's Café, Russell Steindam Park and the Kelly Community have been turned in with purchase orders.

The county marker book is in the last stages of readiness for print. Kim Peat has graciously volunteered to put it together and the committee will have the purchase order in, so the first 300 will be produced. The books will be digitally printed and the committee will be able to keep up with any future demand.

State Markers: The Blue Ridge marker has been mounted. There are three carryover markers from last fiscal year. There are two new markers and potentially three more in the works.

The Gallagher house in Wylie does meet the THC historical requirement for a state marker.

Stiff Chapel Cemetery is the oldest marker with the last burial date in 1935, but relatives want to start using it again, which is not an option.

The Laird Cemetery in Anna needs a state marker but there are stumbling blocks. There is an issue with the deed.

Speakers Bureau: Another name has been added to the CCHC Speakers Bureau web page, Karen Zupanic with the Heard Craig Center for the Arts. There are now eight speakers and 37 topics. The Speakers Bureau can be found on the Collin County Historical Commission's website at: http://www.collincountytx.gov/historical_commission/Pages/CCHC-Speakers-Bureau.aspx

Lakes Trail: Clyde Kerley is wondering if Collin County will be well served with the way things are going with the Lakes Trail. He has voiced his concerns in the past. It comes down to Urban v Rural. Ninety per cent of the Lakes Trail members are salaried employees. Convention & Visitors Bureaus have taken over. He has recommended that the CCHC not renew membership with Lakes Trail this year.

Educational Programs: There is nothing to report at this time.

Communications/Media: There is nothing to report at this time.

Tax Abatement: There was an inquiry this month. Last year the deadline for submissions changed. The deadline is now the end of December for Joy Gough to process and forward the requests by February.

Historic Assets Survey: Joy Gough will turn in what few updates the committee had to the county for uploading to the map.

Workshops: There is no scheduled workshop at this time, however, the committee is working on a workshop for establishing a 501(c)3 and 501(c)13 (for cemeteries) designations later in the fall.

Preservation Celebration 2019: The committee needs to work on the program. Suggested venue is the Heritage Farmstead Museum, Plano. It was suggested there be a tour of the Aimee Wilson house, with historic interpretation. The committee needs to meet with M'Lou Hyttinen. Paula will share the monthly schedule she developed to keep the celebration on track.

Election of Officers: The following names were submitted by the nominating committee with no other nominations from the floor. The officers were approved by the CCHC.

Chair: Paula Ross

Vice Chair: Donna Jenkins

Secretary: Jan Thatcher

Treasurer: Catherine Casavant

Request for future agenda items: September's meeting will be a working committee meeting.

Adjourn: 8:24 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Thatcher, Secretary