



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

Date: 12.06.2018
Heard Craig Carriage House
205 West Hunt, McKinney
6:30 PM

Becky Airhart-Smith, Valdasta*

Alfredo Arias, Communications/Media*

Catherine Casavant, Treasurer

Larry Collins, Grants

Chris Krupa-Downs, Plano*

Joy Gough, Tax Abatement

Linda Hess, Josephine

Donna Jenkins, Vice Chair

Clyde Kerley, Workshops*

Lolisa Laenger, CCHC Emeritus

Diane Miller, Melissa*

Kim Peat, Anna*

Janice Quick, Film Preservation

Paula Ross, Chair

Jan Thatcher, Secretary

Marianne Wells, State Markers

Eric Nishimoto, Liaison

Absent*

Call to order: 6:33 pm

Public Comments: Allen Heritage Guild will have an open house from 2-4 pm at the Allen Heritage Village, 450 E St Mary Drive, Allen, TX on December 16. There will be music, refreshments, children's crafts, a raffle and more. Information may be found at allenheritage.org.

The Collin County Genealogical Society will have its Holiday Social December 12, 6:30 pm, at the Haggard Library, Plano, TX. Beverly Lenoir will tell the story of her great-great-grandmother, Maria Seitz Reich, who journeyed from North Carolina to Farmersville, Collin County in 1850. There will be time for audience members to also share brief family stories.

Joy Gough mentioned the Historic Asset Survey brochure needs updating. The email address on the brochure is wrong and more sites have been added since the brochures were printed.

Donna Jenkins has volunteered to collect information on the various CCHC committees. She requests each committee chair to write the goals and a description of the duties, any information as to how the committee operates. This information will be collected, placed on the county website along with a CCHC application. This information will also be given to all new members of the CCHC.

The City of Anna has cancelled the parade due to the weather.

The City of Josephine has canceled the annual parade and festival because of the weather.

Minutes/Volunteer Hours: Minutes were approved. Volunteer hours: 178 total hours for CCHC, Other Groups total 40.

Treasurer's Report/Financials:

Budget: \$49,900.00

Expenditures: \$145.00

Total Available: \$49,755.00

Committees submitted budget requests with the financial committee's decisions listed below.

- Grants: \$25,000.00
- Emergency Fund (Grants): \$1000.00
- Awards: \$425.00
- Cruise: \$1800.00
- Film Preservation: \$500.00
- County Markers: \$5200.00
- State Markers: \$7600.00
- Educational Programs: \$900.00
- Workshops: \$1000.00
- Preservation Celebration: \$5400.00
- Meeting Places: \$1075.00*

*Note: If members attend a workshop, the fee and mileage reimbursement will come out of this fund. Adjust up to cover possible meeting increase.

Committee Reports

Grants: On Saturday, January 12, the 2019-20 grant applications will be distributed at the Coalition Meeting and information will be placed on the county website. The mandatory grant orientation will be Tuesday, May 7 at 7pm. The Heard-Craig Carriage House has been reserved for the meeting. The deadline for grant submissions must be by 5 pm on Friday, June 7, 2019. Grant presentations for 2018 could begin as early as January.

Grant Reports will be presented at the next Coalition Meeting, Saturday, January 12, 2019.

State Markers: The marker application for the Saigling House in Plano is in progress. On a statewide level, there are 253 marker applications submitted which the state will approve 170. Harris county (Houston) submitted 8, which means there is more competition.

County Markers, Marker Book: There is one application submitted for Mantua Christian Church. Markers for Russell A Steindam (Plano) and the Kelly Community near Anna (between Anna and Van Alstyne by the railroad tracks) are at the foundry.

Cemeteries: Joy Gough informed the historical commission that the state is taking interest in abandoned cemeteries. A survey shows 160 cemeteries in the county with 60-75 abandoned. The state is considering establishing coordinates and fencing for these areas.

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

Communications: There is nothing to report at this time.

Preservation Celebration: Jan Thatcher recently attended the Old Settlers gathering held at Rutledge Haggard's Party Barn, located in far west Plano, east of the North Texas Tollway, and north of Parker Rd. It will be a great venue for the event. There is a full kitchen, plenty of seating, a stage and sound system. Through information from Marianne Wells, the rental price is \$450.00 plus \$15.00/hr. for an attendant on duty.

Catering: Chris Krupa-Downs knows of a caterer and has received a bid. Jan knows of another caterer and will get another bid for the brunch.

The committee is asking for speaker recommendations at this time. The committee plans to meet in early January and will have more information in January's board meeting.

Preservation Celebration Awards Committee: The special awards nomination form will be distributed on Saturday, January 12, 2019 at the Coalition meeting and placed on the county website. The submissions deadline is Friday, April 5, 2019.

Historic Asset Survey (HAS): Donna Jenkins has talked with Deborah Kilgore about Deborah's recent discovery of old county school records in the area. Donna will visit the Collin County Museum to do some research on these old schools and feels this is something the committee may want to include on the HAS website.

Donna is looking for suggestions to get more county wide involvement with HAS. She is considering a seminar, inviting members of the community to attend to see if there is any interest in writing narratives and help input the information on the Historic Asset Survey website.

Film Preservation: The committee met to finalize goals for the upcoming year. Janice Quick has developed a video evaluation form to document each film and assigned a couple of videos (or oral histories) for each committee member to review.

Mission Statement: To discover and preserve films and videos that showcase Collin County's history and culture. To make these videos available for the public to view.

Accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2017-18:

- Digitized a total of eight videos from the following organizations:
Collin County History Museum-Candace Montgomery Trial, "Texas Day" event
Collin County Farm Museum-Sign language tour of museum
Allen Heritage Guild-1950's Allan Christmas Parade
- Digitized 24 audio cassette oral histories provided by the Collin County History Museum, representing communities of McKinney, Murphy, Altoga, Melissa, Lovejoy and Anna.

Goals for Fiscal Year 2018-19:

- Continue to contact organizations and individuals to find new films & videos in need of digitizing
- Continue viewing videos turned in during the Texas Film Round-Up
- Research each video for historical significance, ownership and copyright. Make recommendation as to how it should be made available to the public. Possibilities include creating a backup to be stored at the McKinney Library, creating DVD's for checkout at the McKinney Library, or uploading to a Historical Commission YouTube channel.
- Decide the best way to handle audio-only oral histories which are somewhat outside the scope of this committee
- Create a Film Preservation page on the Historical Commission's website

Workshops: There is nothing to report at this time.

Cruises: The cruise committee is planning trip to Bonham to tour the Sam Rayburn House Museum in the spring. Jan Thatcher looked into upgrading the bus situation. Presently, the mode of transportation used is a school bus. The one quote she received was just under \$2000.00, which is the budget the committee hopes to be working with. Therefore, the tours will continue using school busses from McKinney ISD/Durham Bus Service.

Tax Abatement: At this time there are 6 new Tax Abatement applications, 1 in Farmersville and 5 in McKinney. Joy Gough expects a couple more from McKinney next week and may be more in the following weeks. Occasionally some applications are submitted in January. Those will be delayed for processing until the following year.

The procedures for Tax Abatement are:

1. The new applications are received by the deadline. The deadline used to be December 31 but has been moved up to December 15 because CAD wants the lists ASAP.
2. The lists of properties applying for tax abatement are distributed at the December meeting.
3. The properties are inspected in December and January.
4. The lists of approvals and denials are approved at the January Meeting.
5. Letters are sent to the properties that are denied so that they may petition the denial.
6. A time is scheduled on the Commissioners Court docket to obtain the Court's approval of the lists.

7. Once the lists are approved by the Commissioners Court, they are sent to CAD for processing.
8. The Tax Abatement Committee updates the files to prepare for the next year.

The property lists are divided into 8 geographic areas. All of the lists are relatively short, except McKinney.

1. Anna, Weston, Celina
2. Blue Ridge, Farmersville
3. Frisco
4. McKinney
5. Downtown McKinney
6. Plano
7. Downtown Plano
8. Lucas, Wylie

Lists of addresses have been assigned to volunteers for visual inspection. Results of the inspections are due January 15, 2019.

Coalition Schedule: All meetings are held at the MPAC (McKinney Performing Arts Center) the old courthouse basement (east entrance on the square) unless otherwise noted. Future scheduled dates:

Saturday, January 12, 2019 @ 9am

Thursday, April 18, 2019 @ 7pm

Saturday, July 20, 2019 @ 9am

Thursday, October 17 @ 7pm

Adjourn: 7:38 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Thatcher, Secretary