



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

Date: 03.28.19
Heard Craig Carriage House
205 West Hunt, McKinney
6:30 PM

Mary Adams, Dallas
Becky Airhart-Smith, Valdasta*
Alfredo Arias, Communications/Media*
Catherine Casavant, Treasurer
Larry Collins, Grants
Chris Krupa-Downs, Plano*
Joy Gough, Tax Abatement
Linda Hess, Farmersville
Donna Jenkins, Vice Chair
Diann Jones, Anna
Clyde Kerley, Frisco*
Lolisa Laenger, CCHC Emeritus
Diane Miller, Melissa
Kim Peat, Anna
Janice Quick, Film Preservation
Paula Ross, Chair
Jan Samuels, Fairview
Justin Simmons, Plano
Jan Thatcher, Secretary
Marianne Wells, State Markers
Jane Yancy, Plano
Eric Nishimoto, Liaison

Absent*

Welcome Guests: Cathleen Ackers with Collin College. Betty Vamvakus and her daughter, representing Snow Hill Cemetery. Roxanne Bogdan with the Murphy Cemetery Association. Russell Egbert, brother of Paula Ross.

Public Comments: Thank you, Diane Miller, for dinner.

Clyde Kerley suffered a stroke recently and needs our prayers.

The next Coalition Meeting will be on April 18, 2019 at MPAC at 7 pm.

Frankford Preservation Foundation is sponsoring the second annual spring concert, "Jazz on the Prairie" on Saturday, April 6, 2019, from 7-9pm in the Frankford Church. Guest singer is Rosana Eckert from UNT. Doors open at 6:30, tickets are \$35.00.

Linda Hess shared information regarding her Dad's 32nd Battalion in WWI, training in Waco. She had his WWI Annual, picture and dog tags. To add to that Marianne Wells shared that her Grandfather, Col. Charles F Bates, was the commanding officer of Camp MacArthur in Waco.

The April 13, 2019 Celebration in Anna has been postponed. With Gary Hughes recovering from a stroke, the Collin McKinney statue not completed, the group is looking at a date in September. The city of Van Alstyne, which was coordinating their cemetery tour with Anna, still plans to have their tour from 1-4 pm on that day.

Handouts were distributed for the Herring-Hogge Cemetery marker dedication on May 18, 2019 from 2-4 pm, South Murphy Road and Skyline Drive in Murphy.

Minutes and Roll: The minutes were approved with corrections. Volunteer hours total: CCHC-269; Other organizations: 83 hours.

Treasurer's Report: Of the \$49,900.00 budget, \$4963.00 has been spent and encumbered, leaving a balance of \$37,627.00. The treasurer's report was approved.

There is a new county policy for purchasing. Basically, the county does not pay until services are rendered, after the event. Catherine is asking the county for documentation of this new policy but has been unsuccessful in finding it published anywhere.

Grants: Snow Hill Cemetery Association received a grant for headstone and marker restoration in the amount of \$3200.00. The summary and report were presented by Betty Vamvakas and her daughter. This grant allowed the organization to hire Texas Cemetery Restoration LLC for the restoration project that included ten markers in the oldest section of the cemetery. Three of the ten were double markers. Included were four markers of five children, a Confederate veteran, a young wife and a young physician of 25.

The Cemetery Association of Murphy Decatur/Maxwell/Murphy Cemeteries received a grant for tombstone restoration in the amount of \$3000.00. The summary and report were presented by Roxanne Bogdan. Of the 13 listed as most urgent, six were restored by the association. This included repairing broken stones, cleaning and leveling.

The mandatory grant orientation will be Tuesday, May 7, at 7 pm at the Carriage House, 205 West Hunt St, McKinney. The deadline for grant submissions is 5 pm on Friday, June 7, 2019 at the Commissioners Court, 2300 Bloomdale Rd., Suite 4192, McKinney, TX. 75071. No exceptions.

Awards Committee Preservation Celebration: Fifteen nominations for all categories have been submitted for awards at Preservation Celebration so far. The submissions deadline is Friday, April 5 by 5pm.

State Markers: Marianne Wells sent comments back to the Princeton Cemetery to have them follow the format in the THC sample narrative more closely.

Plano Masonic Lodge inquired about the process to submit an application for a state marker.

Routh Cemetery: Marianne is in the process of scheduling the marker to be moved outside the fence where it will be more visible to the public.

Markers approved for 2019 have all been paid. The check for Community ISD was lost in the mail but was paid using Eric Nishimoto's credit card on the last day.

The list of markers approved for 2019 was released this month. 246 applications were submitted from 101 counties. The THC projected approving 180, but only approved 162. 48 counties had all their marker applications approved. Of those, Collin County had the most with five. One other county had all four approved. No counties submitting over five marker applications had them all approved. 43 Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks (RTHL) were submitted with 25 being approved. Collin County had two. Only two counties had more RTHLs approved than Collin County: Harris County with four and DeWitt with three.

County Markers: Marianne Wells has requested that a deadline of July 1st be posted on the Historical Commission's webpage. Due to her personal schedule, she plans to submit everything by September 15, 2019.

A purchase order request and invoice were sent to treasurer, Catherine Casavant, for the Herring-Hogge Cemetery.

A new marker request was sent in for the Liberty Christian Church in Mantua. Mark-up was returned for the requesting group's approval. Invoice and purchase order were sent to Catherine.

Paula Ross is collecting hard copy pages to update the County Marker Book. Kim Peat is adding new additions and working on digitized the information to allow for future marker pages to be easily added and books printed going forward. Joy Gough has updated the maps of the County Marker book. Those maps will be given to Kim to add to the updated marker book. Kim has a goal to have the updated County Marker Book ready for printing by April 2. She thanks Paula and Joy for keeping her on track.

Film Preservation: The committee continues the process of watching videos and listening to audio oral histories previously collected to determine the historical significance and any copyright issues that would prevent CCHC from putting excerpts from the videos online.

The committee will meet next week to discuss their findings.

CCHC Brochure: Janice Quick created the first draft of the brochure that highlights the Historical Commission's offerings. She will present it for review to the CCHC Members.

Tax Abatement: Joy Gough submitted this clarification of the Tax Abatement process:
If a structure, which is on the County Historical Property Tax Abatement list fails the annual inspection for 3 consecutive years, the structure will be removed from the Tax Abatement list.
The property owner will need to reapply to be returned to the list once the repairs have been completed.

Historic Assets Survey: Joy Gough continues to work toward adding information on the HAS website.

On March 21, 2019, Diann Jones and Donna Jenkins spoke with Cathleen Akers class at Collin College main campus. Diann and Donna gave the class a brief introduction to the Collin County Historical Commission and then spoke specifically about HAS and how they could be involved by helping add to the assets. Cathleen Akers has discussed projects with the class and the hope is that some of the students will volunteer to help as part of their class project.

Cemeteries: Jane Yancey has identified GPS coordinates for all cemeteries that are easily identified. She and Marianne Wells are in the process of adding those to the THC's Atlas database.

Stimson Cemetery: Marianne found it fenced, in a development on Chelsea Blvd. in Allen. She is in touch with the person who did the cultural assessment of the area and will report more in the future. In researching deeds for Stimson Cemetery, she found that the parcel where the cemetery was located was sold by Stimson heirs in 1877 and then given back to them in 1878. Marianne has not found that it was ever sold again, although the developer seems to have purchased it. The developer is considering placing a marker but wonders whether or not it will bring any liability if a marker is placed. She plans to find more information for them.

Cannon Cemetery: Marianne now has the coordinates after visiting on a very muddy day.

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

Communications: There is nothing to report at this time.

Preservation Celebration: Invitations will be addressed this weekend. The venue, caterer and music have been set. The committee will meet Thursday, April 11 to discuss the order of program and any other issues that need to be resolved.

Speakers Bureau: Deborah Kilgore's name will be removed from the list due to her sudden death.

Workshops: There is nothing to report at this time.

County Cruise: The tentative date for the next cruise will be September.

Adjourn: 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted, Jan Thatcher, Secretary