



Collin County Historical Commission
Collin County Courthouse
2100 Bloomdale Road
McKinney, TX

Date 04.26.18
Heard Craig Carriage House
205 West Hunt, McKinney
6:30 PM

Becky Airhart-Smith, Valdasta*
Alfredo Arias, Celina*
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
Eric Nishimoto, Liaison

Absent*

Call to order: 6:37 pm

Welcome Guests: Dorcas Helms, John Abston National Chapter of the DAR, Leisha Phipps, Chestnut Square, McKinney.

Public Comments: Thank you Linda Hess for supplying dinner.

Janice Quick announced that our own Alfred Arias will be the guest speaker for the Collin County Genealogy Society meeting at the Haggard Library, on Coit at 7 pm on April 9th.

Dorcas Helms from the John Abston National Chapter of the DAR, announced a rededication of the John Abston State Marker on Sunday, April 29 from 2-3 pm at the cemetery pavilion. The marker was recently moved to a more predominate place in the cemetery.

Clyde Kerley wanted it to be known that his Grandfather built Sam Rayburn's chimney in Bonham.

Minutes and Volunteer Hours: The minutes were approved. Volunteer hours are as follows: CCHC: 299 hours, Other Organizations: 29 hours.

Treasurer's Report: Year to date: Out of the revised budget of \$52,975.00 for the Historical Commission, \$13,253.94 has been paid out or encumbered for future payment. This leaves a balance of \$39,711.06. We have spent 25.04% of our budget. We are in balance with the county.

Special Committee Reports: There is nothing to report at this time.

Committee Reports:

Grants: The grant application and descriptions of past grants have been given to members of the Coalition at the quarterly meeting on April 19. Fourteen organizations were present. The grant application and descriptions of past grants have been emailed to members of the Coalition and additional information will be given at the quarterly meeting of the Coalition on April 19.

The 2018-2019 grant application is on the county website of the Collin County Historical Commission under the latest news. Go to: www.collincountytx.gov /County Directory/Historical Commission/Latest News. To view the historical grant programs awarded by year, since inception, go to: www.collincountytx.gov /Departments/Historic Commission/Initiatives/Historic Grant Program.

The mandatory Grant Workshop is **May 8 at 7:00 pm** at the Heard-Craig Carriage House 205 West Hunt St, McKinney and the deadline to submit the application is **Friday, June 1 at 5 pm**. More information can be found on the website.

Grant Reports: A grant report was given by Leisha Phipps from the Heritage Guild of Collin County Chestnut Square Village. The \$5000.00 grant went toward period appropriate costumes which provides volunteers with clothing to wear for special events and school tours. Costumes not only enhance the living experience for guests, but also engage visitors through demonstrations such as butter churning and spinning. Six period costumes and twelve mannequins were purchased. Mannequins will allow period appropriate clothing to be displayed throughout the year to reflect the particular season, custom and tradition of the 19th century and early 20th century in Collin County.

John Abston Chapter National Society DAR received \$3080.00 to clean and level stones at the Abston Cemetery, located one mile north of Lavon on Highway 78. Most of the work involved cleaning stones, leveling and replacing failed masonry, replacing markers on bases, filling cracks, and repairing broken pieces. The Texas Restoration LLC has completed the final phase of the three-year project. The report was given by Dorcas Helms.

Awards: Five awardees were chosen under three categories: Excellence in Historical Education, Living Legacy in Collin County and Young Visionaries Awards. The awards will be presented at the Preservation Celebration on Saturday, April 28 in Frisco. The awards committee consists of Diane Miller, Jan Thatcher, Naomi Emmett, Catherine Casavant and Larry Collins.

Cruise (Tour) Committee: On April 21, 2018 the cruise traveled to the Military Heritage Collection Museum in Nevada, TX. Along the way, there were stops at the John Abston Cemetery, Bear Creek Cemetery and a brief trip to Lavon with stops at The Old Bank Antiques & Accessories (the last remaining building of the downtown area of Lavon and the Lavon City Hall which was formerly the high school. Also did a “drive by” through downtown Farmersville and pointed out the three State Markers the city has collected over the years. Lunch was at Pizza Getti’s. The surveys filled out at the end of the tour by the ridership were favorable.

Film Reservation: Janice Quick picked up another film from the Collin County History Museum about the Candace Montgomery Trial. The film was created by ABC News in a format called U-Matic which is bigger than a VHS tape. The tape was delivered to U-Edit Video to be digitized.

County Markers: Lt Russell A Steindam Park (Plano): Copy has been approved by Steindam’s sister and the McKinney VFW. Marianne Wells has sent it to the Plano Parks Director.

State Markers: Abston Cemetery marker was moved to the front of the Abston section of Lakeview Cemetery.

Blue Ridge: The City wants to build the new monument inside the gazebo which will require a concrete floor. Approval for that expenditures is in process.

Herring-Hogge Cemetery medallion: The medallion is ordered.

Gov. James Webb Throckmorton supplemental plaque: The copy was written to specify the location of the Throckmorton homestead since the marker is now in Pecan Grove Cemetery and not near the site of the settlement.

Cemeteries: Celina Community Cemetery: Jane Willard is researching to see if the cemetery association, which owns the cemetery, is still active and is getting contact information for us. The fence is up and cattle in the cemetery is no longer an issue.

Slave Cemetery (Celina): A few months ago, the THC was notified that a white cross, which marked a slave burial site, had been removed. It was somewhere in the middle of the pasture of the former Rockin’ K Ranch, just north of Morgan Lake Estates, very near Preston Road. Jane Willard is researching the owner and will contact him. The committee is still researching.

Routh Cemetery: Marianne Wells took the new cemetery association president to the cemetery to meet the construction manager in preparation for a tour of the cemetery after the association’s annual meeting. Marianne spoke at the meeting to promote our grant program. Once the construction is completed, the cemetery marker will be moved to a more prominent location.

Speakers Bureau: Representatives from the Sam Rayburn House in Bonham called to say that they would like to do a 20-minute presentation to the Historical Commission about Congressman and Speaker of the House of Representatives, Sam Rayburn and the Sam Rayburn House. The

contacts are Marlene Concepcion at marlene.concepcion@thc.texas.gov and Anne Ruppert at anne.ruppert@thc.texas.gov.

Janice Quick also emailed several speakers and organizations, including the Sam Rayburn House and the Military Heritage Collection Museum to try to build up the CCHC Speakers Bureau. The URL for the Historical Commission's Speakers Bureau is: <http://www.collincountytx.gov/historicalcommission/Pages/CCHC-Speakers-Bureau.aspx>.

Lakes Trails: There is nothing to report at this time.

Educational Programs: The presentation to McKinney ISD was moved from late April to late May due to the school's book fair. Alfred Arias will have a new date by early next week. He will document the event & exhibit. He also plans to take photos.

Alfred is also Researching 7 days in Collin County history, augmented reality project with various colleagues. He will have something to present by the May meeting.

Communications/Media: Our *Instagram* page: [Collin_county_historical](#) had: 25 posts with 114 followers. The most popular Instagram photo was our Collin County Tour photo, shared 4 times and viewed by 84 people.

Our *Facebook* page, [Collin County Historical Commission](#), had 96 followers between March 27-April 23, 2018. The number of people who have looked at our page: 1200, up 376%. Posted engagements (people who interacted, clicked shared our content) is 257 engagements, up 576%. The most popular post: Janice Quick (using the Portal to Texas History.) 852 people reached, 117 engagements, shared 10 times.

Our *Twitter* page: [@CCHC2015](#) had 408 followers. Alfred would like to take suggestions for changing caption, for the last 6 months it has been Collin McKinney 250th Birthday Celebration picture. The month of May will be dedicated to past grant winners and mentions of the great work accomplished with grants.

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

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

Workshops: The committee of Paula Ross, Marianne Wells and Chris Krupa Downs is working on a future workshop involving the Texas Historic Commission on Cemeteries and Legalities. They hope to hold the workshop sometime in August.

Preservation Celebration: Michael Black spoke with all vendors, everything is set and all are ready for Saturday. Table linens and table decorations will be delivered between 4:30-5:00 pm at the Senior Center in Frisco. Anyone available to help with set up, please let Michael know. The building will be open at 7:00 am on Saturday. Registration will start at 8:30 am, which means that some folks will be there at 8:00. Attached was an assignment sheet for Commission

Members. Members were allowed to trade assignments but Michael asked that he be notified of any changes.

Expenses:

Brunch: \$2955.00

Music: \$750.00

Storyteller: \$175.00

Invitations: \$250.00

Programs: \$200.00

Table Linens: \$274.39

Video: \$595.00

Books: \$80.00

Total: \$5199.00

Budget: \$4568.00

Overage: \$631.39

Adjourn: 8:13 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Thatcher, Secretary