



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

Date 07.30.15

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

Becky Airhart-Smith, Valdasta*
Alfredo Arias, Celina*
Michael Black, Vice Chair, Workshops
Janice Cline, Tax Abatement*
Larry Collins, Grants
Naomi Emmett, Treasurer
Joy Gough, State Markers
Linda Hess, Josephine
Donna Jenkins
Clyde Kerley, Lakes Trail
Lolisa Laenger, Cruises*
Michael Mendenhall, Plano
Diane Miller, Melissa
Janice Quick, Plano
Paula Ross, Chairman
Loydell Seward, Historic Assets Survey
Jan Thatcher, Secretary
Eric Nishimoto, Liaison

Absent*

Meeting was called to order by Paula Ross at 6:38 pm.

Public Comments: A Wells Family thank you note was received and read. Frances Bates Wells passed away in April.

Erin Mace, working as a historian on a TxDot SH5 project, sent an email to Paula Ross inquiring of any historic sites, cemeteries or historically significant bridges in the county.

Clyde Kerley announced he was accepted into the Sons of the Republic of Texas. He is a descendant of William Sweeny. Clyde states that "Brazoria County is rich in history."

The June minutes were approved with corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Year to date out of the now adjusted budget of \$51,909.00 for the Historical Commission: \$22546.05 has been paid out of encumbered for future payment. This leaves a balance of \$29362.95. We have spent 43.43% of our budget. We are in balance with the county. The Report was approved by the Commission.

Nominating Committee presented a slate of officers for the 2015-16 year. The recommendation was to continue with the present board. Final approval will be voted on by the commission members at the August board meeting.

Committee Reports:

Grants: There was one presentation given by Donna Jenkins with the Murphy Historical Society. The Murphy Family Cemetery was the beneficiary. Grant funds were used to clean, level and repair headstones. The Murphy family did contribute to the expense of the stone cleaning. The Murphy Historical Society has applied for another grant which they hope will allow them to continue with the cleaning of larger stones. There will be three more presentations scheduled for our August Board Meeting.

Larry reported that in the 7 years of the Grant Program, \$170,000.00 has been awarded. The Commissioners Court has approved the \$24,000.00 in recommendations the Grant Committee submitted. The recipients are as follows:

Historic Education: Allen Heritage Guild, The “Farm Chores” Little Garden, \$600

Historic Preservation:

Anna Area Historic Preservation Society, Lair Cemetery Restoration Project, \$2444.

Bear Creek Cemetery Foundation, restore damaged markers, \$4000.

Chambersville Cemetery Association, marker repair, cleaning and leveling of monuments, \$4500.

Murphy Historical Society, restoration of Murphy Family Cemetery, \$3010.

Historic Preservation and Education:

Heritage Guild of Collin County, replace porches of the Taylor Inn and Dulaney Cottage, \$2000.

Heritage Guild of Collin County, repair and add flashing to chimneys in the Dulaney Cottage, \$3000.

Heritage Farmstead Museum of Plano, restore the one room school house, \$2400.

Heard-Craig Center for the Arts, install ultraviolet window film and acquire prisms and pinhole camera kit, \$2046.00

State Markers: Installation of Gus Wilson’s state historical marker has been completed.

County Markers: Four applications have been turned in: John Leiter Brown and an Iron Bridge in Allen, Murphy Grocery in Murphy and Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Potential future markers include Frankford Community and Murphy Family Cemetery. Other possibilities mentioned were the Alexander Cemetery (Anna) and Dublin School.

The Murphy Store Marker dedication is scheduled for Saturday, September 26, at 9:30. The location will be the northeast side of the “Murphy Market Place” sign on 544/Murphy Rd.

Workshops: The Bullock Museum was contacted with the hopes that they would travel to Collin County for a workshop on story telling-“Campfire Stories” tying into the theme of next year’s Preservation Celebration, but were not available.

Tax Abatement: Efforts are underway to educate the residents of Wylie of the tax abatement available to them.

Historical Assets Survey: People in Anna are working hard to get sites on the map. Also, a long-time resident of the area has submitted her story of the town of Mantua and her family’s farm, referred to as the Mantua Farm.

Preservation Celebration: The venue has been secured for May 14, 2016 at the Heard-Craig Auditorium. The theme is “The Stories of Collin County, Born around the Campfires of Our Past”. There have been 22 stories submitted so far with more to come. The committee is looking for more submissions from anyone in the county, stories reflecting how the county use to be.

Texas Film Round-Up: Texas Archives of Moving Images, referred to as TAMI. 125 people in the county contributed 2253 assorted films, our cost was \$492, and the benefit was estimated at \$22,530. Janice Quick showed some of the videos that will be recommended to TAMI for inclusion on their website, texasarchive.org.

County Markers: Children’s Education: Copies of the original Carry along Collin have been printed. The plan includes distributing them to senior centers and libraries throughout the county.

Lakes Trail: “Explore Texas’ Chisholm Trail”, promoting the 150 years of the Chisholm Trail is underway. 2017 is the 150th Anniversary of the trail which ran from Texas to Kansas.

The next meeting for the Lakes Trails will be held in Granbury on August 26th. Clyde has been mentioning state budget cuts that will take effect next year. Brazos Trail region will be folding because of the budget cuts. Texas Forts, Lakes and Forest Trails will be continuing.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Thatcher