



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

Date: 08.31.2017
Heard Craig Carriage House
205 West Hunt, McKinney
6:30 PM

Becky Airhart-Smith, Valdasta
Alfredo Arias, Celina
Michael Black, Chair
Larry Collins, Grants
Chris Krupa Downs, Historic Assets Survey*
Naomi Emmett, Treasurer
Joy Gough, State Markers
Linda Hess, Josephine
Donna Jenkins, Vice Chair
Clyde Kerley, Lakes Trail
Lolisa Laenger, Cruises
Michael Mendenhall, Workshops*
Diane Miller, Melissa
Kim Peat, Anna
Janice Quick, Plano
Paula Ross, Allen
Jan Thatcher, Secretary
Marianne Wells, Plano
Eric Nishimoto, Liaison

Absent*

Public Comments: We were able to view the digitized copy of the donated, 16mm film thanks to Janice Quick and Deborah Kilgore. The DVD captured the devastation of a cyclone that struck McKinney on May 5, 1948, an ice storm and a Christmas parade dated 1949-1950. It was also shared that Mr. J. W. Thompson, the owner of the film) was J. Wilber Thompson, manager of Johnson Furniture which was located on the corner of Virginia and Tennessee Streets. Deborah Kilgore actually researched the old McKinney papers from that time period and shared the information while we watched the DVD.

The Collin County Genealogical Society meets the 2nd Wednesday night of the month at 7pm, Haggard Library, 2501 Coit Rd., Plano, TX (excluding July & August). On September 13, 2017, the subject will be "Writing Family Stories" presented by Farmerville, TX descendent, Beverly Lenoir. October's meeting

will be presented by Ari Wilkins from the Dallas Library, where she will speak on “Black and White Southern Families in Plantation Records”. For more information contact ccgs.programs@gmail.com.

Frisco Heritage Center will host Dr. Richard B. McCaslin, author of Washington on the Brazos: Cradle of the Texas Republic on Saturday, October 7, 2017 at 9 am. Dr. McCaslin will be discussing his book.

Donna Jenkins represented the CCHC at the recent Heard-Craig Annual Tea.

Coalition meeting dates were announced for the year. Meetings are held quarterly at the McKinney Performing Arts Center (MPAC). The future dates will be: Thursday, 10.19.17 at 7 pm, Saturday, 01.13.18 at 9 am, Thursday, 04.21.18 at 7 pm, Saturday, 07.21.18 at 9 am.

A motion was made and carried to hold December’s CCHC meeting on 12.07.17 at the Heard-Craig Carriage House. The facility has been unavailable in past years but is not the case this year.

For next month’s meeting, the Carriage House will be open from 3-6 pm to allow committees to meet and discuss budget requests for the up-coming year.

There are vacancies on our board with room for approximately 20 members. Each of the four precincts should be represented and the CCHC is looking for people ready to work. Suggestions are needed to fill the vacant positions.

Minutes and Roll Call for Volunteer Hours: Minutes were approved with corrections. Volunteer hours for the CCHC total 237 hrs. 52 hrs. were logged for other historic organizations.

Treasurer’s Report: Year to date out of a revised budget of \$52,400 for the Historical Commission; \$41,980.92 has been paid out or encumbered for future payment. This leaves a balance of \$10,419.08. We have spent 80.12% of our budget. We are in balance with the county.

Committee Reports:

Grants: The Collin County Commissioners Court approved \$28,400 for eight grant recipients on July 18, 2017. The following groups received funds: Anna Area Historic Preservation Society, Heard Craig Center for the Arts, Elm Grove Historical Cemetery Association, Military Heritage Collection of North Texas, Heritage Guild of Collin County (Chestnut Square Village), Snow Hill Cemetery Association, John Abston Chapter National Society DAR, and the Collin County Historical Society and Museum. All contracts have been signed. Checks should be mailed in September.

This is the 9th year of the grant program. One hundred four organizations have received a total of \$225,050.00.

The Heritage Association of Frisco will be giving their final report and summary on September 28. Mara Pitcher is responsible for the interactive museum exhibit and was an intern at the Heritage Museum for Collin College. This summer she was doing course work for SMU in Europe. Mara just recently returned and Larry Collins gave her an extension to complete the project.

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

Texas Film Round-up: Janice Quick picked up the digitized copies of the 16mm film about the 1948 McKinney tornado and ice storm from U-Edit Video and delivered them to the Collin County History

Museum. A DVD copy of the film was given to the Genealogy Department of the McKinney Public Library. Also given to the library were DVDs of the last two years of the Preservation Celebration. The DVDs will be circulating DVDs-meaning the public will be allowed to check them out.

County Markers: The marker committee has completed 4 markers for this year. The committee is awaiting delivery to set up dedications. The four markers include: Santa Fe Depot in Wylie, High Pointe Church in McKinney, the Johnson Store in Parker, and the Anna Depot in Anna. The Cattleman's Café marker was put on hold until later-the committee will pursue completion this fall.

State Markers: There was a marker dedication on August 5, 2017 for the Collin McKinney Homestead in Anna.

Wording for the Brown Cottage marker in Wylie has been approved.

Marianne Wells is conducting research on Oliver Loving and the cattle drives he lead for a future marker.

The Joe K Bryant Elementary school in Anna will be the new home for the Mantua marker. The location was chosen for easier access and higher visibility.

The Abston Cemetery on Hwy. 78 has been purchased and is expanding. The John Abston Chapter National Society DAR is working with Marianne Wells and Joy Gough to look into relocating the marker for better visibility.

Historic Burials Committee: There is nothing to report at this time.

Lakes Trails: The Lakes Trails Region elected new board members at their last board meeting held in Grand Prairie. The new members are: Laurie McPike Mosley-Waxahachie CVB-one of the founding board members; Diana Vela-National Cowgirl Hall of Fame; and Lisa Dalton-Grapevine CVB.

The meeting included a recap of the year and thanking people for helping regain funding from the THC. There was a motor coach tour of Downtown Grand Prairie which is on the Bankhead Highway, a behind the scenes tour of Grand Prairie's restored theater. The theater has great entertainment going on all the time and is really the anchor for the downtown development. Grand Prairie also has one of the best Farmer's Markets in the country and is located just down the block from the theater.

Educational Programs: McKinney ISD has asked for a week-long program about pioneer life and is looking at March or April time frame for this event.

Communications/Media: We have 338 followers on Twitter, 15 on Instagram, 72 on FaceBook. Janice Quick and Paula Ross have been added as administrators to post events on FB in the future. There are still two FB pages for the CCHC and should be resolved shortly.

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

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

Workshops: The workshop committee has a VERY successful workshop on August 16th at the Collin County History Museum. Curator Deborah Kilgore gave a wonderful presentation that was enjoyed by a large crowd-including a person from Hunt County. We are trying to reach a larger audience and support other local county efforts. The Topic was "Advocacy for Small Museums".

The committee is looking forward to hosting the THC and a cemetery workshop about preserving historic cemeteries to Nov. 7 or 8th. More details to come.

Preservation Celebration/Awards: Frisco will be hosting the event on Saturday, 04.28.18. The location will be the Senior Citizen's Center. Michael Black met with Suzanne Kerley to discuss vendors at the event.

Election of Officers: Present officers were agreeable to continue this year. The floor was opened for any other nominations. None were offered. Vote was taken, motion carried.

Meeting adjourn at 8:16 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Thatcher, Secretary