



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

Date: 09.26.19
Heard Craig Carriage House
205 West Hunt, McKinney
6:30 PM

Mary Kaye Adams, Dallas
Becky Airhart-Smith, Valdasta*
Alfredo Arias, Communications/Media*
Catherine Casavant, Treasurer*
Chris Krupa-Downs, Plano*
Joy Gough, Tax Abatement
Linda Hess, Farmersville
Donna Jenkins, Vice Chair
Diann Jones, Anna
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, Cemeteries
Jane Yancey, Plano
Eric Nishimoto, Liaison*

*Absent

Call to Order: 6:34 pm

Welcome Guests: Judy Florence, our new county liaison

Public Comments: Jane Yancey, thank you for supplying our meal.

On Saturday, September 28, a marker dedication for Russell Steindam will be held at 2 pm at the Russell Steindam Park, 4501 Quincy Ln, Plano. Russell's sister and County Commissioner, Susan Fletcher will be in attendance.

The Texas Archive of the Moving Image (TAMI) is holding a Texas Film Round Up on Sunday, September 29 from noon-7 pm at the Cinemark West Plano and XD, 3800 Dallas Pkwy, Plano, TX 75093. Through TAMI, films collected show a slice of life in Texas from years past. With this collection date TAMI hopes to honor our veterans and is looking for home movies of life in military service. Materials will be digitized in Austin and returned to the owners along with a digital copy of the submission.

“Christmas on the Prairie,” the Frankford Church annual Christmas service, will be held on two nights, December 1 and December 15. Prelude music begins at 4:30 pm, candlelight service at 5 pm. Go to <http://frankfordpreservationfoundation.org/christmas-on-the-prairie> to register and for more information.

On Wednesday, October 9 at 6:30 pm, the Collin County Genealogical Society’s speaker will be David B Appleton. David’s topic is “In Their Footsteps: The Genealogical Tourist.” He will have tips on planning a trip to explore an ancestor’s homeland. The group meets at the W. O. Haggard Library, 2501 Coit Rd, Plano, TX 75075.

CCHC Chair Remarks: YOU ARE THE BEST!!!! I say that every time I get this opportunity. You are some of the finest volunteers in the County and I treasure working with each of you. We come from different backgrounds, experiences, professions and yet we come together to preserve the history of Collin County. You work tirelessly to achieve that and you do it with grace and humility and beyond that, with your own personal funds on occasion. You have distinguished your county time again as the Historical Commission has received the Distinguished Service award from the THC. You are to be congratulated for that.

Tonight, we meet again to plan our upcoming year. We will brainstorm ideas on a few topics and then your committees will break into groups to plan your year and to set your goals with the vision for it. Your committee chair will discuss budget and as we reconvene, report on your plans and the money you need to accomplish them.

Thank you for serving your county and I am proud to be your Chairperson! Good luck with your plans. You really are the best!

The executive board met on September 17 to discuss plans for tonight and decide on the brainstorming session first, then committee work. I want to also remind you of the THC conference in Austin, January 29 & 30, 2020 and Donna Jenkins will be a presenter. You can still plan to go. Paula Ross, CCHC Chair.

Minutes/Roll Call: The minutes were approved with corrections. Total volunteer hours for the month: 352

Treasurer’s Report/Financials: Of our budget of \$49,900.00, the total amount spent and encumbered over the past year is \$48, 845.00. The treasurer’s report was approved.

Committee Reports-Carryover:

Grants: Kim Peat is scheduled to present a final report from the Anna Area Preservation Society.

State and County Markers: Jan Thatcher and Marianne Wells attended a workshop given by Bob Brinkman on doing historical research. Marianne did learn about one source in particular, mechanics liens, which she will check out the next time she is in the County Clerk's office.

Production of Markers: There is still no vendor, but the requests for proposals (RFP's) have been sent out.

Cemeteries: Cannon: Marianne Wells referred the owner's lawyer to the Cultural Resources Consultant who did the work at Stimson Cemetery. The permission for the Sheriff's Convicted Offender Reentry Effort (SCORE) inmates to access the property is going through channels for signatures at the Sheriff's Department,

Kelly: Marianne and Jane Yancey visited the Kelly Cemetery on Labor Day to see if the fence protecting the cemetery from the development equipment was still up. It is. They had a brief conversation with the contractor whose first question was to see if they were going to take over maintenance of the cemetery. Marianne informed him that wasn't her role. He seemed to know all about cemeteries in developments, which was reassuring. Marianne and Jane were able to see the Kelly headstone through the vegetation and at this point, Marianne sees no reason to ask for access until the development phase is completed.

Backbone: Jane and Marianne met with Diane Miller and Joy Gough on Labor Day at Backbone which had recently been cleaned up by the SCORE inmates. They have since learned that the Army Corps of Engineers, which owns the cemetery, can no longer use inmates for any project on federal land. It is a nationwide policy. Marianne will reach out to Joe Chappell who expressed interest in maintaining the cemetery earlier in the year.

Johnson: Marianne and Jan Thatcher drove by Johnson Cemetery in New Hope after the marker workshop. It is being maintained, perhaps by neighbors but there does not seem to be an association. A power line is being erected somewhere near the cemetery so consultants are trying to find all the nearby landowners to notify them of a public meeting.

Brinlee: Marianne submitted the Historic Texas Cemetery (HTC) designation request to the Texas Historical Commission (THC) and hopes to have it approved in time to resubmit the state marker application which Joy wrote and which was approved in 2000. A descendant in California, who has only been to the cemetery once, wants to pay for the marker.

Clear Lake: This cemetery is inside the Clear Lake Park at Lake Lavon. The park is closed for six months of the year to campers and vehicles. The descendant who has been maintaining the cemetery for years is in failing health and asked his grandson to maintain it. There have been some communication problems about protocol to access the cemetery and to get a permit to

do maintenance work. Joy, Jane and Marianne met with the ranger who oversees the park this week. Marianne also talked with the lake manager and will meet with him in the next few weeks to make sure that all who are associated with the cemetery understands the protocol. There are entrance fees for the parks but Marianne was not charged to access the cemetery. Visitors and cleanup crews in the off-season will have to call the lake management office prior to visiting the cemetery to have the gate opened for entry. Marianne will forward all information to the THC.

Marker Refurbishing Workshop: Several people are meeting at Bradley Cemetery on Saturday, September 28, from 9-11 am to learn how to refurbish markers. The workshop leader, Dottie Durrett, is coming from Terrell for the demonstration. The group will include a volunteer that Jan Samuels found as well as several members of the John Abston chapter of the DAR. Marianne is hopeful that there will be enough volunteers to get all the marker in the county that are in need, refurbished within the next couple of years.

Preservation Celebration: Jan Thatcher attended the Anna Area Preservation Society monthly meeting earlier in the day to start Anna's preparations for hosting the annual event. They will be forming a committee and will be discussing plans for the 2020 event.

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

Film Preservation: As publicized earlier, the Texas Film Round-Up is to be held 09.29.19 from Noon-7pm at the Cinemark West Plano movie theater. This event, sponsored by the Texas Archive of the Moving Image (TAMI) invites residents from Plano and the surrounding North Texas area to bring in home movies for free digitization. The Collin County Historical Commission worked with TAMI about five years ago to provide this same service for all of Collin County. About 125 people participated with TAMI digitizing more than 2000 films. Several of the Collin County films were selected to be placed on TAMI's website which showcases Texas history and culture. Information about this year's Texas Film Round-up can be found at:

https://www.texasarchive.org/library/index.php?title=News:Texas_Film_Round-up_Plano

Janice Quick will be stepping down as Chair of this committee.

Commission Brochure: Eric Nishimoto is creating the final version and hopes to print copies on Friday, September 27.

Speakers Bureau: Janice Quick is in the process of contacting two new speakers recommended by Donna Jenkins. To see the current list of speakers, go to:

https://www.collincountytx.gov/historical_commission/Pages/CCHC-Speakers-Bureau.aspx

Tax Abatements: Joy Gough distributed the tax abatement handout. October 31 is the deadline. She mentioned there is a dilemma with the Burton House in McKinney. It is in bad shape but it is also a Registered Texas Historical Landmark (RTHL) on it.

Brainstorming session: Regarding publicity, financial procedures, new opportunities/goals for the Commission. Determine changes to status quo regarding current committees.

Planning session: Vision for committees, goals for upcoming year, financial requests. Committees that need this time can have it. Committees share vision and goals, request their funding.

Session 1: Film Preservation, Grants, Education Programs, Cemeteries.

Session 2: County Markers. Historic Asset Survey, Workshops, Cruise.

Session 3: Speakers, Bureau, State Markers, Tax Abatement, Preservation Celebration Awards.

Budget Requests by Committees:

Grants: \$25,000 + \$1000 (emergency fund)

Preservation Celebration Awards: \$300

Cruise: \$2000

Film Preservation: \$500

State Markers: \$7600

County Markers: \$5925

Educational Programs: \$200

Historic Assets Survey: \$100

Workshops: \$750

Preservation Celebration: \$3600

Meeting Places: \$1135

Heard-Craig (11 @ \$65) \$715; MPAC (4 @ \$105) \$420

Commission Education/Workshops/etc. Conference \$600

CCHC Marketing Brochures (Janice Quick's project) \$500

Memberships – National Trust, Preservation Texas, etc. \$500

Adjourn: 8:49 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Thatcher, Secretary