



Collin County Historical Commission
7117 CR 166
McKinney, TX 75071

Date: 10.28.21
Heard Craig Carriage House
205 West Hunt St., McKinney
6:30 PM

Mary Kaye Adams, County Cruises
Elden Baker, Anna *
Candace Fountoulakis, Plano
Joy Gough, Tax Abatement
Linda Hess, Farmersville
Eric Hogue, Wylie
Donna Jenkins, Murphy *
Diann Jones, Anna
Colin Kimball, McKinney
Paula Ross, Chair
Jan Samuels, Public Relations *
Harold Sickler, Plano
Janet Stovall, Speakers Bureau
Jan Thatcher, Secretary/Treasurer
Marianne Wells, State Markers, Cemeteries
Nathan White, McKinney
Jane Yancey, Plano *
Brittany Yurkovich, Weston
Jennifer Rogers, Liaison
Judy Florence, Liaison

*Absent

Call to order: 6:30 p.m.

Welcome Guests: Karen Zupanic, Executive Director of the Heard-Craig Center for the Arts.

As the final phase of the Grant program, Karen gave a final presentation to the CCHC about her project. Karen was awarded \$400 in late 2019 to digitize some of the Heard business ledgers. There was a total of 28 ledgers kept by brothers Steve and John Heard. Karen brought a few of the ledgers, one dated July 1883-March 1906, another from June 1893-1913 and a Heard Stock Certificate Register dated 1897-1930 containing the children's stock purchases. Karen delivered

the ledgers to the University of North Texas in Denton in January 2020. With the onset of Covid-19, the process was delayed. The ledgers were returned in May 2021. The digitized ledgers now may be found online at the Portal to Texas History website.

Public Comments: Thank you, Joy Gough, for providing the meal tonight.

The Allen Heritage Guild will host “Christmas Through the Decades” from 2-4 p.m. on December 12, 2021, at the Allen Heritage Village. The village address is 450 E St Mary’s Drive.

The Farmersville Museum has an exhibit through November 13 on Farmersville’s own, Gussie Nell Davis. Ms. Davis was the creator and first lady of the iconic American drill team, the Kilgore College Rangerettes (established in 1940). The hours are Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and the museum is located at 107 Farmersville Parkway, Farmersville.

Paula Ross once again mentioned the Real Places Conference sponsored by the Texas Historical Commission will be held February 2-4, 2022. If interested in attending, please notify her.

The December 2 meeting will be hosted by Nathan White.

Minutes/Roll Call: The minutes were accepted with corrections. Total volunteer hours for the month are 333.

Treasurer’s Report/Financials: Total expenditures and encumbered to date is \$789.84. Year to date: With our budget of \$49,900, we have spent \$369.84, encumbered \$420.00, leaving us with a balance of \$49,110.16. The Treasurer’s Report was accepted. The Finance Committee met to finalize this year’s budget. Committee requests totaled \$53,560. The committee adjusted the requests to the County budget of \$49,900. The budget presented was approved.

Committee Reports:

Speaker Bureau: There is nothing to report at this time.

Cataloging Local Histories/Films: Nathan White and Colin Kimball traveled to the University of North Texas in Denton to see what UNT is doing for historic preservation.

Collin County Cruise: After the holidays the committee will start planning the next cruise.

Grants: There is nothing to report at this time.

State Markers: *Gallagher House (Wylie)*, the marker is being shipped and plans for another Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks (RTHL) dedication are in process.

Community Independent School District: The marker is at the foundry with 40 markers ahead of it.

First Baptist Church of Lavon, Brinlee Cemetery (Melissa) and Princeton Cemetery are on a list of 50 inscriptions to be reviewed by the State Historical Commissioners on Friday, October 29, 2021.

Marker Restorations: The site of Wilmeth-McKinney Homestead assigned to the John Abston Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR); Coffman Cemetery (Anna), to be

completed on Saturday by the Anna Chapter of the DAR. This will make 13 markers restored, slowly but surely.

Historic Cemeteries: Ross Cemetery (McKinney): A dedication ceremony was held on Saturday, October 24, 2021 for the Historic Texas Cemetery Designation (HTC). Ross Cemetery has served the Black community since 1895. It was a great day, truly a team effort. There were several comments about having a map that people could use in finding relatives buried in the cemetery. Marianne Wells may have found a GIS professional who will work with the committee to design a project and teach the members to use software on members phones. Miss Flo's approval and volunteers are both needed. Another phase of this project is to reach out to all the descendants and friends to seek additional information on unmarked graves or contacts for people who might. The committee wants to have another ceremony when the medallion actually arrives, which is expected next fall at the earliest. It gives the committee time to find as many descendants as possible and perhaps a choir from one of the Black churches. Marianne needs a volunteer to head up both of those efforts.

Buckner Cemetery (McKinney): Marianne sent all the supporting documentation on the cemetery deed and the HTC designation to the surveying office's managing partner, who actually surveyed the property. The owner of the land asked to speak to her next week. Marianne is referring him to Carolyn Hammons with the Texas Historical Commission. Zoning has been accomplished but not permitting. Marianne is sending everything to the Planning Manager, who is in direct contact with the landowner, the Planning Director and the Preservation Officer.

County Markers: The Allen Colored School and Moores Chapel markers are at the foundry. The County Marker for Shady Grove Church on Old Brand Road in Murphy is missing.

Communications/Public Relations: Janet Stovall shared the results of the committee's brainstorming session. One of the ideas is to have space on our county webpage to keep the public informed. Janet shared sample copies of what the webpage might look like. Jan Samuels plans to explore all the cities and senior centers in the county to see what is on their schedules to possibly piggyback on their events.

Tax Abatement: This year's application period for the Collin County Historic Property Tax Abatement ends on October 31. So far 5 new applications have been received – 4 for McKinney and 1 for Frisco.

Property Inspections will be done in November. The results of the inspections will be submitted to the Tax Abatement Committee Chair by December 1.

The areas for inspection are:

1. Anna, Melissa, Weston
2. Blue Ridge, Farmersville, Valdosta
3. Celina
4. Frisco
5. Lavon, Parker, Wylie
6. McKinney
7. McKinney Downtown

8. Plano
9. Plano Downtown

At the December meeting the Commission will vote on the committee's recommendations based on the inspection results.

Historic Assets Survey (HAS): It was suggested that all State and County Markers information should be submitted to get on the HAS map. The issue was also raised for the need to look to the future **before** development encroaches on land within the county.

Preservation Celebration: Janet Stovall met with Jennifer Wakefield and the Wylie Historical Society. Another meeting is planned for December 1 as well as a meeting in January 2022. Preservation Celebration 2022-Wylie is scheduled for April 30, 2022. St. Anthony's Catholic Church will be the venue. Some of the expenses have been determined. Other ideas that were mentioned were combining with other events for Wylie's 130th birthday, possible television coverage and having the Gallegher House marker dedication on the same day.

Educational Programs/Children's Programs: Essay Contest Winners were announced at the Coalition meeting held in October. Landon Johnson, age 7, from Anna and Sophie Hardt, age 15, from Prosper were this year's winners. Landon and Sophie's articles will appear in the next issue of the Weston Post.

Future contest ideas mentioned include a student produced video, such as an advertisement for a museum, a poetry contest or an art contest.

It was suggested the Education committee have a section on the county website with details to keep the public aware of future contests and other information.

Oral Histories: Nathan White had lunch with John Brooks, administrator for the Old Plano Facebook page, which highlights Plano's past. Nathan is looking for any other county communities that might have people like John Brooks. Jim Foster from Wylie was mentioned.

Workshops: There is a workshop hosted by the Texas Historical Commission (THC) on November 30, at the Old Courthouse in McKinney (MPAC), from 10-12. Registration is required. The Texas Historical Commission is developing the Texas Statewide Historic Preservation Plan for the next decade and seeks involvement from all communities and stakeholders in the state. Through March 2022, the THC will host in-person and virtual public forums in which Texans can reflect on preservation accomplishments, share information about existing challenges and those on the horizon, and recommend steps to save the real places and real stories of Texas. The process will empower local communities, organizations, and individuals to action.

Future Agenda Items: Colin Kimball will have a proclamation for the Throckmorton statue. At our January 2022 meeting he will seek signatures to send with the proclamation to the Texas Historical Commission.

Adjourned: 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jan Thatcher, Secretary