



Travis County Historical Commission

The regular meeting of the Travis County Historical Commission was held on Wednesday, February 8, 2012, at 5:30 p.m. in the Commissioners' Courtroom of the Granger Building, Austin, Texas. Chairman Barry Hutcheson called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. and declared that a quorum was present.

Attendance: Members present were Patti Hansen, Adrienne Isom, Rosemary Morrow, Barry Hutcheson, Nora Jackson, Bill Beare, David White, Margie Alford, Nancy Hamilton, May Schmidt and Marty Moulthrop. Absent: Vonnye Rice-Gardner, Margarine Beaman, Carolyn Jones and Sarah Harriman. Guest: Joe Pacheco.

Citizen Communications: May introduced Mr. Joe Pacheco, who has created a digital version of "The Defender 1936", which is a yearbook-style record of Travis County rural schools and PTAs. (This is a searchable pdf file.) He worked from a hard copy of the book owned by Mr. Joe Calvo, who plans to donate it to the Commission. Mr. Pacheco demonstrated his digitized version to the members and offered it to us for publication on our website. The members expressed their thanks to Mr. Pacheco and plan to arrange a meeting to accept the book from Mr. Calvo, at the same time honoring both gentlemen. Rosemary noted that TSHA has a website, "Portal of Texas", where information on Texas history can be researched, and that this new digital version of The Defender would be a good addition.

Report from the Chair: Barry announced that a new member has been appointed by Commissioner Margaret Gomez. He is Judge Bob Perkins, who will begin attending meetings next month. Two potential members have been recommended by Commissioner Ron Davis and will be invited to come to next month's meeting. It was the concensus of the members that we need to have an information sheet for new members outlining their duties, the range of our activities, and meeting schedules. A packet should be put together for prospective members and include an application, a copy of the by-laws, FAQs, etc. An ad hoc committee consisting of Margie Alford, Patti Hansen and Sarah Harriman will get to work on this.

Treasurer's Report: Nancy noted that if we don't use the funds in the marker category of our budget, we can transfer some monies to other line items, such as equipment. David reminded the members that an auger would come in handy for digging post holes for new markers; he estimates this would run around \$300. Other tools may be needed for the marker cleaning project. A copy of the Treasurer's Report is attached to the record copy of these minutes.

Research Committee: May reported that a 2011 marker for the Maxey Cemetery has been approved, revised by the sponsor and sent to the foundry. All applications submitted by the Travis CHC were approved by the THC at their quarterly meeting. The fees for the Westgate, Pflugerville ISD and Edward Clark house have been paid. Two others, Zavala School and Pease

School are in the payment pipeline. Regarding a possible marker for the Confederate Pension Fund, the THC has suggested ways to strengthen the marker content. As soon as the sponsors decide what to do, they will submit additional research and payment. A meeting has been scheduled to discuss a marker application for the Haskell House in Clarksville for next year. May has also heard from the Lakeway Heritage Center about a possible marker application for next year.

Projects Committee: Bill is making progress on the history of the Travis CHC.

Barry is expecting to complete his revision of the by-laws by April 21.

Patti noted that there is not much of interest on the website right now – the 2010 marker dedications are still there. David will send in photos from the 2011 dedications. Patti asked for calendar items, such as meeting dates, for the website.

Patti is going to get a digital record of the most recent essay contest from Vonnye.

The African American schools project ought to be completed soon. Barry will give the materials he has to Margarine and pictures will be added to the Word document. It was noted that the County printing office works on projects like this.

Public Relations: Margie stated that we should plan to honor Messrs. Pacheco and Calvo at our next regular meeting. She will find out if the County has certificates that we could use. Regarding Camp Mabry, Margie and Barry met with the architectural historian and walked through two of the newly restored buildings there. Members expressed great interest in a tour at Mabry some Saturday afternoon and Margie will set this up.

CLG Committee: Bob made a plea to the members for help with the Webberville survey on February 21, 22, and 23, two shifts each day. He will send out an email about this. He also reported that Dale Flatt and Danny Camacho are both interested in becoming members. Bob met with UT faculty and staff who are working on the Austin history website; they want to come to one of our meetings to talk about it and get help from us.

On March 24th at Oakwood Cemetery, several Austin historical groups are sponsoring “Six Degrees of Connection” to get visitors interested in local history. Volunteers are needed to staff a table, possibly handing out TCHC bookmarks, as well as other information. The hours are 10 am to 5 pm.

Announcements: Austin History Center is presenting “Windows on the Past” to help people learn how to find information for research. Barry has been asked to speak on how to apply for a historical marker.

Author Liz Carmack will be signing her new book on the history of Rodeo Austin at 5:30 on March 8th at the Driskill Hotel.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Marty Moulthrop, Recording Secretary

Travis County Historical Commission
February 8, 2012 Treasurer's Report

Wells Fargo Bank

Balance February 8, 2012 is \$1995.42

Travis County 2012 account totals \$1942, distributed as follows:

1-1700-639-30-13 (Communications and equipment)

Jan. Balance \$345

1-1700-639-30-99 (Other equipment and supplies) unchanged

Jan. Balance \$57

1-1700-639-60-23 (Postal / Freight Out)

Jan. Balance \$0

1-1700-639-60-99 (Other purchased Services)

Jan. Balance \$0

1-1700-639-65-03 (Travel, meals and lodging)

Jan. Balance \$100

1-1700-639-65-04 (Training and seminars)

Jan. Balance \$200

[1-1700-639-90-01 (Co. Contribution to Grants)

Jan. Balance \$0]

1-1700-639-75-08 (Markers)

Jan. Balance \$1240.00

Nancy Hamilton,
Treasurer