



## Travis County Historical Commission

The regular meeting of the Travis County Historical Commission was held on Wednesday, April 11, 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 5:24 p.m. and a quorum was declared.

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

Barry introduced author Liz Carmack whose new book is titled "Rodeo Austin". Begun in 1940, the rodeo now gives about \$400,000 in scholarships each year. Ms. Carmack discussed how the book came to be and the various changes the rodeo has undergone through the decades.

Minutes: The minutes of March 14 were approved on a motion by Bob Perkins and seconded by May Schmidt.

Treasurer's Report: Nancy reported that there are no changes from last month. The County will notify us of our budget for the new fiscal year later this month; it will likely be the same as it is now. On the subject of acquiring an auger for help in installing marker posts, David noted that the \$400 model he previously mentioned is of lesser quality and that he has found one for \$500 that is better. He will send the estimates to Nancy for forwarding to the County for approval. Nancy reported that a check has been received from the Austin Ethnic History Association in the amount of \$3021.63. This is from the bequest of the late Jeanette Flachmeier that specified that monies from her estate be used for an essay contest on history for school children. It was the consensus that the check should be deposited and AEHA be notified that the essay contest is now done at the collegiate level.

Research Committee: May reported that the marker for the Maxey Cemetery (2011) has been received by the sponsors and they are planning a dedication ceremony. The 2012 marker for the Westgate Condominiums site is already at the foundry. A location for the Mitchell House marker still has not been determined. This year's applications for Untold Markers must be in by June 1. Local possibilities include St. Mary's Church in Pflugerville, Holy Cross Parish Community in Austin, and Haskell House in Clarksville.

### Projects Committee:

TCHC History: Bill Beare is present today (Welcome back, Bill!).

By-Laws Revision: Barry is completing his work on this project.

TCHC website: Patti noted that three recent marker dedications are being added to the website: Merriltown Cemetery, Littig Cemetery and the Confederate Veterans' Home site. Included will be the marker text for each, as well as photos.

Essay Contest: no report.

African American Schools: no report.

Marker Committee: David will work with the Maxey Cemetery sponsors if needed.

Public Relations Committee: Margie is working on a date for the Camp Mabry award. The certificates for Mr. Pacheco and Mr. Calvo for the donation of "The Defender" have been submitted to County Archivist and Commissioner Gomez for completion.

CLG Committee: Bob Ward reported good progress on the Webberville project; the interviews are ongoing and are proving to be very interesting.

A check has been received to help with work on the Ransom Williams site from the Travis County Archeological Society.

The recent history day at Oakwood Cemetery, "Six Degrees of Connection", was a good beginning, but the organizers are hoping for a bigger turnout next year.

Announcements: Planning for Travis County History Day has begun. The theme will be "Travis County Then and Now" and the tentative date is October 26<sup>th</sup>.

Bob Perkins noted that the information in "The Defender" regarding Menchaca Road is incorrect. It was also misspelled in the first edition of The Handbook of Texas (1952) and has been spelled incorrectly as Manchaca ever since.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marty Moulthrop