



## Travis County Historical Commission

The regular meeting of the Travis County Historical Commission was held on Wednesday, November 13, 2013, in Multifunction Room C, 700 Lavaca Building, Austin, Texas. Chairman Bob Ward called the meeting to order at 5:30 and declared a quorum present.

Attendance: Present were Danny Camacho, May Schmidt, Jeannette Cook, Bill Beare, Nora Jackson, Marty Moulthrop, Adrienne Rison-Isom, Patti Hansen, Shawn Malone, Bob Perkins, Barry Hutcheson, Bob Ward, Rosemary Morrow, and Teri Flack. Marjorie Alford, David White, Margarine Beaman, Vonnye Rice-Gardner, and Nancy Hamilton were absent.

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the meeting on October 9, 2013 was made by Rosemary Morrow, seconded, and approved.

Report from the Chair: Progress continues on gaining access to two ranches on Old San Antonio Road where properties of historic interest will soon be developed into residential and commercial subdivisions. Bob Ward, Bob Perkins and Shawn Malone plan to visit the properties to record moving and still images of the yet-to-be-paved scenery. Access to one of the ranches may be granted in December; efforts to enter the second ranch continue.

Chairman Ward congratulated May Schmidt on the successful Archeology Day event at the French Legation, attended by more than 300 people.

Chairman Ward reported that historic six houses on Rainey Street are still in the process of being relocated by the developer of the property. A plaque saying where they came from and what they are is being discussed as part of the relocation plan.

The surreal saga of the Mt. Bonnell plaque entered a new chapter, with the West Point Society taking its campaign to the state Legislature. Chairman Ward met with State Representative Elliott Naishtat about getting the Travis County delegation involved. May Schmidt moved that Chairman Ward be fully authorized to represent the official position of the Travis County Historical Commission in all matters. Judge Perkins seconded the motion, which was approved.

The Pease School Registered Texas Historic Landmark event on November 6 was a great success; Bob Ward again congratulated May Schmidt on her participation and provided Marty Moulthrop with a CD containing pictures taken at the event.

Treasurer's Report: No change from last month.

Research Committee: Commission member Teri Flack reported that no more new applications had been received since last month. She noted that the Holy Cross Catholic Church and Community marker application had been “beefed up” and submitted.

Special Projects Committee: Patti Hansen said that the Special Projects Committee continued its work on documenting the history of the Travis County Historical Commission. Bill Beare will make a five-minute presentation for the Commission at the January 2014 meeting.

An email from Vonnye Rice-Gardner was distributed, confirming that date for the ACC Essay Contest Event would be Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>.

Chairman Ward said that all materials regarding the African American Schools project had been received from Margarine Beaman, including the Jane Manaster edits. Adrienne Rison-Isom has a copy of the book so she can review the photos in it.

Public Relations Committee: Marty Moulthrop continued to maintain the listings on the Travis County Historical Commission Website Calendar, including Hudson Bend Historical Marker Rededication Ceremony on November 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 PM, and the Haskell House event (November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2:00 PM). The potential to improve public outreach by updating the Travis County Historical Commission Facebook page was noted. The need to identify additional candidates for the Award of Merit was discussed.

CLG Committee: Barry Hutcheson said that this committee continued to review the proposed by-laws. Patti Hansen moved, and Bob Perkins seconded, that Teri Flack be added to the membership of the CLG Committee, and this motion was approved.

Chairman Ward noted that the southeast Travis County grant contract is pending in the Travis County Purchasing department while legal review is completed. An application for a southwest Travis County grant has been ratified by the Commissioners Court.

Comments and Announcements: Bill Beare suggested that Austin American-Statesman columnist Michael Barnes would be an appropriate recipient of the Travis County Historical Commission Award of Merit. Barry Hutcheson had this comment: The Commission should identify a suitable official repository for its records, possible at the Travis County Archives. May Schmidt announced that the St. Mary's Missionary Baptist Church inscription had been completed and that a dedication ceremony would be scheduled in Pflugerville in February 2014. She also announced that preliminary field work at the Walnut Creek Cemetery had confirmed the

presence of a headstone dated 2013; a follow-up visit will be scheduled. Danny Camacho reported on the ongoing development of the City of Austin master plan for cemeteries and their maintenance. There will be two or three public hearings as the master plan is finalized before it is presented to the Austin City Council for approval. Bob Ward announced that he would email the members of the Travis County Historical Commission about business cards.

Correspondence: Terracon and the Texas Historical Commission sent routine notices and invitations to comment on cell phone towers and similar issues with the potential to impact historic properties.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shawn Malone  
Secretary