



Travis County Historical Commission

The regular meeting of the Travis County Historical Commission was held on Wednesday, December 10, 2014, at 5:30 p.m. in the 700 Lavaca Building, Multifunction Room C, 1st floor, in Austin, Texas.

Commission Chair Bob Ward called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM and declared a quorum present.

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

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the meeting on November 12 was approved.

Introduction of guests: Larry Oakes, the former director of the Texas Historical Commission, attended.

Report from the Chair

Discussion of upcoming and ongoing events:

1. The Chair collected donations in memory of the late Commission member Bill Beare. A memorial service is scheduled for December 20, 2014 at St. John's Episcopal Church at 11:00 AM, with a reception to follow.
2. Members of the Commission met with Assistant County Attorney Mary Etta Gerhardt about conforming the Commission's financial arrangements to a County Attorney finding related to the proposed by-laws. A mechanism to close the Wells Fargo account and deposit the funds in the County treasury will be put into place. Commission member Patti Hansen suggested that a written finding from the County Attorney's office should document that these Wells Fargo funds are to be kept separated from the County's General Fund.
3. A walking tour of Shoal Creek in the spring is being planned.
4. Applications to join (or continue service on) the Travis County Historical Commission are due. At the next meeting, a notary public will be available to complete the conflict of interest affidavit that accompanies the membership application.

Research Committee

Commission member Teri Flack reported that sponsors of the Broken Spoke historical marker application are following up with the Texas Historical Commission; the deadline for approval has been extended due to delayed invoices. The George Washington Glasscock marker is ready to install at Oakwood Cemetery as soon as certain approvals are granted.

Special Projects Committee

The ACC Essay Contest will get under way in the spring of 2015. At the appropriate time, Commission members will be ready to process Bill Beare's papers so that records of historical interest can be preserved. Barry Hutcheson said that as soon as the budget arrangements recommended by the County Attorney have been completed, the Commissioners Court will be ready to approve the proposed by-laws. Bob Ward suggested that a Texas Department of Transportation exhibit under development might be installed at the George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center, according to reports he received from a Carver Center genealogist; Mr. Ward suggested that some kind of exhibit of this type might be appropriate in a Travis County building.

Public Relations Committee

The Travis County Historical Commission Award of Merit was bestowed on Austin American Statesman reporter Michael Barnes on Nov. 18th. A photo of Barnes with the Commission taken that day will be posted on the TCHC website. The next Award of Merit will be presented at the next Travis County History Day; recipients need to be identified over the coming months, with a final decision agreed to by May 2015.

CLG Committee

Mr. Ward reported that the Southeast Travis County Survey Report had not been received.

Announcements & Comments

Mr. Ward saluted Commission member May Schmidt for her work on the archeological review for the Texas Department of Transportation on the widening of FM 1626. He also suggested that the TCHC meeting in March of 2015 might be held at the Travis County Archives instead of downtown during the SXSW music festival. May Schmidt announced that a reception for the next Travis County Judge, Sarah Eckhardt, is scheduled for Friday, Jan. 2, 2015 at 700 Lavaca; the event will also feature the next Precinct 2 Commissioner, Brigid Shea.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Shawn Malone
Secretary