

Calhoun County Historical Commission
Regular Meeting of October 8, 2013
6:30-8:00 p.m. at Calhoun County Library
200 W. Mahan, Port Lavaca, Texas

Minutes of the Secretary

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Mary Belle Meitzen, Chair.

Invocation:

The invocation was given by John Meitzen.

Pledges to the Flags:

John Kassner, Sergeant-at-Arms/Parliamentarian, led the pledges to the United States and Texas flags.

Quorum:

John Kassner certified that there was a quorum present. Those in attendance were as follows:

Cliff Baccus	John Meitzen	Gary Ralston
Jody Brett	Mary Belle Meitzen	Tommy Schulte
John Foester	Myrtle Montier	Walter Spiller
John Kassner	Jim Munro	Phil Thomae
Nelson Marek	Gary Ralston	Sue Thomae
		Florene Windham

Announcement of the Order of Business: The agenda as posted at the Courthouse and on the website was adopted, there being no objection.

Approval of the Minutes of September 10, 2013:

Secretary Sue Thomae stated that the minutes of the meeting of September 10, 2013, were posted on the CCHC website: www.calhouncountyhc.org. The minutes were approved as posted, there being no corrections or additions.

Approval of the Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Phil Thomae reported that the treasurer's report was posted on the CCHC website. There being no corrections or additions, the report was accepted as posted.

Reports of Standing Committees:

Cemetery Committee: John Kassner reported that the committee met on September 12 and set a work day for the Stiernberg Cemetery for November 2nd.

Kassner also reported that designating the Morales and Gladney cemeteries in the Long Mott area as Historic Texas Cemeteries could be possible future projects.

In addition, the application for Little Mary's Grave for the same designation will also be made, the deed to the property having been confirmed as belonging to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). The paperwork along with the appropriate fees will be submitted to the Texas Historical Commission in November and December. Kassner made the motion that the CCHC approve the submission of applications and fees. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Marker Committee: John Foester submitted the Marker Committee report. (The report is posted online.) In summary, the Ed Bell Marker will be unveiled on November 23, 2013, at the Indianola Fishing Camp, after a ceremony of dedication beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the Bauer Exhibit Building. The CCHC will handle the installation at the site.

Foester also reported that the Battle of Norris's Bridge story is complete. The application has been completed and signed by Judge Pfeiffer. Foester moved that the \$100 application fee be approved and the application submitted to the State. The motion was approved on a unanimous vote.

Foester stated that the story of German immigration through Carlshafen (Undertold Story) has been completed and submitted to the State. He also reported that the story for Mission Refugio would not meet the deadline for submission by November 15 and he proposed that it be submitted as an undertold story in the spring.

History Appreciation Committee: The Chair reminded members of the remembrance of the Battle of Norris's Bridge, which will also be the Commission's Christmas party, on December 10, 2013, at the Bauer Exhibit Building. The menu will include steaks and baked potatoes prepared and cooked by Joe Brett at a cost of \$6.00 per person. Members will sign up for bringing side dishes and desserts.

In addition to the pot luck supper of the evening, there will recognition of individuals designated as Member Emeritus for outstanding service to the cause of history in Calhoun County.

Heritage/Tourism: Mary Belle also reported that Joe Brett would enter his vintage vehicle in the Christmas parade to represent the CCHC.

Also, Meitzen reported on the CCHC exhibit at the Fair and the banner produced for that exhibit by Phil Thomae. Members were urged to visit the exhibit and view the work done.

Old Business: Gary Ralston, Chairman, reported on the work done on revision of the CCHC by-laws of the ad hoc committee composed Ralston, Sue Thomae, John Kassner, and Joe Brett. The proposed additions/revisions concerned Article III pertaining to membership and Article VI

relating to committees.

The additions to Article III provide that a member may resign at any time by submitting a written notice to the Secretary of Chairperson of the Commission. The resignation becomes effective upon such receipt or at the time designated in the resignation document. The additions also include the provision that members wanting to be reappointed to the Commission must attend at least three (3) Commission meetings or actively work on a committee, task force, or project.

The revision to Item 2 of Article VI on Committees provides that the Commission Chair shall appoint a nominating committee at the final meeting of even-numbered years. The Commission Chair will designate a Chairman for that committee; said committee will then submit a slate of officers, including Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. That slate will be voted on at the first meeting of odd-numbered years. Also, the nominating committee will have at least three members and select its slate of officer candidates from members who are active at the end of the year the nominating committee is formed.

Program: Chairman Meitzen introduced Michael Hurley, Past Camp Commander George Overton Stoner Camp #1000 Victoria, Texas, who gave a historical appreciation program on the topic "Reenactments."

Commission Input: Chairman Meitzen reminded members of the meeting of the Hispanic Genealogical Society and the presentation at that meeting of the film, "Texas Before the Alamo," a contributor to which was John Foester of the CCHC.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the CCHC will be November 23rd at the Bauer Exhibit Building for the presentation of the Ed Bell Marker and then the unveiling at the Indianola Fishing Center.

Submitted by the Secretary, Sue Thomae



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