

Calhoun County Historical Commission
Regular Meeting of September 10, 2013
6:30-8:00 p.m. at Calhoun County Public Library
200 W. Mahan, Port Lavaca, Texas

Minutes of the Secretary

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Mary Belle Meitzen, Commission Chair, at 6:30 p.m.

Invocation:

The invocation was given by Jim Munro.

Pledges to the Flags:

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

Quorum:

John Kassner, Sergeant-at-Arms/Parliamentarian, certified that there was a quorum present. Those in attendance were as follows:

Joe D. Brett	Nelson Marek	Tommy Schulte
George Anne Cormier	Mary Belle Meitzen	Philip Thomae
John Foester	Jim Munro	Sue Thomae
John Kassner	Gary Ralston	

Order of Business:

The Commission Chair stated that the order of business as stated in the notice of the meeting officially posted at the Courthouse and on the website was accepted, there being no objection.

Approval of the Minutes of August 13, 2013:

Secretary Sue Thomae stated that the minutes of the regular meeting of August 13, 2013, were posted on the CCHC website: www.calhouncountyhc.org. The minutes were approved as posted.

Approval of the Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Phil Thomae stated that the treasurer's report was posted on the CCHC website. There being no objection, the report was accepted as posted.

Reports of Standing Committees:

Archeology Committee:

Plans were discussed for the observation of Texas Archaeology Month in October. The public library has been reserved for a program on October 26, and ideas were presented for that day, with no firm plans adopted. Margaret Charnetski and Nelson Marek are co-chairs for this event.

Cemetery Committee:

John Kassner, Chair, reported that he and Joe Brett will meet with the committee on Thursday, September 12, at the Public Library to plan their next activity. Nelson Marek recommended that an outdoor plaque be purchased for Little Mary's Grave to answer current tourist questions. The Commission voted unanimously to purchase such a marker since approval for a marker will take approximately two years.

County Fair Project:

Philip Thomae recommended that the Commission put up a 40" wide by 30" tall display on foamcore (folded at 20") in the educational exhibits at the county fair. The design of the display features the letterhead of the Commission in order to highlight the accomplishments of the Commission. The expenditure of \$70.50 to execute the display was approved.

Marker Committee:

John Foester, Chair, presented a report of the Marker Committee and its activities. That report is posted online and details the in-progress marker stories and their deadlines, i.e., the Battle of Norris Bridge, German Immigration through Carlshafen, and Mission Refugio. The report also details the markers which are ready for dedication and currently residing at Commissioner Galvan's office, i.e., the Ed Bell Marker, Sgt. Wm. Henry Barnes, Chihuahua Trail, and the World War II marker.

Foester reported that the official dedication for the Ed Bell marker was set for November 23, 2013, at the Bauer Exhibit Building at 1:00 p.m., followed by the unveiling at the marker site at Indianola Fishing Camp.

Museum Committee:

George Anne Cormier reported on the disposition of the bricks from the old jail. She is looking for a removal process, as well as an indoor site for storage of the bricks. Tommy Schulte will check with Bill Harvey of Formosa for help in executing this project.

Cormier also reported on the minerals exhibit at the Museum, as well as the work on making the database for the Indianola diorama carved by Jeff Underwood a searchable one for identification of buildings and lots.

Cormier also reported on the illness of Beulah Cox, her assistant.

History Appreciation:

Jim Munro, Chair, reported that there will be a program at the CCHC meeting on

October 8, 2013, and that the speaker would be Michael Hurley, retired Past Commander, Sons of the Confederacy, George Overton Stoner Camp #1000, who will speak on re-enactments.

Unfinished Business:

- A. Members were presented the Texas Historical Commission 2012 Distinguished Service Award Certificate.
- B. The Chair reviewed plans for the observance of the Battle of Norris Bridge to be held on December 10, 2013.

New Business:

- A. Members discussed participating in the Calhoun County Fair Parade and the City of Port Lavaca Christmas Parade, with no action taken.
- B. The CCHC discussed the awarding of Member Emeritus status to Myrtle Montier, current member. John Kassner made the motion, with Gary Ralston seconding, and the motion was unanimously approved on a voice vote. The designation will be awarded at the October 8 meeting.

Gary Ralston suggested awarding the same status to Charlie Husak, if that action has not already been taken.

- C. Chairman Meitzen discussed the criteria for volunteer hours as discussed by Amy Hammons of the THC, who said that the Commission needed 50 hours per commission member to receive the distinguished service award. CCHC will need 1,900 hours to qualify, placing a burden on active members to make up for those who do not fulfill their responsibilities.
- D. The Chair appointed a committee to present recommendations at the October 8th meeting concerning the present by-laws. Gary Ralston will chair the committee, with members being Sue Thomae, John Kassner, and Joe Brett.

Commission Input:

No input was presented.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the CCHC will be October 8, 2013, at the Calhoun County Public Library.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

