

**Calhoun County Historical Commission**  
Regular Meeting of July 1, 2014  
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 the Chair, Mary Belle Meitzen, at 6:30 p.m.

**Invocation:**

The invocation was given by John Kassner.

**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:

George Anne Cormier	Mary Belle Meitzen	Tommy Schulte
John Kassner	Jim Munro	Phil Thomae
Steve Koch	Gary Ralston	Sue Thomae
Robert Loflin		

**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 May 13, 2014:**

Secretary Sue Thomae stated that the minutes of the meeting of May 13, 2014, were posted on the CCHC website: [www.calhouncountyhc.org](http://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.

The Treasurer also reported that the money received by the CCHC from Commissioners Court has been depleted, with only \$3.00 remaining.

## **New Business:**

Chairman Meitzen reported that the Executive Committee had met at the Half Moon Reef Lighthouse for the purpose of examining the structure for needed repairs. Meitzen reported that David Bunch, owner of Get Er Done, had submitted a bid for \$625 for those repairs. Robert Loflin moved that the Commission approve the bid as submitted; George Anne Cormier seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Commission discussed the necessity for doing repairs annually to forestall further problems. Members recommended an annual evaluation and repairs.

## **Recognition of CCHC for the Texas Historical Commission 2013 Distinguished Service Award:**

Chairman Meitzen reported that the Calhoun County Historical Commission had received the 2013 Distinguished Service Award from the Texas Historical Commission at the June 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of Commissioners Court. The award is based in part on the service hours of Commission members. Secretary Sue Thomae reported that the 2013 award had been based on approximately 3,290 hours; she also stated that members as of July 1, 2014, had reported a total of approximately 1,870 hours.

## **Reports of Standing Committees:**

**Marker Committee:** Chairman Meitzen reported on the successful completion of the Historical Scavenger Hunt on May 24, 2014, as well as the installation on May 26<sup>th</sup> at the Calhoun County Courthouse of the World War II marker, which was well attended. She also reported that the dedication of the Sgt. William Barnes marker as part of the Calhoun Citizens in Action celebration of Juneteenth on June 21 was well received and the event well attended also.

Meitzen reminded the Commission that the dedication of the Chihuahua Trail marker would take place on July 12 at the Bauer Exhibit Building. The dedication will be preceded by a meet-and-greet at Cathy's Too restaurant on Friday night at 6:00 p.m. on July 11. Invitations to interested parties for the gathering and for the dedication ceremony were sent by the Chair.

Members discussed the need for a public address system for the dedication on July 12. John Kassner moved, and Steve Koch seconded, that the Commission rent such equipment for the occasion. The motion passed unanimously. Gary Ralston will pick up the equipment from the rental firm.

Meitzen also stated that she would secure the services of an organization such as the Coast Guard to serve as a flag detail for the dedication.

Chairman Meitzen also reported that the Ed Bell marker at Indianola needed to be re-installed now that the damage has been repaired.

**Museum:**

George Anne Cormier reported the following:

- The marker for the Sunlight Girls will arrive on July 2<sup>nd</sup> and will be stored in the museum until it can be installed at its site by the appropriate county commissioner.
- A Corpus Christi resident contacted the Chamber of Commerce to report that a headstone for William Blardone had been found at her residence. John Kassner and his wife will retrieve the headstone and return it to Port Lavaca.
- The museum is developing plans for the observance of Texas Archaeology Month in October.

**Green Lake Project:**

The CCHC discussed the progress of the project.

**Lavaca Cannon Battery Silhouette:**

Gary Ralston will pick up the sculpture in Jal, New Mexico, on July 3, and transport it to Port Lavaca. Representatives of the City will evaluate the methods necessary for installation and then install the sculpture at the Bayfront Peninsula.

**Texas Department of Transportation Mitigation Letter:**

Chairman Meitzen reported reception of a letter from TxDOT relative to a project of identifying significant bridges, such as the causeway, in the state for inclusion in a historical register. Open meetings on July 29 in New Braunfels and July 14 in Galveston will be held for discussion of the project. Jim Munro will attend to represent the CCHC.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the CCHC will be Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014, in the meeting room of the Calhoun County Public Library.

**Submitted by the Secretary, Sue Thomae**

*Sue Thomae*

Calhoun County Historical Commission