

Calhoun County Historical Commission
Regular Meeting of May 13, 2014
6:30-8:00 p.m. at Calhoun High School Library
201 Sandcrab Boulevard, Port Lavaca, Texas

Minutes of the Secretary

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mary Bell Meitzen at 6:30 p.m.

Invocation:

The invocation was given by John Meitzen.

Pledges to the Flags:

John Kassner, Sergeant-at-Arms/Parliamentarian, led the Commission in 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:

Jody Brett	Nelson Marek	Gary Ralston
George Anne Cormier	John Meitzen	Walter Spiller
Peggy Dobbins	Mary Belle Meitzen	Philip Thomae
John Kassner	Jim Munro	Sue Thomae

Announcement of the Order of Business: The agenda as posted at the Courthouse and on the website was adopted, there being no objection. Chairman Meitzen thanked Sue Thomae, Librarian, for the use of the CHS Library for this meeting because of the unavailability of the public library's meeting room.

Approval of the Minutes of April 8, 2014:

Secretary Sue Thomae stated that the minutes of the meeting of April 8, 2014, were posted on the CCHC website: www.calhouncountyhc.org. The minutes were approved as posted, reflecting the correction that Mary Belle Meitzen was not a member of the Texas Archaeological Society.

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.

Consider/Take Action:

Lavaca Cannon Battery Silhouette: Gary Ralston reported that the Trull Foundation had granted the Commission the amount of \$1,000 to be paid by May 15, 2014. The total cost of the sculpture is \$3,600, the balance of which will be paid from the Commission funds. The artist producing the sculpture is working on it at the present time; that work can be viewed on his Facebook page, which can be accessed through the Indianola website.

Discussion followed as to the mechanics of paying the amount necessary, with no resolution reached although the treasurer and the chair will resolve the issue.

Historical Scavenger Hunt: Chairman Meitzen gave the report prepared by John Foester, Chairman of the Scavenger Hunt Committee, on the preparations for the event scheduled for May 24, Saturday. The details of registration and conduct of the hunt, as well as clues are all available on the CCHC website. At present 12 students were registered for the scavenger hunt.

According to report by Chairman Foester, the event will take place in three areas: Six Mile Park, where fossils discovered in the area will be displayed, along with the mammoth target for the student participants using the *atlatl*; the Bayfront Park, where students will bombard a replica of the Union ship, the *Westfield*; the Calhoun County Museum, where there will be additional scavenger hunt questions. After the hunt, the students and volunteers will be served hot dogs, cooked by Gary Ralston. In addition, the winners of the hunt will be awarded prizes of silver coins.

Reports of Standing Committees:

Marker Committee: The World War II marker will be dedicated on May 26, 2014, in a joint celebration with the Memorial Day observance and ground-breaking ceremony at the site of the proposed Bayfront Marina Veterans Memorial. Chairman Meitzen and George Anne Cormier will send invitations to the event, at which County Judge Mike Pfeiffer will accept the marker, which has been installed at the Courthouse.

The unveiling of the marker will take place at the Courthouse after the ground-breaking, with Mary Beth Rabenaldt and Dr. James Record, representatives of the Miller family who had land at Indianola which became Camp Indianola during World War II.

Also, the Sgt. William Barnes marker will be dedicated at the June 21st celebration of Juneteenth in George Adams Park, after which the marker will be unveiled at Indianola Cemetery.

The Chihuahua Trail Marker will be dedicated on July 12, 2014, in a ceremony at the Bauer Exhibit Building.

The Marker Committee also reported that the Ed Bell Marker will be re-installed.

Cemetery Committee Report: John Kassner gave the Cemetery Committee report, which is posted online.

Green Lake: Nelson Marek will give a report on the Green Lake project presently underway, as it relates to any archaeological significance, at the next meeting of the CCHC.

Museum Report: George Anne Cormier reported on the activities presently taking place, including labeling items for the La Salle Odyssey, the soda bottles collection, the components of the minerals show, as well as a visit to the Coastal Bend Museum to view the reconstruction of faces of human remains, such as the one of Dead Bob, found on La Salle's ship, the *Amiable*.

Little Mary's Grave: Walter Spiller reported on his research on the titles to the land where Little Mary's grave is located.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the CCHC will be August 12th, 2014, at the Calhoun County Public Library's meeting room. No regular meetings are scheduled for June and July.

Submitted by the Secretary, Sue Thomae



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