

Calhoun County Historical Commission

Minutes: November 12, 2024

Calhoun County Historical Commission met November 12, 2024, at the Calhoun County Library, 200 West Mahan, Port Lavaca, Texas. Chairman Robert Loflin called the meeting to order. In attendance were Gary Ralston, John Foester, Vicki Cox, Wesley Abraham, Robert Loflin, Mary Meitzen, Edward Tyler, Steve Koch. Invocation was given by Mary Belle Meitzen. Pledges of Allegiance were led by Robert Loflin. Guest Kieth Hubbard was introduced. Minutes, October 8, 2024, were posted online and approved. Treasurer's report remained the same as October 1, 2024 with Account Balance \$34,678.42 and Budget \$9,828.13. Treasurer Gary Ralston will add funds to the Historical Commission House Account at the County Clerk's Office .

THC Correspondence included Amy Walton contacting CC Museum Vicki Cox and Mary Belle Meitzen for suggestions for midcentury architecture in Calhoun County from 1930-1970. List mailed to her. Amy requested additional information on Memorial Hospital. THC Cemetery Tours, "Engaging Community through Tales Tombstones Tell" was watched by Mary Belle Meitzen and Port Lavaca City Manager Jody Weaver on October 29, 2024. Gary Ralston reported Victoria Precision Products had been contacted for 140 pavers bid. Edward Tyler is obtaining a bid for his site. Steve Koch reported Little Mary Cemetery needs mowing. Robert Loflin with Steve's help will mow it.

Keith Hubbard has been refinishing Indianola Markers. Matagorda Lighthouse Marker has been installed. Waiting for a dedication date from Sue Glover or Brent Hart. No change in Clark Station or Fisheries Markers. John Foester read the Undertold Marker, "Townsite of LaSalle" which was submitted to THC on November 11, 2024. Steve Koch recommended that Texas Parks and Wildlife be informed. Gary Ralston reported Joe D. Brett had mowed the Weyers-McGuire Cemetery. John Foester explained how the location of the three cemeteries had been found from an 1857 map overlay. GPS Survey indicated multiple graves. Wesley Abraham asked about the Olivia Wilson Cemetery where the graves had been moved. Suggested he look on the THC Atlas to see if the cemetery was listed. Ranger Cemetery update indicates no change marking property lines. City of Port Lavaca continues to use red plastic streamers.

Edward Tyler gave a Half Moon Reef Lighthouse report. Port Lavaca City Manager Jody Weaver, Derrick Smith, Edward Tyler, CC Precinct 3 Commissioner Joel Behrens, and CCHC Mary Belle Meitzen met October 16, 2024. The City agreed to remove the paint and Commissioner Behrens agreed to paint the lighthouse, repair boards, and build walkway. CCISD is going to build a handicap ramp with materials provided by City. Mary Belle Meitzen will share plans with the First National Bank. Gary Ralston reported that the Olivia Silhouette Project is at CCHS and will be a Friday project. Matagorda Beach Cistern project is complete. Green Lake Park Committee continues to work on plans. Steinberg Cemetery Eagle Scout Project halted during the summer heat and is resuming. Cemetery guidelines and Health and Safety Codes were given to Assistant Scout Leader Shirley Shirhall.

CC Museum Director Vicki Cox reported eighteen children with total thirty-two people participated in the educational Scavenger Hunt. Robert Loflin moved Calhoun County Museum use the Gift Shop Donation Fund to help pay for operations expenses. Second by Mary Meitzen. Motion carried. Chairman Robert Loflin appointed the 2024 Nominating Committee: Chairman John Foester, Gary Ralston, and Larry Nichols to report on December 10, 2024. Membership registration forms will be emailed. Additional members may be added. Memberships are approved by the Commissioner's Court. Discussed Phil and Sue Thomae receiving Member Emeritus. Calhoun County Historical Commission By-Laws, ARTICLE III: Membership "Member Emeritus status is available to members who have made significant contributions to the CCHC, and who are unable for any reason to continue as active members. Nominations can be considered at any meeting and will be approved by a two-third vote of those present."

Chairman Robert Loflin adjourned the meeting. Next meeting will be December 10, 2024.