

McLennan County Historical Commission

Minutes – February 14, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ken Brittain. A proof of posting was demonstrated and a quorum was present. Those present were: Ken Brittain, Clint Lynch, Greta Watson, Sean Sutcliffe, John Kamenec, Walter Lavender, George Bird, Jacquelyn Lipski, and Connie Mayfield. Also present was perspective member Charles Barrow.

After beginning the meeting, Chairman Brittain announced that long time member and current secretary, Barbara Santos has resigned from the Commission due to health restrictions. Barbara will be a greatly missed. It was also noted that longtime member, Dorothy Bates, had passed away. Dorothy had served on the commission up until late 2018.

- Adoption of Minutes - George Bird moved for approval and Walt Lavender seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

The order of the agenda was suspended to better serve some of the members who had to leave early.

- Commission Meeting Time –Chairman Brittain is concerned due to the loss of several key members who cannot attend due to work restrictions. He proposed to the commission the idea of having meetings – on a trial basis – on a Saturday morning or an evening. After discussion, it was decided to try to have the next meeting on March 16th. The location has yet to be determined. Again, this will only be on a trial basis. A motion was made by George Bird to move the next meeting to Saturday, March 14, 2019. The motion was seconded by Walter Lavender. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Torrey Trading Post #2 Kiosk – unfortunately, the commission was dealt a blow when Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) told us we cannot build our Kiosk on the right-of-way on Highway 6, as they do not allow “buildings” on right-of-ways. In order to circumvent TxDOT’s decision, Chairman Brittain asked John Kamenec to help by looking into the possibility of obtaining an easement from the owner of the nearby property and construct the kiosk there. John will report his findings at the next meeting.
- Moving of Waco Tornado Marker – At the previous meeting, the commission moved to allow for the removal and relocation of the marker, subject to the approval of the Texas Historical Commission. Once all parties have signed, then the marker can be relocated.
- Spring Bus Tour – Chairman Brittain opened the discussion about having another Bus Tour. The general consensus of the members present was the need for proper advertising and enough time to create a general interest. The bus tour last year did not make, due to the lack of awareness. Costs involved last year was \$350.00 for a single advertisement, which was not near enough to generate the number of attendees needed.

- Treasurers Report – Newly appointed treasurer Jackie Lipski presented the treasurer’s report. Please see the attached. Jackie also discussed the need for reimbursements or payments for provisions need to be run through her. She has a form that must be filled out and submitted to the County Auditor’s Office. Those in need of the form can email Jackie for a copy. Walt Lavender motioned for the approval of the Treasurer’s Report and George Bird seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Dr. Pepper Museum Marker and St. Francis Catholic Church Marker- Commission Member Robert Gamboa requested to have these items placed on the agenda. However, he was unable to attend. The items were tabled for another meeting.
- Heart of Texas Regional History Fair – Thursday, February 14, 2019 was the “kick off” for the Regional History Fair at Baylor. At an earlier meeting, the commission voted to supply \$300 in gift cards for awards for participants whose projects were related to McLennan County history or whose research was supported through records held in McLennan County. Chairman Brittain and Treasurer Lipski both agreed to judge the projects and present the awards.
- Katy Ball Park Marker – The Commission has received permission to place the marker from Clint Peters, Director, Planning Services, City of Waco. John Kamenec and Watson Arnold have been tasked with writing the text for the marker.
- Lecture Series – Clint Lynch and Sean Sutcliffe have been working on the lecture series and recommended that instead of putting on our own, we partner with Historic Waco Foundation (HWF) – like we did in the fall of 2018. The combination of the two organizations proved to be a great benefit. The members present agreed and decided to use the \$300 stipend for our speaker to go towards a co-sponsorship with the Historic Waco Foundation. It was also mentioned that our cooperation with HWF could help us with the possible upcoming Bus Tour. We can take advantage of their extensive membership roster and social media talents.
- Committee Reports –
 - Project Committee – Watson Arnold was not able to attend – No Report
 - Medallion – Sean Sutcliffe – No Report
 - Marker Committee – Clint Lynch – No Report
 - Texas Treasurers – Mimi Irwin was not present, but Connie Mayfield reported on her behalf. The couple, who owns the next local business to be recognized is Lorena’s Lamplighter. The couple has received the designation. There was discussion to coordinate the ceremony with the upcoming Wine and Cheese Festival in May.

There were no announcements and the Chairman entertained a motion to adjourn. George Bird motioned and Walt Lavender seconded. The vote was unanimous.