

McLennan County Historical Commission
Minutes – March 16, 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, Laura Ward, Walter Lavender, George Bird, Watson Arnold, Thomas DeShong, Robert Gamboa. Guest and prospective member Byron Johnson, director of the Texas Ranger Museum.

Chairman Brittain began the meeting and read a thank you letter from one of the winners of the History Fair. There was also a prayer/moment of silence for Mimi Irwin.

Adoption of Minutes:

George Bird moved for approval and Greta Watson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Jacquelyn Lipski was not present; however, the budget worksheet was given and as of today's meeting the balance in the account is \$14,198.00.

George Bird moved to approve the minutes and Clint Lynch seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Torrey Trading Post #2 Marker and Sign:

Chairman Brittain and John Kamenec spoke about the new location of the sign and marker and discussion followed on how to contact the owners or elders of the church. There are actually two churches near that location. The board discussed how we can legally lease or buy the land for the marker. Right now, the property value is \$1120.00. A survey would be needed. Discussion also included the history of the trading post as it relates to sensitive subjects. Another topic was discussed that Txdot would build a road so people could safely stop and view the marker at the location selected.

Clint Lynch moved to go view the property and decide options for the specific location. Greta Watson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Bluebonnet Plant Marker:

Clint Lynch and Arnold Watson discussed the letter of rejection for the Bluebonnet Plant Marker. It will be resubmitted. The Grange marker was approved.

Heart of Texas Regional History Fair:

Tom DeShong reported that over 200 projects and 300 students participated in the fair. The committee discussed that next year, the board could refine language with McLennan County

emphasis and offer 6 awards of \$50; individual winners instead of group. It was decided that DeShong should be the head of the annual event.

Moving the Waco Tornado Marker:

Creative Waco asked Brittain to move the marker on the corner of 5th and Austin will be moved to 4th Street on Austin. After emailing information back and forth, this is still in process thus no action is required.

Katy Ballpark Marker:

Brittain reported that the City of Waco has approved it on 8th St between Jackson and Webster. September 1st will be the date to submit application for marker. John Kamenec and Watson Arnold will be in charge of writing the narrative. Brittain reported that there are people who are interested in donating money for this marker. No action needed as vote has already been taken.

Lecture Series:

Clint Lynch reported the next lecture will be over the Gildersleeve book written by Jeff Hunt and John Wilson.

To co-sponsor with Historic Waco, it will cost the committee \$300; however, all agreed that this partnership would give the MCHC great exposure and make the public aware of our work.

Spring Bus Tour:

Ken Brittain discussed the tour that would cover the central part of Waco. Clint Lynch stated that Historic Waco would like to help in this tour and suggested lunch at one of the historical houses. Byron Johnson from the Texas Ranger Museum stated that his museum could give coupons for free admission or other incentives.

However, it was decided that there would not be a spring bus tour.

George Bird moved to postpone the tour until Historic Waco and MCHC could investigate for the fall. Clint Lynch seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Medallion - Sean Sutcliffe – no report to give

Project Committees – Watson Arnold – no report to give

Marker Committee – Clint Lynch – no report to give

Texas Treasures – Connie Mayfield was not present; no report given

New Members:

Ken Brittain presented the new members' names: Shirley Woodlock, Charles Barrow, Dinah Mills, and Byron Johnson. George Bird made a motion to accept the new members with Clint Lynch seconded. Motion carried.

There were no announcements and Greta Watson moved to adjourn the meeting; Walter Lavender seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Submitted by Laura Ward
MCHC Secretary