

## McLennan County Historical Commission

### Minutes for August 17, 2019

*Proof of posting* was established in accordance with the Government Code, Chapter 551 (known as the Open Meetings Act), and the meeting was called to order by Chairman Ken Brittain.

A **Quorum** was established with the following members present: George Bird, Ken Brittain, Thomas DeShong, Byron Johnson, John Kamenec, Walter Lavender, Jacquelyn Lipski, Clint Lynch, Connie Mayfield, Sean Sutcliffe, and Greta Watson.

**Meeting was opened** by Ken Brittain who officially called the meeting to order at 9:04.

**Minutes of the meeting** of July 20, 2019 were approved with a motion by Jacquelyn Lipski which was seconded by George Bird. The motion passed.

**The Treasurer's report** was presented by Jacquelyn Lipski. The two dubious charges to the commission's account are still being investigated by the county's auditor. Ken Brittain reported that the commission's annual budget of \$17,300 had been approved in full. The treasurer's report was approved with a motion by George Bird and seconded by Clint Lynch. The motion passed.

#### **Agenda items included the following:**

- **County School History Project:** Connie Mayfield reports that there have been no new developments. However, she is encouraging several individuals involved in the project to work more closely with the commission.
- **Torrey Trading Post:** Greta Watson, chair of the Budget & Finance Committee, presented a report detailing the committee's concerns relating to the establishment of an information kiosk for the Torrey Trading Post. The committee's concerns included property taxes, ownership of the land, the design and content of the kiosk, building materials, installation, and maintenance. The commission accepted the report unanimously. Sean Sutcliffe asked the commission if this was the best medium to educate the public on the trading post and proposed a video project as a viable alternative. Several members were in agreement regarding the return on investment. George Bird made a motion, seconded by Clint Lynch, to table the installment of a kiosk and to focus instead on the production of an educational video. The motion passed.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Marker Committee-Clint Lynch:** Clint affirmed that the company that used to produce historical markers has been purchased and will no longer be making them. The Texas Historical Commission is awaiting bids for a replacement vendor. Clint then asked the commission to review language for a marker for the Santa Cruz Cemetery. The application had been underway since 2016 and was awaiting local commission approval. Clint made a motion, seconded by Byron Johnson, to accept the text of the marker. The motion passed. Clint also mentioned that he will be speaking with Nathaniel Haynes concerning the possibility of a historical marker for Chapel Hill Baptist Church in Waco.

**Medallion Committee-Sean Sutcliffe:** Sean reported that the Lee Lockwood Library and Museum is celebrating its 50th anniversary next month and that a medallion should be secured for the celebration. Connie Mayfield proposed that the medallion be presented at the September 24th lecture. Sean made a motion, seconded by Connie, to grant the medallion as quickly as possible. The motion passed.

**Projects Committee-Watson Arnold:** No report given.

**Texas Treasures Awards-Dinah Mills:** No report given.

**Website and Public Relations Committee-Clint Lynch:** Clint reported that the contract with the company managing the commission's website has been renewed. Corrections submitted by commission members have been made and the former chair's contact information is being replaced with Ken Brittain's.

**New Business:**

- Clint Lynch informed the commission that it has been named as a defendant in a lawsuit concerning Closner Cemetery in West. The county attorneys have been notified of the situation.

**Announcements:**

- Ken Brittain announced that the 2019 Chisholm Trail Conference will be held in Wichita, Kansas on September 12-14 and encouraged anyone who can to consider attending.
- Ken Brittain announced that two members of the commission have resigned: Laura Ward effective immediately and Jacquelyn Lipski effective in September 2019.
- Clint Lynch reminded the commission that it is co-sponsoring the Historic Waco Foundation's lecture on September 24, 2019 regarding historic land agent Jacob de Cordova.
- Clint Lynch announced Historic Waco Foundation is also hosting a spotlight lecture on the East Waco Little League on October 5, 2019 at the East Waco Library.
- Clint Lynch announced that the Heart of Texas Storytelling Guild will be conducting "Walking Tales" at Oakwood Cemetery on October 19 from 10:00 to 1:00. Clint encouraged members to attend following the October commission meeting.

**Requests for Future Agenda Items:**

- A committee will need to be formed soon to lead the Torrey Trading Post video project.
- Shirley Woodlock will review the Frost School project at the September meeting.
- The commission will need to consider nominations for treasurer at the September meeting.

**Adjournment:** The next meeting will be held on the third Saturday in September (**September 21, 2019 at 9:00 A.M.**) A move to adjourn was made by Greta Watson and seconded by Clint Lynch at 10:24. All in approval.

**Submitted by Thomas A. DeShong, Secretary**