

**McLennan County Historical Commission
Minutes for February 15, 2020**

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 Chair Ken Brittain.

A Quorum was established with the following members present: Watson Arnold, Charles Barrow, Ken Brittain, Thomas DeShong, Amanda Dyer, Robert Gamboa, Byron Johnson, John Kamenec, Walter Lavender, Clint Lynch, Sean Sutcliffe, Greta Watson, and Shirley Woodlock.

Meeting was opened by Ken Brittain who officially called the meeting to order at 9:00.

Minutes of the meeting of January 18, 2020 were approved. A motion was made by Clint Lynch and seconded by Watson Arnold to accept the minutes. The motion passed.

The Treasurer's report was delivered by Charles Barrow. Charles reported that there were no changes to the commission's account totals. There are, however, pending reimbursements of \$106 for the new P.O. box and \$200 for the Heart of Texas Regional History Fair awards. The Treasurer's report was approved with a motion by Walter Lavender that was seconded by Greta Watson. The motion passed.

Agenda items included the following:

- **County School History Project:** Ken Brittain has attempted to contact Connie Mayfield about the project but has been unable to reach her thus far. He will continue trying.
- **P.O. Box for the Commission:** Clint Lynch purchased a new P.O. box (#311) for the commission located at the downtown post office. Both the Chair and Vice Chair will have keys. Clint offered to check on the mail regularly and is having the commission's mailing address updated on the website.
- **Telecommunications Tower in Hewitt:** Ken Brittain reported that he received a letter from the Environmental Corporation of America which is seeking to install a 125-foot-tall tower in Hewitt. The company wanted to ensure there were no historical sites in the area of installation. The commission agreed there were none.
- **Vote on Shirley Woodlock as Chair:** Charles Barrow made a motion, seconded by Watson Arnold, to appoint Shirley Woodlock as Chair of the Texas Treasure Business Award Committee. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Marker Committee-Clint Lynch: Clint reported that the Texas Historical Commission now has a foundry to produce the historical markers. All applications have been released. A marker is underway for Evangelia Settlement on Clay Avenue. It was selected and will be paid for by the Texas Historical Commission, because the institution represents an undertold story.

Medallion Committee-Sean Sutcliffe: Sean reported that there were no new developments but that there are prospects in McGregor in the upcoming months for potential medallions.

Projects Committee-Watson Arnold: Watson had nothing new to report.

Texas Treasure Business Award Committee-Shirley Woodlock: Shirley is excited to step into her new role as Chair of the Texas Treasure Business Award Committee. She reviewed some of the basic rules for application, stating that a business must be 50 years old or older but need not be managed by the same family or even in the same building. The Mercury Tool and Machine is currently under consideration.

Video Committee-Clint Lynch: Clint stated that the Video Committee is moving forward with the project. The group met this past Monday, February 10th, to review Charles Barrow's storyboard thus far. Members have been delegated research tasks concerning the Ranger Museum, New Braunfels, and the Sam Houston Memorial Museum.

Website and Public Relations Committee-Clint Lynch: Clint reported that he has received feedback from several members of the commission concerning edits. He will pass these on to the website manager. The commission also continues to receive several reference questions through the website. Clint will continue to delegate these to various members.

New Business:

- Walter Lavender, John Kamenec, and Thomas DeShong represented the commission at the Heart of Texas Regional History Fair held at Baylor University on Friday, February 14th. The three members judged various individual projects pertaining to McLennan County history. Four projects -- a documentary on Paul Quinn College, an exhibit on Doris Miller, a documentary on Sandtown and urban renewal, and a paper on the Woman's Commonwealth of Belton -- each received \$50 giftcards from the commission.

Requests for Future Agenda Items: None.

Adjournment: The next meeting will be held on the third Saturday in March (**March 21, 2020 at 9:00 A.M.**) A move to adjourn was made by Walter Lavender and seconded by Watson Arnold at 9:43. All in approval.

Submitted by Thomas A. DeShong, Secretary