

Minutes of the Williamson County Historical Commission

A regular meeting of the Williamson County Historical Commission was held on March 10, 2011, in the District Courtroom of the Williamson County Courthouse at 710 Main Street in Georgetown, TX . PJ Stevens served as Chair and Barbara Glasscock served as Secretary.

Members present were: Yvonne Beever, Mildred Davis, Lou Fullen, Margie Fullen, Barbara Glasscock, Ed Lansford, Milton Liese, George Meyer, Marietta Mugford, Mickie Ross, Laura Sue Smith, Gary Spivey, PJ Stevens, Mervin Walker, Tommy Walker, and Wayne Ware.

Guests present: Ron Goins and Alan Peters, with the Hopewell Middle School Junior Historians.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

The Chair called for review of the February 2011 minutes. Corrections were called for. Gary Spivey moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Milton Liese seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous hand vote.

Treasurer's Report:

Mildred Davis reported that there was an interest deposit of \$4.01 and a brick deposit for \$250. The current balance is \$12,688.42. Mervin Walker moved to accept the treasurer's report. Mickie Ross seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous hand vote.

Wayne Ware reported that he had a bill to be submitted for the web pages.

Mildred reported that any financial documents older than five years could be destroyed.

Old Business:

The Chair reported that the cost for the rental of a post office box, for centralized mail collection, would be \$40 per year. Laura Sue Smith moved that the WCHC rent a post office box at the cost of \$40 per year. Mervin Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous hand vote.

The Chair will pick up two keys to the box. He will pick up the mail on a regular basis. The Treasurer and the Secretary will also have access when necessary.

The subject of the Texas Historical Commission funding by the state was discussed. Laura Sue Smith had talked with Bob Brinkman. He stated that each member of the commission needed to contact the legislators voicing their concerns over the funding cuts. We need to mention in the letter/e-mail what the THC has done for our county (i.e., court house renovations, historical markers, Main Street projects, etc.)

Wayne Ware has completed printing out the Texas Historical Commission inventory forms of the historical landmarks in Williamson County. Those are being dispersed during this meeting to anyone that can help in visiting these sites and completing the forms. These inventories are due back to the THC in May. They should be returned to Wayne at the April meeting.

New Business:

There was no new business.

Committee Reports:

Markers –

Mickie Ross reported that she is working on the Machu Cemetery marker designation.

Cemetery –

Wayne Ware reported that John Christensen has been busy. Wayne has helped John clean a couple of cemeteries.

There is someone that will be dowsing for graves in the Mankin Cemetery. A lady from Dallas will be there to take photos.

Wayne is also in the process of updating the website with a link to findagrave.com.

Oral History –

Gary Spivey and Milton Liese met with Erich Domel, who lives near Jarrell. He had a lot of history about the Jarrell and Walburg area.

In the last two or three months, Gary has recorded about 15-16 hours of interviews. The Chair would like to proceed as soon as possible in getting the oral histories transcribed. Mickie Ross indicated that Baylor University has a class that does transcriptions. She will check with Baylor University to see if they would be able to help us. The Chair would like to make finding a transcriber a priority.

Gary said that he is setting up interviews with John Doerfler's father (Walter) and J.D. Thomas' brother. He is also working on an interview with Carl Lidell from Jonah.

Membership/Outreach –

There was no report. Kandy Dipprey was not present.

Infrastructure –

The Chair called for discussion of the proposed 199' Cell tower at 1777 CR 279 in Liberty Hill. It was determined that there were no historical structures/properties within the area that would be affected by the installation of the tower. Mildred Davis moved that we report that the WCHC has determined that there would be no historical impact as the result of the installation of a cell tower. Laura Sue Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous hand vote.

Announcements –

Margie Fullen announced that she had tickets for the Caring Place Soup Supper to be held Thursday, March 17, 4:30-7:30 p.m., in the new community hall at St. Helens Catholic Church.

Mickie Ross announced that several projects are going on at the Williamson Museum: the Cabin of Curiosities; the Antiques Fair in the Courthouse on May 14; the German exhibit that begins on June 4; and the photographs exhibit that is traveling around.

Prior to adjournment of the meeting Ron Goins and Alan Peters, of the Hopewell Middle School Junior Historians Club, gave an update on their activities and ongoing projects. Ron displayed their club's T-shirt, which was approved by the Texas Historical Commission. Alan Peters gave a report on the workday that was held on Saturday, March 5. There was a very good turnout of volunteers to help. He also conducted a couple of oral histories while there.

Meeting Adjourned – 5:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Glasscock