

Minutes of the Williamson County Historical Commission

A regular meeting of the Williamson County Historical Commission was held on March 8, 2012, in the Williamson County Courthouse at 710 Main Street, Georgetown, TX. PJ Stevens served as Chair and Barbara Glasscock as secretary.

Members present were: Mildred Davis, Kandy Dipprey, Claire Easley, Barbara Glasscock, Ed Lansford, George Meyer, Marietta Mugford, Mickie Ross, P. J. Stevens, David Voelter, Mervin Walker, and Wayne Ware.

There were three guests present: Nell Steger and Christina Davis, with the Taylor Conservation and Heritage Society, and James Ropollo, who works with historical home restoration.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

The Chair called for review of the February 2012 minutes. Claire Easley moved to approve the minutes. Kandy Dipprey seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous hand vote.

Treasurer's Report:

Mildred Davis reported that the current balance in the checking account is \$13,432.13. Kandy Dipprey moved that we accept the treasurer's report. Wayne Ware seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous hand vote.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Mildred Davis talked to Ashley Blaylock, the County Auditor, concerning the county budget process. She showed her our proposed budget for the fiscal year 2012-2013. Ashley advised that we should not show any line items. The request for county financial support of the historical commission should be as simple as possible. After some discussion, it was the consensus of the WCHC that we ask the county for support of the transcriptions of oral history interviews in the amount of \$1,500. Mildred will write up the budget in the format requested by the county and will present it at the next meeting for approval.

Committee Reports:

Markers –

Mickie Ross reported that the Cook Cemetery Marker application has been sent in. No word back, yet.

Cemetery –

Wayne Ware has been working with volunteers cleaning four cemeteries. He is working on obtaining a fence for the Mankin Cemetery. He has also been working on the McNutt Cemetery.

The IOOF Cemetery in Georgetown has no marker. He will have to work with the City of Georgetown to get this done.

The Union Hill Cemetery suffered damage to some the headstones due to vandalism. There is a great need to get fencing around this cemetery due to its vulnerability to abuse, being situated by a busy highway.

Oral History –

There was no report. Gary Spivey was not present.

Membership/Outreach –

Kandy Dipprey reported that 28 bricks have been purchased since the first of the year. Six of those have been since the February meeting. Many of those that are newly purchased have not been received due to a slow down in the engraving process. Acme Brick currently has only one engraver working.

Infrastructure –

The Chair received a request from the Texas Department of Transportation that we review the proposed replacement of the overpass on IH 35 at CR 313 (Bud Stockton Loop) near Jarrell in Williamson County.

Mickie Ross moved that the WCHC respond that the current bridge does not have any local/regional historical significance. Mildred Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous hand vote.

Presentation –

Nell Steger gave a presentation on behalf of the Taylor Conservation and Heritage Society, which was formed in 1979. They are currently working on the project of saving the Historic Taylor City Hall and Fire Station. It was built by the WPA in 1935. It has been vacant for fifteen years and is in various stages of disrepair. The cost of restoration would be \$3.6 million. If saved, the TCHS would like for the Chamber of Commerce to move into the facility, and also possibly be used as a museum. They have been given an

extension by the city until September. They are asking for any support that the WCHC can give in getting the word out to the communities in the county.

Claire Easley moved that the WCHC support the TCHS, Inc. with a \$100 donation for a Patron Membership. Kandy Dipprey seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous hand vote.

Meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Glasscock.