

Minutes of the Williamson County Historical Commission

A regular meeting of the Williamson County Historical Commission was held on May 10, 2018 in the Williamson County Courthouse at 700 Main Street Georgetown, TX. Eloise Brackenridge served as Chair and Barbara Glasscock served as Secretary.

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

Members present were: Nancy Bell, Eloise Brackenridge, Mildred Davis, Dan Doss, Winnann Ewing, Barbara Glasscock, Col. Shelby Little, Mickie Ross and Wayne Ware.

There were two guests present: Carol Fox and Betty Zimmerhanel.

Betty Zimmerhanel gave a presentation on the old iron bridge (also known as the old Rowe Valley Bridge) off of CR 366. There is a group from the Taylor/Circleville area that would like to save the bridge in Clare Easley's memory. The county owned the property around the bridge, but that property went back to the land owners when the county built the new bridge over the San Gabriel River. The group would like the WCHC to support their efforts to save the bridge.

Mickie Ross suggested that they work with the county parks department.

Winnann Ewing made a motion stating that the WCHC is in support of the efforts to research, restore and preserve the Rowe Valley Bridge. Mildred Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Minutes:

The Chair called for the review of the minutes of the April 12, 2018 minutes. One typographical error was noted. Mickie Ross moved to approve the minutes with the one correction. Mildred Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous hand vote.

Treasurer's Report:

Nancy Bell reported that there is currently \$1,230.81 in the General Fund and \$6,517.30 in the Program Fund.

Old Business:

Website Update – Nancy Bell reports that she is getting responses from Diane Gaume. Things are progressing.

Memorial Bricks – Col. Little is finalizing the orders for the memorial bricks for Clare Easley and Laura Sue Smith.

Special Speaker Presentation Fund Raiser – Mickie Ross has talked to David Voelter about the possibility of Stephen Benold doing a historical presentation, possibly in the early fall. Maybe, there could be other speakers as well.

Committee Reports:

Promotions –

Mildred Davis reported that she did brick promotions at the Poppy Festival Parade Watch Party and will be encouraging Georgetown High School Alumni from classes 1956-1964 to purchase memorial bricks at a reunion that will be held later this month.

Oral History –

There are at least two oral histories that have never been transcribed. It was noted that the recording release needs to be updated. We also need to come up with a plan of what we want to focus on in the oral history interviews in the future.

New Business:

. Nomination and election of a new Vice Chairman –

Nancy Bell nominated Winnann Ewing. Mildred Davis seconded the nomination. There being no other nominations, Winnann was voted in as Vice Chairman by acclamation.

. New Membership –

The Chair met with Connie Odom concerning new member applications. There are four different precincts represented. She will present the candidates to the County Commissioners' Court on May 22.

Announcements:

. Museum News –

Hands-on History and Walking Tours are continuing.

There will be an event on May 17 with Ken Roberts, the retired SU Professor who wrote about the Cedar Choppers.

May 19 – Marking History event

May 25-26 – Walking Tours, with historical stories by docents in costume.

A Victorian wake and funeral of Sarah Owen will be held in July at the Chisholm Trail Museum in Round Rock

Pioneer Day was the largest ever.

. There will be no meetings in June and July. The next regular meeting will be held in August.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Glasscock, Secretary