

HARRISON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
April 10th 2014

Members Present: Jennifer Larned, Richard Magrill, Rose Mary Magrill, Tom Speir, Ann Brannon, Karen Taylor, Thomas Richardson, and Alaina Pool Jones.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Jennifer Larned called the meeting to order on Thursday, April 10th 2014 at 1:30 p.m. at the Visual Arts Center in Marshall, Texas.

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of March 13, 2014 were approved as corrected.

III. Treasurer's Report

In the absence of Deon Behrman, Chairman Jennifer Larned reported that the balance in the checking account was \$3,350.15. Money Market balance was \$5,520.27.

IV. The standing committee reports are as follows:

IV. A. Archaeology

Tom Speir reported that Mason Springs Cemetery has been recorded as an archeological site. Phyllis Dawson has been informed.

Tom also reported on his presentation at the Ewing Chapel Cemetery Day (ECCD). Rose Mary Magrill noted that all comments were very positive and included not only that "it was interesting" but that "we learned new things."

October is Texas Archeological Awareness Month. If we want to have an observance, we could at least get some brochures. Tom could modify the powerpoint prepared for ECCD and focus on the extensive location of sites due to the work of Sabine Mining. Could we have the presentation at 1901 Courthouse? We could view current presentation prior to our next meeting, perhaps at the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Marshall.

B. Archives

No report.

C. Cemeteries

Thomas Richardson commented that he was at work on the list of cemeteries he was given to research. Tom Speir reported that the owners of the property on which the Old Elysian Fields cemetery is located do not want it recorded (they will not allow access to enable the cemetery to be photographed).

Ann Brannon has successfully accessed the Sullivan Funeral Home records. The attic was hot. (Sullivan's also has the records from the Rains & Talley Funeral Home.) Mason Springs is working on a Texas Historic Cemetery Marker application.

D. Education

No report.

E. Historical Markers

Nothing new.

F. History Museum

Jennifer reported that the Museum will be open after the awards presentation and that it will be getting a traveling Smithsonian exhibition.

G. Oral History

No report.

H. Preservation

Jennifer reminded us that we need to be considering nominees for the annual awards presented by the commission and also those presented by the Historic Landmark Preservation Board.

I. Publications

Jennifer reported that Margaret Agnor is compiling a list of historic papers in private hands that deal with Harrison County and Marshall. This list can be incorporated into a resource like that produced by Bell County to aid researchers.

Jennifer also reported that there was no further word on production of the Buard Trail video.

J. Tourism

No report.

K. Goals

No report.

L. Annual Preservation Awards

Jennifer distributed nomination forms. If there are no official nominations received from the public, the committee will come up with some.

V. Special Reports

A. 1901 Courthouse

No report.

B. Depot

No report.

C. Starr Home

Karen Taylor reported that The Friends of the Starr Home has been disbanded (suspended) until such time as anyone might want to approach them. She noted that the Starr Home has been very active on Facebook. She has contacted the Master Gardeners who help maintain the grounds and plans to join that organization in order to have some continuing contact with the Home. She also noted that the Friends vision for the gazebo (on which the Friends spent in excess of \$40,000 meeting all the state requirements) in terms of landscaping and public use have not been realized. In disposing of its funds as it disbanded, the Friends made gifts to the Buard Trail brochure/dvd, the Michelson Museum of Art, The 1901 Courthouse, and the city Animal Shelter. Most gifts were about \$5,000.

D. Michelson Museum of Art

No report.

E. Historic Designation of Downtown Marshall

No report.

F. Historic Landmark Preservation Board

Alaina Pool Jones reported they have had a meeting. Taping for Buard Trail dvd has begun. The board may hold an "old home" workshop in August.

VI. Other
None.

VII. Adjournment
The next meeting will be May 8th 2014.
The meeting was adjourned at 2:19 p.m.

Submitted by Richard Magrill