

ARANSAS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 5, 2018

Commissioners present: Sandra Bridges, Jerry Brundrett, Sherri Collins, Sandy Garrison, Mike Geer, Barbara Gurtner, Linda Garcia Haynes, Gail Johnston, Pat Rousseau, Betty Stiles, Pam Stranahan, Janet Taylor, and Carol Thompson

Commissioners absent: Betty Collier (ill)

1. Chair Pam Stranahan called the meeting at the Fulton Schoolhouse Museum to order at 5:15 pm and declared a quorum was present.
2. **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**
Monica Burdette relayed her appreciation for the three groups (ACHC, Historical Society & History Center) coming together to save the Kline's Building. The show of support was truly incredible. She also commended Sandy Garrison for bringing up the "undertold story" for a subject marker for Ben Garza. As a Hispanic herself, she appreciated the ACHC recognizing the role of Hispanics in the community.
3. **Minutes—Linda Garcia Haynes**
Minutes of the regular meeting of September 12, 2018, were distributed and approved as read and corrected after a motion from Pat Rousseau and a second from Betty Stiles.
4. **Treasurer's Report—Carol Thompson**
Carol handed out a detailed listing of all expenditures from the first of the year through the end of October as well as the marker checks to THC scheduled to be paid at the November 13th court meeting. With still quite a bit of funds left on hand, it was suggested that we could look into logo cups being handed out at the marker dedication—Sandra Bridges will check this out online. Also Pam suggested some replacement historical signage with photographs for those that blew away in the hurricane.
Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved after a motion by Linda Haynes and a second by Janet Taylor.
5. **Committee Reports/Action Items:**
 - A) **Executive—Pam Stranahan/Mike Geer/Linda Garcia Haynes/Carol Thompson**
Pam asked that everyone get their volunteer hours to her as soon as possible.
 - B. **Preservation and Public Policy—Pam Stranahan/Barbara Gurtner/Pat Rousseau**
 - 1) Pat discussed the Revised HIM (Harvey Irma Maria) Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation Fund for Aransas County for: a) Fulton Cemetery; b) Rockport School (also submitted by ACISD); c) Rockport Cemetery; d) Bracht Building; e) San Antonio & Aransas Pass Railroad Depot; f) Marion Packing Company; g) Fulton Mansion State Historic Site (THC); and h) Kline's Building at 106 S. Austin St. (previously submitted by Kim Foutz, LTR team and currently working on). Pat stated that of all the projects, the ones most likely to get possibly funded (maybe through THC or the Parks Service) would be the Rockport School and the Kline's Building. Although some may have historical markers, they would also be eligible for the National Register of Historic Properties and if any are granted, there would have to be a Historic Conservation Easement executed to keep it protected.
 - 2) Pam mentioned that Luke Woolston was paid some in September for his work on the historic survey—the Live Oak Heights data entry is in progress.
 - C. **Historical Markers & Endangered Properties—Sandy Garrison/Janet Taylor/Mike Geer/Barbara Gurtner**
 - 1) Pam reminded everyone that the RH Wood Marker Dedication is set for Saturday, December 1st at 10:00 am. She passed a list around for everyone to sign up for help. She also asked that everyone wear their logo shirts and name badges. Footnote to the Wood House—Architect Larry Irsik worked on the restoration and did a great job.
 - 2) Sandy Garrison reported that the narrative for the Johnson-Sorenson House is almost done. She is also working on the Shivers Family narrative—Mary Martha has been sending information. Sandy learned Governor Alan Shivers was a cousin to Alton Shivers. Barbara Gurtner is ready to start working up the narrative for the Sea Shell Shoppe and will have it ready before the deadline of mid-November.
 - 3) Mike Geer contacted a welder he knew and the Heldenfelds marker has been welded, repaired, repainted and re-installed--that leaves only the Frandolig Island Marker not replaced.

D. Public Relations/Outreach—Carol Thompson/Gail Johnston, Sherri Collins, Betty Collier

- 1) Facebook—No report. Linda Haynes reported on Betty Collier's medical condition, and it will most probably be quite a while before she returns, so social media might have to wait awhile.
- 2) A Proclamation for Archeology Month (October) was presented to Pam at Commissioners' Court Meeting on October 8th and she had it framed where it now hangs at the History Center as part of the archeology exhibit on display.
- 3) Pam reported that the premier party for the calendars would be November 15th at the Fulton Mansion—of course the ACHC buys 200 calendars each year for every fourth grader as part of the outreach program.

E. Collections—Pam Stranahan/Carol Thompson/Sandy Garrison/Linda Garcia Haynes/Gail Johnston/Sherri Collins
Sherri Collins reported that we have 70 cassette tapes of interviews done by the Historical Commission and the Historical Society to donate to the TxA&M Regional Archive in Kingsville where they will be digitized and put on flash drives and kept in the proper climate-controlled storage. Right now they are in the vault and are in danger of deteriorating further. The 70 tapes are entitled "The Oral History Project for Aransas County" and we would need to execute a Deed of Gift Form in order to donate the tapes.

A motion was made by Pat Rousseau and seconded by Sandra Bridges to donate the 70 tapes to the TxA&M Archive at Kingsville. Motion carried unanimously.

Jerry Brundrett reported that he has done an oral history his family arranged that took 4-1/2 hours. Once the family has had a chance to review it when ready, he may later provide it to the Historical Commission. Although it started off as a family history, it ended up being more history of the county. Everyone is excited to see how it comes out.

F. Cemeteries—Sandra Gregory Bridges/Jerry Brundrett/Janet Taylor

Due to the fall weather conditions, Sandra Bridges had no report at this time. However, she plans on doing a workshop in Spring in Lamar.

6. Old Business –

- 1) Pam reminded everyone of the Tropical Trail Event being held in Harlingen on November 20th. Monica Burdette announced that because of the holidays, it was moved up to November 13th.

7. New Business – Pam Stranahan

- 1) Pam talked about the fact that we are losing quite a few members due to resignation (Veronika Camehl), not continuing with another two-year term (June Gregory), and term limits (Gail Johnston, Pam Stranahan, and Carol Thompson). Due to medical reasons, Betty Collier will most likely not be back either. Therefore, it is important that everyone do their best to recruit new members. Linda Haynes announced that Collin Jackson agreed to come back on the Commission, and Pam has contacted several people who also have expressed interest. We need to set at meeting in December with just one agenda item: Nominations. Betty Stiles suggested we have a nominating committee and it was agreed that Betty, Pam, Carol and Linda would comprise the committee and meet prior to the December meeting.
- 2) Pam reminded everyone about the South Texas Historical Association Event on November 10th at 9:00 am at the Conner Museum, TAMUK in Kingsville. She is planning on going and to let her know if anyone else wants to go.
- 3) Pam also mentioned the Historic Tour of Homes is set for December 1st and 2nd and urged everyone to participate.
- 4) Pam also mentioned an event organized by the History Center and the Rockport Cultural Arts District entitled: "Conversation between Allies: American and South Vietnamese Veterans" to be held on November 10th at 1:30pm-4:00pm at the Texas Maritime Museum where there will be a veterans band.

8. Next ACHC Meeting Date and Time: The next meeting will be a Special Meeting for nominations only and will be held on Monday, December 3, 2018, at 5:15 pm.

9. Adjournment:

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm after a motion from Jerry and a second from Mike.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Garcia Haynes, Secretary