



JEFFERSON COUNTY

Historical Commission

Theresa Goodness
Chair

Jen Trenbeath
Coordinator/Secretary

Treasurer

Steven P. Lewis
1st Vice-Chair

Don Smart
2nd Vice-Chair

Meeting Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Jefferson County Historical Commission (JCHC), held on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the Jefferson County Historical Commission Library, 1149 Pearl Street, Third Floor, Beaumont, TX 77701

Order of Business:

1. Call to Order at 10:00 a.m.
2. Determination of Quorum. A quorum was determined, in attendance were: Jay Camp, Theresa Goodness, Kate Hambright, Bruce A. Hamilton, Brenda Jackson, Katherine Leister, Steven P. Lewis, Mike McGreevy, Paul Prosperie, Don Smart and Jen Trenbeath. Also in attendance were advisors: Judy Linsley, Les McMahan, Linda McMahan and Lynn Simon as well as guests Elayna Luckey, Clint Lacy, Jessie Davis and William Gray.
3. Citizens' Communications. Clint Lacy shared about an upcoming Brazosport Archaeological Society Zoom meeting which would take place as well as about current archaeological investigation being done at the Pivoto-Robinson House.
4. Call, Receive Information and Take Appropriate Action on:

Introduction of Guests

ACTION ITEMS:

Secretary's Report – Jen Trenbeath

5. Consider and possibly approve minutes of previous meeting. A motion by Kate Hambright was made to accept the minutes as presented. Seconded by Don Smart. The motion passed unanimously.

Coordinator's Report – Jen Trenbeath

- Staff report from Coordinator. Report submitted. See Attachment A.

Treasurer's Report – Jen Trenbeath

- Report of Expenditures and remaining Budget. Report submitted. See Attachment B.

Approved 11/20/2024
Jen Trenbeath

Chair's Report – Chair Theresa Goodness

6. Discuss, consider, and possibly accept the resignation of Candy Hollis as a JCHC commissioner after a reading into the minutes of her resignation letter as per the bylaws, Article III, Section 5. A motion to accept the resignation of Candy Hollis was made by Don Smart and seconded by Steven P. Lewis. The motion passed unanimously.
7. Discuss nomination procedure as per the bylaws, Article IV, Section 7, for JCHC officers for 2025-2026 term. Discussion was held about the upcoming election of JCHC officers. The Coordinator (Jen) was appointed by the Chair (Theresa) to collect nominations from appointees. Jen requests that all nominations be sent by email to the office no later than November 4th so they may be disseminated to appointees in advance of the November 20, 2024 meeting, per the bylaws.
8. Discuss the current status of our annual JCHC Calendar project (2025). Jen shared that the calendars would be ready the following week so they could be included in the FY2023/2024 budget. She also shared that if JCHC appointees wished to order their own calendars to be printed at the same time as the large JCHC order, they had until Friday, Sept. 20 to do so. (As a note- it was discovered after the meeting that a new policy was put in place by the printer and the minimum order for additional orders is now 10 calendars.)
9. Discuss, consider and possibly approve our annual JCHC Calendar project (2026) out of our FY 2024-2025 budget to promote our county's history and to be distributed to all school districts and to preservation partners in Jefferson County. A motion by Kate Hambright was made to approve the JCHC Calendar project for 2026 with a second by Mike McGreevy. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Historical Preservation:

10. Discuss status of Gilbert Building in downtown Beaumont following a fire. Report was given by guest Elayna Luckey from the City of Beaumont.
11. Discuss the City of Beaumont's recent adoption of a vacant building registry ordinance for the downtown Central Business District. Ordinance was circulated at the meeting and is available for review on the City of Beaumont website.

Beaumont Historical Landmark Commission – Theresa Goodness

- Report on Applications for Certificates of Appropriateness considered by Beaumont Landmark Commission. See Attachment C.

Tyrrell Historical Library – Steven P. Lewis

- Report on activities of the Tyrrell Historical Library Association. See Attachment D.

Photos of Historic Buildings - Steven P. Lewis

- Report on historic building photography project.

Sam Houston State Library – Don Smart

- Report on research projects conducted at the state library. Don reports that the Sam Houston State Library will host an event on September 19, 2024 will feature Mike Hurd giving a presentation called “Thursday Night Lights” about African American football in Texas. Don also reports that there will be a Family History Day on October 5th which will feature an opportunity to digitize photos and media.

Caroline Gilbert Hinchee House Restoration – Theresa Goodness

- Report on status of restoration of the historic home. See Attachment E.

Historical Markers and Research – Kate Hambright

- Report on Status of Marker Applications/Dedications.
- Report on Marker Survey/Maintenance. See Attachment F.

History Appreciation:

- Report on current Courthouse Mini-museum exhibits and discussion of proposed exhibits. – Jen Trenbeath. Verbally reported that Steven Lewis will be providing an exhibit of the 1923 Flood in Beaumont. Jen is planning a future exhibit about the Beaumont Golden Gators, which will be installed possibly in the winter. Spots are open so members are encouraged to bring all ideas.
- Report on updates to JCHC website and social media. – Jen Trenbeath. Verbally reported that there are no changes to report.
- Report on history articles in newspaper and events at the Stark House Museum. – Katherine Leister. Verbal report: Katherine wrote an article for the Beaumont

Enterprise about the adaptive reuse of the Globber's Grocery building by local artist John Alexander, who will utilize the space for his pottery studio and art gallery. The grand opening is October 1, 2024. The Stark House museum will be opening October 4, 2024 for the first time in 7 years.

- Report on experience at Fort Manhasset. – Matt Reeves, not in attendance.
- Report on Coastal History. – Jay Camp. Report given on history of Galveston Island and the explorers who visited & assigned it various names.

Archeology Committee – Brenda Jackson

- Report on activities that promote the preservation of archeological resources. Brenda reported that the Pivoto-Robinson Cemetery which had preliminary GPR surveying in the spring. The landowner hopes to have the GPR survey completed by the end of the year.

Cemetery Committee – Paul Prosperie

- Report on status of Annual Magnolia Cemetery Tour plans. Reported that the cemetery tour planning is nearing completion and the tour books will be printed in October before the tour. A reminder was given to check with Kelli about the availability of flags for veteran's graves.
- Report on pending applications for Historic Texas Cemetery Designations, cemetery surveys, clean-up days or other similar activities. Information included in Attachment F.

Courthouse and Sub-Courthouse Oversight Committee – Jen Trenbeath

- Report on status of Jefferson County Courthouse or Sub-Courthouse buildings. Report submitted. See Attachment G.

Certified Local Government (CLG) – Theresa Goodness

- Report on status of review of July 29, 2024, Consultation on a Veterans Administration "Build-to-Suit" Lease for a New Outpatient clinic (OPC) located at 3295 College Street/Highway 90 in Beaumont, Jefferson County, Texas under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Antiquities Code of the State of Texas. See Attachment H.

Other Business

12. Discussion on any other item not on agenda without taking action. Receive reports on matters of community interest from elected officials, staff, or members without taking action. Judy Linsley shared that she has spoken to the Lamar Press about the possibility of publishing Bill Quick's Sabine Pass book. Further conversation will be needed with other publishers.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

Attachment A

Coordinator's Report

Jefferson County Historical Commission

July through today has remained a busy time in the JCHC office. Highlights have included:

Meeting with the Southeast Texas Museum Group to discuss plans for promotion of the Museum Madness weekend, October 17th through October 20th, which of course, includes our Historic Magnolia Cemetery Tour. The Temple to the Brave will once again be included on the promotions for the weekend as well.

Our 2025 calendar corrections were sent to Triangle Blueprint on Friday, September 13, 2024 and they anticipate the completion of the calendars by the end of this week, which will allow them to be included on this year's budget.

The library continues to undergo transformations to become a more functional meeting space. The Department of Emergency Management has been updating their command center and no longer needed this 8ft table so we were able to claim it!

I attended National Alliance of Preservation Commissions Preservation Law Conference virtually thanks to an invitation from Executive Director of the Beaumont Heritage Society. The conference featured presentations from notable attorneys who have practiced with the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Topics included upcoming possible reform to the National Preservation Act and the Section 106 review process as well as streamlining NEPA review (National Environmental Protection Act), upcoming federal preservation funding through the EPA Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, Green Bank lending programs for preservation projects, and cases that impact preservation at the local level by setting precedent for public-private partnerships.

Beaumont Heritage Society is planning exterior projects for both the John Jay French Museum and the Chambers House, and both houses carry RTHL designations. I connected Shelby, by email, to Miranda Grieder, the THC regional reviewer for our area so they may work directly on the appropriate processes for these restoration projects.

After the Gilbert Building fire, Jade Moreau from KFDM contacted me to ask if I could participate in a segment that they are creating about local history. I told Jade that of course I am happy to participate when topics arise that I am knowledgeable on, but that in general, I may be more valuable in connecting them to people who are actual experts on topics around the county. We have spoken on the phone and exchanged a few emails and I have suggested several topics that they might wish to explore, the first being the Temple to the Brave, as she asked specifically about a downtown building, and that is one of our least known gems. As far as I know, the segment has not started airing yet. I'll continue to update when more involvement occurs.

Since our past meeting I've also attended the past two City Council meetings to support the newly adopted Vacant Building Ordinance, volunteered with the Beaumont Heritage Society to present a tour of the First City Building at Heritage Happy Hour, attended an informational cocktail party hosted by Becky Mason for the Melody Maids film, and am currently working on the Cemetery Tour books.

I received a phone call from a woman whose family ended up in Beaumont due to her father's employment with the McFaddin family. She expressed that she has long had the desire to contact the McFaddin family to share her appreciation for the opportunities and kindness they showed her father, and for the continuing positive impact her family has experienced by way of being in Beaumont and Southeast Texas. I passed her information to Judy Linsley with the hopes that she will be able to share the contact and the message with members of the McFaddin family that they may connect if so desired.

Attachment B

Treasurer's Report

Jefferson County Historical Commission

The Jefferson County Commissioner's Court approved the budget for the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year on September 17, 2024. The requested changes, including a \$960 Capital Outlay for a desktop computer to be permanently located in the JCHC Library and an increase of \$200 to the mileage account were both approved. The only other change was a reduction of \$250 to the office supplies account with the same being applied instead to the travel account to cushion against rising hotel and conference costs.

The JCHC budget year runs from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024. The total budget allotted to the JCHC for the 2023/2024 budget year was \$13,200.00. As of September 17, 2024, \$4,488.51 has been spent, with a remainder of \$8,711.49. Changes from the July 2024 meeting include \$1,550 to Triangle Blueprint for calendars (final payment has not yet been issued but PO is considered in budget reports from the Auditor's office).

Attachment C

The Beaumont Landmark Commission has met once since my last report. On August 12, 2024, the Beaumont Landmark Commission (HLC) met to review Request(s) for a Certificate of Appropriateness.

- The approved minutes for the July 15, 2024, meeting are attached.
- The meeting scheduled for September 9, 2024, was cancelled due to no items on the agenda.
- The agenda for the meeting of August 12, 2024, is also attached. The minutes for the August meeting will be submitted with my next report after approval by the HLC in October.

Attachment D

Meeting Notes 18 September 2024

Tyrrell Historical Library: There are now 547 images on the Weber Collection online but there were some images that had been deleted from the original 535 count and some that had been added. I found additional corrections/changes and have given them to David Greer but the online site has not been updated. I have checked the online images numerous times since our last meeting. Yesterday I attended a talk at the Tyrrell Library and talked to Bill Grace. He said that David Greer had made the changes and he will check to see why the site has not been changed.

Historic Buildings Photography: From 25 June to 14 July there was no activity at the AT&T Building site. The hole left by the basement had been filled with many loads of sand and had been leveled. Upon viewing the site on 25 August, the chain-link fence has been removed and pioneering plants are growing in the bare sand.

I am not sure what the current status of the Gilbert Building but I did photograph it on 14 July and the six-foot chain-link fence. Since then, I took a few photographs on 25 August. Also, the barricades on Pearl and Bowie streets have been removed. In yesterday's City Council meeting, the city claims that Tom Flanagan has not paid the \$12,000 for their use.

I have continued to photograph the demolition of the Beaumont High School building. Even though emails to Shannon Allen were fruitless, one of the "angel" plaques was saved. As far as I know, none of the tile decorations were saved. The copy of the 1985 CP yearbook given to me by one of the workers, I given to the Tyrrell Library.

On 25 August, I received an email from Shannon Allen:

*"Dr. Lewis,
After reflecting on this project and our recent communications, I would love to have the opportunity to sit down in person and explain our process and hear suggestions from your perspective. Would you be free next week?"*

*Shannon Allen, Ed. D. | Superintendent
Superintendent | Beaumont ISD
ph: 409-617-5001 | fax: 409-617-5184 | spier@bmtisd.com"*

I do not want to be offensive to Shannon Allen, so I waited a few days to respond. On 27 July, I responded to Ms. Allen's email:

"As a result of teaching for 20 years, in two school districts and at two universities, my experience with school administrators is that they cannot be trusted. While over those years, some were honest and actually cared about what they were doing, they were a minority. Your excuse for delaying answering my first email was weak--it was sent to your email address. That delay was important since the saving of the decorations was time critical."

Since the building is gone and only one of the "angels" was saved but none of the elaborate glazed tile designs, I do not see what can be gained by having a meeting.

Steven P. Lewis"

In addition to the house at 2295 Avenue A, I did find one HUD house under construction at 1250 Church Street but it was finished by 4 August. The Avenue A house was started around 10 September 2023. On that date the lot had been cleared and the middle of the lot was covered with sand. By 1 October 2023, a form for pouring a slab had been constructed. Nothing was done at the site until 4 August 2024 when rebar was added and the site was ready for concrete. By 17 August 2024, the house was dried in; i.e., the walls and roof were up and windows and doors had been installed. By 7 September most of the bricks have been installed. There are three reasons that I have decided that this is not a HUD house: one, it has an attached garage, two, it is brick clad, and three, there is a For Sale sign in front of the house. HUD houses do not have attached garages, they are not brick, and the houses are built for a particular person.

I perused the many photographs of the Gilbert Building to select images for the mini-museum display. I selected around 67 of my photographs and scans of the three postcards of the building. I also selected 28 of the photographs that Richard Gachot took of the building in 2007. I printed them, two per page and then mounted them on foam core boards. On 3 September, with Jen's help, they were installed in the mini-museum.

Attachment E

A grant in the amount of \$20K awarded from the Mamie McFaddin Ward Heritage Foundation for a project to paint the exterior of the Hinchee House has been completed. The exterior was washed and prepped for painting after the completion of the siding repairs. A primer coat and two coats of paint were applied.

- See attached photos

In response to an intentionally set fire on the night of June 6, 2024, the Hinchee House Board has installed a monitored security system and will soon install cameras. A \$10K grant and donations are covering these costs.

A workday has been scheduled for Saturday, September 17, 2024. A clean-up of the yard, grass-cutting, and removal of a fish pond not original to the house is scheduled for the workday.

On October 20, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at the Event Centre, 700 Crockett St., Beaumont, Texas, a Bridgerton-themed Bingo fundraiser will be held to benefit the restoration project for the Hinchee House. Details for the event can be found at the Hinchee House website:
<https://thebeaumontpreservationsocietyoftexasllc.com/events-calendar>

Attachment F

Report on Status of Current Marker Applications/Dedications

The historical marker for the C. Homer and Edith Fuller Chambers House has finally been installed. Shelby Brannan is now preparing for a marker dedication on Saturday, November 9, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.; invitations will be forthcoming.

We filed a Historic Texas Cemetery application for Blanchette Cemetery, located in Pear Orchard community on July 30, 2024. The THC's current processing time on these applications per Carlyn Hammons is about four months, so hopefully it will be approved before the end of the year.

The draft inscription for Sprott Hospital, our second Undertold Marker application approved in November 2023, is currently undergoing peer review at the THC and we should be receiving a copy imminently for our marker sponsor's review and approval.

The final inscriptions for the HTC plaque for Pear Orchard Cemetery, the RTHLA marker for the Temple to the Brave, and subject marker for Pandit Mehar Chand were all approved this year and are in various states of processing by the THC and/or foundry with expected delivery dates in 2025.

Potential New Marker Requests

As mentioned last time, we were contacted by Linda Duhon LaCour, the new outreach coordinator for the Tyrrell Historical Library, about a possible Historical Texas Cemetery designation application for Blessed Sacrament Cemetery, a/k/a Haven of Rest, in the Pear Orchard neighborhood. This cemetery adjoins the Pear Orchard Cemetery. I have now heard from Father Michael Eninlejie, who wants to me with his committee soon to discuss matter further.

Jen Trenbeath is interested in pursuing an application for an Undertold Marker during this fall's application period for Beaumont's Race Riots of June 15-20, 1943. She will be working in close collaboration with Gordon Williams, who has been researching this topic for the last 20 years. On Monday, Jen, Theresa and I met with Mr. Williams to discuss this topic in detail. We are also connecting with Lynn Simon and other interested parties. The marker will be placed outside of the downtown main Beaumont Public Library, which was the location of the City Jail in June 1943. For our newer members and guests, the THC's Undertold Marker program, for which applications are filed in the fall of each year and are fully paid for through the application fees submitted by marker sponsors during the regular spring marker process and other programs of the THC, seeks to address historic gaps and relate the underrepresented stories of Texas. Unlike the regular marker program, the Undertold Marker program is competitive; only about 10/15% of the applications are approved per year. Both of our applications filed in 2023 (our first ever filed under this program) were approved.

I, along with several of our other JCHC members, had an opportunity to hear SMU theological professor and friend Ted Campbell speak to a standing room only crowd at the Tyrrell Historical Library yesterday afternoon about the Atakapa Indians that used to inhabit our area until the early 19th century until a variety of issues- some natural, some human (westward expansion, European illnesses), decimated their numbers in this area and caused their migration and reabsorption into their affiliated tribes in Louisiana or the Atascocita area here in Texas. The nexus of their activity in this particular area appears to have been around Port Neches. The talk was quite informative and generated a lot of interest. It also seems quite appropriate for submission as an Undertold Marker topic for submission this fall. A suitable location for the marker would be at the City Park in Port Neches, the former site of Atakapa burial mounds.

Sgt. Bobby Anderson of the Beaumont PD has reached out about possibly applying for a historical marker for the former Nancy Tevis Market House. At its inception in 1909, this three story mission style structure was originally known simply as the “Market House” and farmers sold their produce on the ground floor, which had an open first floor plan and was open to the outside. Our 1909 fair was held in this structure. City offices moved in on the second floor during 1910 from their former location at the Fire station and the first floor was closed in and subsequently became the jail. One can usually find post cards online entitled “Market House and City Hall.” Upon the building’s remodeling in 1922, its name was officially changed to the “Nancy Tevis Market House.” While City Hall moved out in 1926, various veterans groups and businesses continued to be housed in the Nancy Tevis Market House over the years. The Beaumont PD called the building home twice before it was ultimately torn down by the early 1980s.

NRHP Nomination

We are still inching along on the Temple to the Brave National Register nomination, which was approved by the THC its State Board of Review meeting on January 13, 2024. It’s a lengthy process.

Marker Relocation

Site of Old Aurora: This marker remains in storage in Commissioner Sinegal’s Pct. 3 warehouse for the duration of an anticipated six months-long improvement project along Woodworth Boulevard between Procter Street and Lakeshore Drive. The City of Port Arthur is aware of this project. They have no responded to queries for updates on this project.

Miscellaneous Marker Matters:

The THC has finally approved the decommissioning of the historical marker for First Christian Church in Groves. The church surrendered the marker to TxDot on August 30, 2024 in accordance with new THC guidelines.

A concerned citizen (Mr. George Brown, (409) 460-4242), reported a downed marker in the road shoulder near the Valero plant on Highway 87, the Port Arthur Refinery marker, on Thursday, September 12, 2024. Precinct 3 workers picked up the marker for us that same day

and sent photos which revealed that it had been broken off near the bottom of its base from the marker pole. The marker pole, apparently, was still upright and in place. Workers subsequently returned to retrieve the pole as they did not have tools on hand while picking up the marker (on Monday, September 16; delay due to three day weekend for workers, including a Friday). We will be working with Triangle Metals on repairs.

During Tropical Storm Harvey in 2017, the historical markers for each of Nancy Tevis and Beaumont Lumber Mill City were each washed away from Riverfront Park and irretrievably lost. Replacement markers were ordered and have been in storage in the Precinct 4 warehouse for some years now; I last examined them in 2021. However, they cannot continue to remain in storage permanently. However, there is a real concern about placing them so close to the Neches again if/when the new park is completed, and potentially losing them as second time; they are not inexpensive to replace. Another issue is installing them anywhere too close to that general area as they might wind up only getting moved again. The City's downtown development plans are presently in flux and also may potentially morph over time. Therefore, after some discussion, it has been determined to place the two markers at the Event Centre, along the sidewalk near the water feature in front of the building, thus ensuring maximum visibility for each. Of note, the railyard of the BSL&W Railroad was formerly located at the current location of the Event Centre. In addition, numerous lines of the T.&N.O. railroad ran closely just to the north of that location. One of the lines of the T&N.O. RR ran directly to two separate Kirby Lumber Mills on the Neches. Other lines ran north along the Neches to multiple other mills lined up along the river above Kirby's operation. This makes the Event Centre an ideal location for the Lumber Mill City marker; the railroads transported raw lumber from the mills on the Neches to market. The actual site of Nancy Tevis' home is not known- and while yes, ideally it would be placed close to the water or even along Tevis Street in the City's presently proposed green space, for the reasons aforementioned, it was felt that the only place it would probably be safe from possibly being moved again is at the Event Centre along with the Lumber Mill City marker. Both markers will still be downtown with the Edson Hotel, GSU building and San Jacinto building rising majestically in the background behind them, they will be safe from harm, and both be highly visible by many passersby in an attractive and an accessible setting.

Other items of interest:

Beaumont Heritage Society

The Beaumont Heritage Society will conduct several tours of the Jefferson Theatre on October 11 and 12, during the theatre's October 13 nights of Halloween movies event. I was asked to contribute to the research of their narrative, so I did. There will be actors in period costumes of the late '20s/1930's on hand. Hopefully everyone can come out and enjoy the tour and stay for a movie in this amazing space!

Beaumont Library Commission

The Beaumont Library is hosting a Harry Potter program at the Tyrrell Historical Library on October 25, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. All are welcome to wear costumes. BISD is helping to disseminate invitations to elementary aged school children.

Tyrrell Historical Library

One of the lower stained glass windows of the library on Pearl Street side was recently broken by vandals. As this is one of our RTHL properties, the city appropriately reached out to the THC, who has project review over any exterior repairs to the building, and has received the green light to move forward. The city is now obtaining bids from a preservation glass company.

The broken window led to a discovery at our last THLA board meeting that there were no security cameras in/around the Tyrrell, and the board decided that we wanted to help if possible. A series of emails with pertinent City government individuals ensued and we learned that the City did not have any money for either of its two downtown libraries in its upcoming budget (the other three libraries do have cameras).

I am pleased to report that the Tyrrell Historical Library Association has just approved and purchased security cameras for the Tyrrell Historical Library out of its own budget. A total of six cameras, providing 360 degrees of coverage, are in the process of being installed (some already are) either on the Tyrrell itself or adjacent buildings with high zoom lenses and are the same type of cameras currently being used on other city-owned properties. They should be upgradable for the next 5-7 years, at which point the library can look into putting in its own request for new cameras in the city's budget. Best of all, these cameras will be tied into the Beaumont Police Department's Real Time Crime Center.

Temple to the Brave

The Temple to the Brave was open for 9/11. I was there for a couple of hours or so, and the DAR lined flags along the sidewalk and hung large US and Texas flags on either side of the front door, which fluttered beautifully in the breeze. It ended up being a nice afternoon since Tropical Storm Francine decided to give us a pass. Sadly, the museum had zero visitors other than a film crew who apparently came by after I left. They told the DAR that they were stopping by any location that they thought might be holding 9/11 events. Granted, a midweek opening from 2-5 is probably a tough ask for most visitors, particularly since there was a service at Rockin' A to mark 9/11 that same day attended by many veterans and veteran's groups as well as a small gathering of city officials at the 9/11 memorial at Tyrrell Park. There was also a staging of uniformed individuals in the American Legion parking lot. There has to be a better way to get out advertising for the Temple, though. As a city owned property, perhaps the city could advertise the openings on its webpage. The memorial will next be open on Saturday, 10/19 from 2-5 during Museum Madness and the CVB will advertise that event.

I am thrilled to report that I will be connecting the DAR with Shelby Brannan, Executive Director of the Beaumont Heritage Society and Jayden Franke, Shelby's collections manager at the Chambers House, at the end of this month to learn how to curate and best display the Temple's varied exhibits. The DAR is very excited to work with Shelby and Jayden. We will hopefully be dedicating the Temple's new RTHL marker in 2025, so that gives us a good goal to work towards as we line out the displays and narratives in the most effective and meaningful way.

Attachment G

Courthouse Oversight

Jefferson County Historical Commission

On September 17, 2024 County Commissioners approved the FY2024-2025 budget, which included a capital project of 2,013,089 for rehabilitation of the Courthouse Complex. Project details as proposed: “This project consists of roof and other structures repairs and replacements to the Beaumont Courthouse and area annexes that were damaged from various weather events. In addition, multiple floors and areas of the Historical courthouse from previous water damage will have repairs done. Finally, there will be improvements to the plumbing of the jail facility connected to the Courthouse. This project has funding in the amount of \$2,013,089 for 2024-2025.”

Marsh Waterproofing has recently completed waterproofing at the base of the courthouse connector to prevent ongoing water intrusion.

Director of Maintenance, Greg Keller, reports that roof repairs are still pending insurance approval. It is unclear until the claim is finalized what the time frame will be for the repairs.

On July 25 my office received a call from Precinct 3 with a request to review a tree of historic age that needed to be removed per the County Extension Agent. I visited the subcourthouse in order to get photos and an exact location of the tree. The gorgeous, sprawling live oak has apparently been struggling for some time and began to appear to pose a danger to the public. After consultation with the THC it was determined that there are no SAL designations placed on the subcourthouse, so the appropriate review process follows only the RTHL designation. Our regional reviewer, Miranda Grieder determined that the RTHL was not written in such a way that any landscape review is necessary, therefore the County was able to proceed swiftly in the removal of the dangerous tree, and we all share in hope that a new tree will be allowed to grow in its place after the ground has had a recovery period.

Attachment H

Certified Local Government Committee Report

September 18, 2024

- Report on status of review of July 29, 2024, Consultation on a Veterans Administration "Build-to-Suit" Lease for a New Outpatient clinic (OPC) located at 3295 College Street/Highway 90 in Beaumont, Jefferson County, Texas under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Antiquities Code of the State of Texas.

On August 6, 2024, a request for comment on this project's potential impact to historic resources was sent out to JCHC members by our Coordinator. None of members responded with comments regarding historic resources that could be impacted by the project, and a letter from the Historic Preservation Officer was sent on August 20, 2024, to the Veterans Administration advising no specific comments had been adopted by JCHC regarding this outpatient clinic project.

See copy of letter attached.