



JEFFERSON COUNTY

Historical Commission

Theresa Goodness
Chairman

Linda McMahan
Secretary/Treasurer and Coordinator

Ron Ellington
Past Chairman

Leslie McMahan
First Vice-Chairman

Paul Prosperie
Second Vice-Chairman

JCHC Bi-Monthly Meeting Noon, January 22, 2015 Ben Rogers Regional Visitors Center

1. Call to Order / Greetings – Chair Theresa Goodness

The meeting was called to order by Chair Theresa Goodness. Those in attendance were Sarah Bellian, Bill Cummings, Jessie Davis, Ron Ellington, Ramona Hutchinson, Brenda Jackson, Steven Lewis, Les McMahan, Linda McMahan, Paul Prosperie, Jef Russell, Don Smart, and Jimmy Sparks.

2. Consider Minutes of Previous Meeting – Chair Theresa Goodness

A motion was made by Les McMahan and seconded by Jef Russell to accept the Minutes as printed. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Paul Prosperie

Coordinator Linda McMahan reported that there had been no expenditures since the December, 2014 meeting.

4. Chair Report – Theresa Goodness

- 2015 Goals – A list of five goals were reviewed, discussed and approved (See attachment #1).
- Appointees for 2015 – 2017
Presentation to JCHC members of nominations for Executive Board and Appointees for 2015 – 2017. Coordinator Linda McMahan is a new member to JCHC and is qualified to hold the position of Secretary and Treasurer. (Linda was already performing these duties as Coordinator.)
- Possible New Meeting Locations
 - Sarah Bellian Museum of the Gulf Coast – March 26, 2015
Tour of museum, archives
 - Jimmy Sparks – May 28, 2015 – Share history and plans for Magnolia Cemetery
 - County Clerk's Office – A tour and instructions on doing research in the County Clerk's Office.
 - Tyrrell Library – Tour of new addition and how to use library.

5. Coordinator Report – Linda McMahan

- Two thousand, six hundred and seventy-six volunteer hours were turned in for 2014.
- The 2014 Annual Report and Appointees for the Historical Commission will be presented at Commissioners Court for approval on February 23, 2015.
- There will be an informational presentation at the March JCHC meeting of the movie “The Example” which covers the 1943 Beaumont Race Riot.

6. Committee Reports

Archeology – Brenda Jackson reminded everyone of a presentation by speaker Amanda Danning to be held at the McFaddin-Ward House on January 29th.

Cemetery – Paul Prosperie reported on the work being done at Lincoln Cemetery. There will be a meeting at Commissioner Alfred’s Service Center to talk with Mr. Cleveland Dyer whose father was buried in the cemetery in 1932. An oral history with Mr. Dyer will take place at that meeting.

Certified Local Government – Ramona Hutchinson asked for volunteers for five appointed positions to be served for 2015 – 2016. Brenda Jackson, Ron Ellington, Ramona Hutchinson, Don Smart and Sarah Bellian agreed to serve on this committee. The committee will be working on a County Preservation Plan.

Courthouse Oversight – Jessie Davis will attend a meeting with Coordinator Linda McMahan and County staff concerning the upcoming Phase 5 with N & AT Construction Company, Inc. for Mechanical and Safety Upgrades work to be done on the basement and first floors of the Courthouse.

Dick Dowling Days – Mike McGreevy will be sending out invitations to possible re-enactors for DDD to be held in September 2015.

Historical Markers – Les McMahan reported the China POW historical marker will be installed on February 5th. The JCHC will make contact with Commissioner Alfred’s office for a date to install the Moon Mullican historical marker in Magnolia Cemetery. Jimmy Sparks of Magnolia Cemetery was appreciative that the County would do the installation.

Texas Treasure Business Awards – Jef Russell – Nothing new to report

Bill Quick’s Book – Bruce Hamilton – Nothing new to report

Museum of the Gulf Coast – Sarah Bellian has extended an invitation for the JCHC to meet at the Museum in March. At that time, we will tour the Museum and see possible work for volunteer hours.

Web Site – Bill Cummings reported that a partial new web site is up and running. There is still much work to be done and will continue to be a work in progress.

Gilbert-Hinchee House – Steven Lewis shared pictures of the Gilbert House.

Sam Houston State Library – Don Smart reported the Library is now open on Saturdays and JCHC members can visit to work on their various research projects.

Unfinished Business / New Business

There will be a called meeting to vote on the new 2015 – 2017 Executive Board and Appointees on Thursday, February 19th at Noon in Commissioners Court, Jefferson County Courthouse.

Adjournment – The next regular meeting will be held Thursday, March 26, 2015 at the Museum of the Gulf Coast.

Jefferson County Historical Commission

Proposed Goals for 2015

- 1. Continue Oversight of Courthouse Preservation – Major restoration of HVAC, fire alarm, electrical and plumbing systems awarded to NT Construction. Project about to get underway for basement and first floor of historic courthouse.**
- 2. CLG – Request Certified Local Government Grant Funding to develop a historic Preservation Plan for Jefferson County and to conduct a Historic Cemetery Survey for Jefferson County.**
- 3. Website – Continue to digitize and post marker narrative information and other available historical data online to redesigned website.**
- 4. Historical Markers –Encourage two new markers for 2015.**
- 5. Oversee Lincoln Cemetery clean-up.**