

Minutes for JCHC Bi-Monthly Meeting
Noon, Wednesday, March 20, 2019
Jefferson County Courthouse - Third Floor JCHC Conference Room
1149 Pearl Street
Beaumont, TX 77701

Call to Order – Chair Theresa Goodness In attendance were Jay Camp, Mary Darbonne, Theresa Goodness, Kate Hambright, Bruce A. Hamilton, Steven P. Lewis, Les McMahan, Linda McMahan, Don Smart, Jen Trenbeath. Also in attendance was guest Ed Touchet.

Consideration of Minutes of Previous Meeting – Chair Theresa Goodness Minutes were accepted with one change submitted by Steven Lewis. Motion made by Les McMahan, seconded by Steven Lewis, unanimously approved.

Budget Report – Coordinator Linda McMahan. Report submitted. Please see Attachment # 1.

Chair's Report – Chair Theresa Goodness. Report submitted.

- Report of status of 2019 JCHC Calendar. Triangle Blueprint gave March 22nd as in-hands date. Discussion was held as to who to send calendars. Suggestions included Commissioners Court, historic preservation partners, Ben J. Rogers Visitors Center, Judge Stephens, Commission members and 7th grade Texas history teachers.
- Discussion was held with regard to the Executive Board's decision to reinstate Theresa Goodness as Chair after the resignation of Sarah Bellian to move to Hawaii to work in the Pearl Harbor Museum.
- Discuss, consider and possibly approve JCHC Goals for 2019.
 - Suggestions include continuing the calendar project, with dates added and photos changed each year. The Commission agreed to begin work on the 2020 calendar with a signup sheet at the next meeting.
 - Blueprints located by the Engineering Department need to be rehydrated, flattened and digitized. A quote will be needed for sleeves and map cabinet for storage. Suggestion was made to consult THC for best tips on rehydrating and preserving documents without causing ink to run.
 - Continue to digitize the archives and consider the purchase of a scanner to continue this goal. Scanner models were suggested by Commission members.
 - Marker Survey is almost complete; need to clean markers that are identified as being in poor condition. Theresa reported having completed two. A discussion regarding asking for help from Boy Scout troops was held.
 - Add digitized County Commissioner records to JCHC website.

Coordinator's Report – Linda McMahan reminded everyone to turn in their volunteer hours.

Committee Reports

About Town in Pictures – Steven Lewis- No report submitted

Archeology Committee – Brenda Jackson- No report submitted

Beaumont Historical Landmark Commission – Theresa Goodness Report Submitted.
Please see Attachment # 2.

Cemetery Committee – Paul Prosperie Paul was absent due to work and Linda McMahan gave his report. Paul has checked Magnolia Cemetery and they have started mowing. He supports the idea of drafting a letter to learn who is the person of contact for the Cemetery. He has called several times with no feedback.

Paul has also made the suggestion that if groups want to tour the cemetery, they tour by appointment.

Lincoln Cemetery is again overgrown. Paul has suggested that we check with the County as to their plans for the cemetery.

Certified Local Government- Theresa has been appointed Historic Preservation Officer by Commissioners Court to fulfill CLG requirements. To meet CLG requirements, five CLG members must meet certain qualifications. A copy of certification must be maintained in the JCHC office. Regular JCHC meetings qualify as CLG meetings. All JCHC members will be appointed as CLG members. All members need to complete Open Meetings Act Training and submit a resume.

A discussion was held regarding hosting a regional CLG meeting as well as offering CLG training and archival training outreach to surrounding communities. A benefit to hosting a regional meeting would be to allow all historical entities in our surrounding area to update each other on current projects. Suggestions for meeting include requesting a speaker or presenter from THC and/or State Library.

Courthouse Oversight Committee – Linda McMahan- Beaumont Main Street has approached the JCHC regarding hosting a Saturday Courthouse Tour. Due to complications with access and security of the Courthouse on weekends, the tour will be held outside. A booklet with the history of the Courthouse will be given to attendees. Attendance is projected to include approximately 20 tourists along with several Main Street members.

We are still waiting for the kickoff meeting date between the County, Don LaBich, and the THC to begin work on the new master plan for Jefferson County.

Dick Dowling Days / Spindletop Days – Mike McGreevy was not in attendance due to work. One JCHC member mentioned it is possible a movie will be filmed at Gladys City. More details to come.

Historical Commission Library – Mary Darbonne No report submitted

Marker Committee – Les McMahan- The Saint Paul United Methodist Church marker was shipped to the church in 2018. The secretary confirmed the marker was received and will be installed in 2020 for the 100th anniversary of the church.

THC is still in the consideration process for replacement of two historical markers lost during tropical Storm Harvey. The markers are Nancy Tevis and Beaumont Lumbermill Town and were paid for out of the 2018 budget.

No marker maintenance projects have been done, and several markers have yet to be documented for the 2018 Marker Survey.

Port Arthur Landmark Commission – Les McMahan No meetings have been held so no applications for Certificates of Appropriateness. Commissioners were not reappointed in 2018 due to oversight.

A public hearing on the second draft of the Historical District Guidelines was held with meager attendance but with good input from affected citizens. The draft is still under review by Commissioners.

Sam Houston State Library / Early Sports – Don Smart- Don Smart and Bruce Hamilton met with the librarian at the Sam Houston State Library and finalized the Bill Quick collection. The State will format the inventory. A copy of Don and Bruce's inventory was requested for JCHC records.

Tyrrell Park Community Building – Bruce Hamilton - The next meeting will be held on April 9, 2019. Bruce reports that Laurie Leister has asked Rob Clarke, the architect in charge of this project to speak, but he is not able to speak without the City's permission. Current plans do not include finishing the roof. The City plans to run a path from the building to the walking path. All candidates for City leadership positions have been invited to attend the meeting.

Tourism / Ben Rogers Visitors Center – Jessie Davis- No report submitted.

Web Site / Facebook Friends of the JCHC – Jen Trenbeath- No report submitted.

Discussion was held regarding uploading the compilation of County Commissioners that was recently completed by Kate Hambright.

Tyrrell Historical Library Association– No written report submitted. Steven Lewis reports that he spoke to Mr. Greyson regarding the repairs being made to the library. Painting is being done, the termite survey still needs to be completed, mold remediation has been done. An independent contractor is of the opinion that a June opening is optimistic.

Membership forms were sent out in March and Steven provided membership forms for all JCHC members to fill out if they so choose. The goal is to increase membership to 300 members. There is currently no online presence for the THLA so Steven is exploring options regarding a website. The THLA previously did a publication three times a year but this has not been done in several years, which has proved to make promotion of the Association difficult. A reporter from the Beaumont Enterprise says that people frequently call to ask for updates on the library's status. The Association plans to hold a Grand Re-Opening when work is completed.

Caroline Gilbert Hinchee House- Bruce introduced Ed Touchet, the owner of the house and founder of The Caroline Gilbert Hinchee House Restoration, Maintenance and Management Project. The dry-in is complete. They are currently building the Board for the non-profit and staff for the LLC. Focus is on grants and fundraising. Dohn LaBiche is serving as an advisor. A timeline is being completed. Goals to be accomplished include: community sharing (community gardens, student resource center, Veteran center). Past landscaping changes have been detrimental to the property and need to be rectified. Work days for the public to contribute will be scheduled and shared on the Facebook page. A fundraiser is planned at Painting with A Twist in June. The next steps for the restoration of the house are leveling and stabilizing, followed by roofing. Plaster removal will follow and will be a community project.

Unfinished / New Business

A proposal was made by Bruce Hamilton for the JCHC to purchase historical photographs of the moving of the original San Jacinto Building in downtown Beaumont. Photographs were from the collection of the building mover, and are offered for sale by Charles Early, an antique dealer from Galveston. Jen Trenbeath agreed to get more information from Charles and the discussion was tabled until an Executive Board meeting could be held.

Adjournment- The next meeting will be at Noon, Wednesday, May 15, 2019 in the JCHC Conference Room.

**Jefferson County Historical Commission
Budget Report
March 20, 2019**

Line Item	Budget	Spent	Remaining
30-10 Books	\$250	-----	\$250.00
30-78 Supplies	\$1,500	-----	\$1,500.00
30-90 Education	\$1,500	\$773.81	\$726.19
50-05 Mileage	\$500	\$422.56	\$77.44
50-12 Markers	\$5,000	-----	\$5,000.00
50-21 Dues	\$850	\$145.00	\$705.00
50-62 Travel	\$2,000	\$1,419.83	\$580.17
Totals	\$11,600	\$2,761.20	\$8,838.80

Report of Theresa Goodness, JCHC Designee for Beaumont Landmark Commission
March 20, 2019

The Beaumont Landmark Commission has met twice since my last report.

On February 11, 2019, the Beaumont Landmark Commission met to review the following Requests for a Certificate of Appropriateness:

CA-3007: Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to install solar panels on a roof.

Applicant: Greg Busceme, Sr.

Location: 2495 McFaddin Avenue

This item was tabled to allow time to gather more information from the City Attorney.

CA-3009: Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace an awning with a new front porch.

Applicant: Amy Elliott

Location: 2150 Harrison Avenue

This request was granted with modifications to change the roof to a gable, eliminate the corbels and to make the columns fluted in keeping with a home of this style.

CA-3010: Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to keep a concrete parking space in the front yard.

Applicant: Reginald Cook

Location: 2070 Ashley Avenue

This request was granted with the condition an extension to the driveway be added that is a minimum of fifteen feet beyond the front of the home.

CA-3013: Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to build a new house on a vacant lot.

Applicant: Albert LeBlanc

Location: 2250 Angelina Street

This request was granted with the addition of several conditions:

1. Windows are six white top, single white bottoms.
2. The 2x2 window over the garage is square.
3. The vent over the garage is square.
4. The front elevation windows over the garage have shutters.
5. The garage door is a craftsman style.
6. Home is built with hardi or hardi and brick combination.
7. The front elevation pillar must contain an additional architectural element added such as a corbel.
8. The front door is a craftsman style door.
9. The elevation of the slab is raised without impacting surrounding flood and drainage fields around the subject property.

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This request was approved with the condition the panels not be placed on the portions of the roof which face the front street or the side street in keeping with the standards of the Department of the Interior for an historic home.

CA-3019: Request for a Demolition Certificate for a Duplex.

Applicant: David Yermian

Location: 2141 Rusk Street, Suites A & B

This request was granted as the building is in very bad shape with extensive termite damage.