

**Minutes for JCHC Bi-Monthly Meeting
Noon, Wednesday, November 13, 2019
Jefferson County Courthouse - Third Floor JCHC Conference Room
1149 Pearl Street
Beaumont, TX 77701**

Call to Order – Chair Theresa Goodness called the meeting to order. In attendance were: Jay Camp, Theresa Goodness, Kate Hambright, Bruce Hamilton, Brenda Jackson, Steven Lewis, Les McMahan, Linda McMahan, Paul Prosperie, Lynn Simon, Don Smart and Jen Trenbeath. Visitors were: Doug Porter and Debbie Eller. A quorum was met.

Secretary's Report - Consideration of Minutes of Previous Meeting – Chair Theresa Goodness asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. A motion to accept as printed was made by Don Smart and seconded by Paul Prosperie. Vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report - Linda McMahan handed out copies of:

1. End of 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget Report (Attachment #1)
2. Budget Report for November 6, 2019 (Attachment #2)

Chair's Report – Chair Theresa Goodness

Report on efforts to preserve courthouse blueprints.

- We have received the unbuffered archival boxes and tissue paper for storage of the blueprints of the 1893 and 1931 courthouses received from the County Engineer.
- Also a small map cabinet has been transferred to our inventory from another department.
- Linda and Les McMahan compiled an inventory of the blueprints.
- Volunteers are needed to work on sorting, labeling, and storing the blueprints. Also we will attempt to scan the documents that are not too fragile.

Report on 2020 JCHC calendar

- The historic digital photographs and calendar dates have been submitted to Triangle Blueprint for the 2020 calendar.
- A proof of the calendar is expected this week.
- The expected date to pick up the calendars from the printer is by the end of next week.

Coordinator's Report – Linda McMahan shared that work on the 2019 Annual Report for the Texas Historical Commission will begin soon. Please turn in your volunteer hours as this plays an important part in our report.

Speaker – JCHC member Lynn Simon gave an excellent Power Point presentation on his research on early Beaumont African-American schools and educators. There was an informative question and answer time after the presentation. We look forward to Mr. Simon sharing more information on early schools in the days ahead.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – Historical Preservation

Beaumont Historical Landmark Commission – Theresa Goodness

See Attachment # 3.

Port Arthur Landmark Commission – Les McMahan reported that since the Landmark Commission has not met, there was no activity to report.

Tyrrell Historical Library - Steven P. Lewis reported on the status of the Tyrrell Historical Library's reopening. At this time, the date is uncertain but will probably not be until January of 2020.

Photos of Historical Buildings – Steven P. Lewis The only photographic project reported on was a then-and-now comparison of the last run of the Beaumont streetcar on Calder Avenue. The streetcar was in front of Calder Cleaners. A second streetcar photo shows it in front of a building that JCHC member Jen Trenbeath thinks is where she had her business.

Various items were passed around:

- A photo from Paul Prosperie's website showing the Yount mausoleum and the current site.
- Two letters from a Confederate soldier to his parents, dated November 17, 1861 and December 23, 1861 from Bowling Green, Kentucky and Oakland Station, Warren County, Kentucky, respectively.
- A copy of Gordon Baxter's obituary was also passed around. Baxter's son donated items to the Tyrrell Historical Library; staff at the library are adding these items to the library's collections.

Sam Houston State Library / Early Sports – Don Smart No library report was given. Don is working part time at Gladys City and reports that Gladys City is requesting volunteer assistance. Please contact Troy Gray if interested.

The December 11, 2019 meeting of the JCHC will be held at Gladys City with a tour to follow. Spindletop Days will be held on January 11, 2019.

Tyrrell Park Community Building – Bruce Hamilton Laurie Leister has spoken to Rob Clark. He reports that plans are complete but the City of Beaumont has not put out requests for bids.

Caroline Gilbert Hinchee House Restoration – Bruce Hamilton The Hinchee House art auction is to be held on Saturday, November 16, 2019.

Historical Markers and Research: Les McMahan

Providence Church (Nederland) dedicated the relocated Presbyterian Church of the Covenant (Port Arthur) marker on September 8, 2019. Leslie and Linda McMahan attended the ceremony. New GPS coordinates and pictures have been forwarded to THC.

Grace Baptist Church (Groves) dedicated the relocated Central Baptist Church (Port Arthur) marker on September 22, 2019. The marker was not installed until November 5th due to inclement weather prior to the ceremony. Installation was done by a JC Precinct 3 crew. GPS coordinates and pictures have been forwarded to THC.

Draft inscriptions from THC for our two replacement markers (Beaumont Lumber Town and Nancy Tevis) were reviewed, approved and sent back to THC for casting orders.

THC is not accepting any marker applications this year due to the closing of the San Antonio foundry. Efforts are underway to review RFQs from other foundries that can provide an equivalent- quality marker. Our replacement markers will be cast when a new foundry is secured.

For FY2020, we might consider the replacement of two additional markers that have gone missing in the distant/recent past:

Early Texas Oil Pipelines which was located at HWY 365 and West Port Arthur Road (Spur 93) and may have been the victim of widening of the highway or pipeline work. JCHC records give two different locations. The marker was an official State marker sponsored by the Moody Foundation, but does not appear on the THC Atlas of markers.

Spindletop to Port Arthur Oil Pipeline Corridor which was located at 61st Street and West Port Arthur Road (Spur 93) and was the victim of a wide-turning truck. Only part of the marker pole was found at the site.

Special Work - In response to a presentation at the East Texas History Association Conference on WPA Subsistence Communities by a history professor from Texas Wesleyan,

information on Beauxart Gardens was gathered from JCHC files, copied and forwarded to her.

History Appreciation

Mini-Museum Exhibits – Linda McMahan Each October, Texas Archeology Month (TAM) celebrates the spirit of discovery. It is an opportunity for Texans to learn more about the richness of our heritage, from the former dwelling sites of prehistoric hunters and gathers to historic shipwrecks and military sites. This year the JCHC is proud to have an exhibit by Port Arthur archeologist, Mike Estrada. Mike has travelled Texas, Mexico, Central and South America. His exhibit shares with us some of his discoveries. This exhibit will run through November 14, 2019, and will be followed by exhibit featuring Forrest Park High School memorabilia.

If you know of someone who would be interested in putting an exhibit in the Mini-Museum, please have them contact the JCHC office.

Web Site / Facebook Friends of the JCHC – Jen Trenbeath No report submitted. Facebook page continues to grow slowly. It was agreed that events from the JCHC Calendar should be shared to the Facebook page in the upcoming year.

Dick Dowling Days / Spindletop Days – Mike McGreevy No report submitted. Mike McGreevy has requested to be assigned to the Advisory Committee until such time as his work schedule allows him more flexibility.

Archeology Committee – Brenda Jackson

- I attended the Texas Archeological Society (TAS) Annual Meeting October 11 – 13, 2019 in Amarillo. The program included presentations about various archeological topics and projects. I will continue to serve on the TAS Awards Committee.
- Debbie Eller and I spoke to the Texas Master Naturalists at the Museum of the Gulf Coast on November 7, 2019. Our program was based on the archeological chapter from the TMN handbook and was part of their required training. We used a power point presentation, handouts and discussion.

Cemetery Committee – Paul Prosperie

- Magnolia Cemetery appears to be well maintained and appears to have resolved their wild boar problem.
- Evergreen also appears to be well maintained.
- Sabine Pass is in decent condition.
- The condition of LaBelle/Lincoln Rest is unknown but it appears it has not been entirely maintained in some time.

Courthouse Oversight Committee – Linda McMahan

Jefferson County Courthouse

- We have received a request from Engineering to paint two offices and we are working with Maintenance for the correct colors.
- There is work going on in the Courthouse updating our heating and air conditioning. When finished, everything will be digital. Changes in temperature will be able to be adjusted by individual departments.

Sub-Courthouse – Registered Historical Texas Landmark We have had a request from Judge DeRouen to have a special door put between his office and courtroom that would give more protection for he and his staff. I contacted THC concerning the changes he was requesting and we learned that new rules are in place concerning sub-courthouses. If the sub-courthouse is not on the main Courthouse square, changes can be made inside of the sub courthouse as needed. If any changes are made on the outside of the sub-courthouse it would need to be approved by the THC.

Courthouse Master Plan – Labiche Architectural Firm is preparing a new Master Plan for the Jefferson County Courthouse. Things are moving along and we have not had any new request for information. The last time I talked with Don Labiche, he said they were about 60 percent complete.

Courthouse Flag Poles Both of the flag poles in front of the courthouse have been replaced due to wear and age. Once started, there was more damage than Engineering and the contractor originally thought. From the original courthouse blueprints housed in the Historical Commission, they were able to learn new information. The old damaged poles were sold as scrap metal and that money went back into Courthouse funds.

Certified Local Government- Theresa Goodness

See Attachment # 4.

Unfinished / New Business – Doug Porter expressed interest in becoming a member of the JCHC and turned in a written request. Chair Goodness welcomed him as a new member.

Adjournment - Next meeting will be December 11, 2019 at Gladys City on the Lamar University Campus.

**Jefferson County Historical Commission
2018 – 2019 Budget Report
September 30, 2019**

Line Item	Budget	Spent	Remaining
30-10 Books	\$250	\$50.00	\$200.00
30-78 Supplies	\$1,500	\$1,359.36	\$140.64
30-90 Education	\$1,500	\$1,438.81	\$61.19
50-05 Mileage	\$500	\$461.45	\$38.55
50-12 Markers	\$5,000	\$315.00	\$4,685.00
50-21 Dues	\$850	\$500.00	\$350.00
50-62 Travel	\$2,000	\$1,946.53	\$53.47
Totals	\$11,600	\$6,071.15	\$5,528.85

**Jefferson County Historical Commission
2019 – 2020 Budget Report
November 6, 2019**

Line Item	Budget	Spent	Remaining
30-10 Books	\$250	\$22.50	\$227.50
30-78 Supplies	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500.00
30-90 Education	\$1,500	\$912.50	\$587.50
50-05 Mileage	\$500	\$148.25	\$351.75
50-12 Markers	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000.00
50-21 Dues	\$850	\$105.00	\$745.00
50-62 Travel	\$2,000	\$477.31	\$1,522.69
Totals	\$11,600	\$1,665.56	\$9,934.44

The Beaumont Landmark Commission has met three (3) times since my last report.

On **August 12, 2019**, the Beaumont Landmark Commission met to review the following Requests for a Certificate of Appropriateness:

- 1) CA-3085: Request for a Certificate of Demolition to demolish a garage apartment.
Applicant: City of Beaumont
Location: 2215 Hazel Avenue

The request was approved.

- 2) CA-3087: Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to remove and replace a front door.
Applicant: Brian Johnson
Location: 2420 Long Street

The request was approved.

- 3) CA-3096: Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to remove shutters, reduce and replace two front windows.
Applicant: Taha Kahn
Location: 2225 Pecos Street

The request was denied.

- 4) CA-3098: Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace, reduce and enclose windows to a house.
Applicant: Ken Broussard
Location: 2220 Pecos Street

The request was approved to enclose one (1) side window and denied to replace front windows with smaller windows.

On **September 9, 2019**, the Beaumont Landmark Commission met to review the following Requests for a Certificate of Appropriateness (*JCHC representative, Theresa Goodness, was absent from this meeting due to vacation*):

- 1) CA-3105 Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace the front door to a house.
Applicant: Jim Dangaran
Location: 2555 Louisiana Street

The request was approved.

Report of Theresa Goodness, JCHC Designee for Beaumont Landmark Commission
November 13, 2019

- 2) CA-3107: Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to change the front porch steps to a house.

Applicant: Jonah Kelly

Location: 2220 Broadway Street

The request was approved.

- 5) CA-3115: Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace the siding and windows of a house and replace a two bay, two door garage with a large, single garage door.

Applicant: Rigoberto Torres

Location: 2650 Long Street

The request was approved for 12" siding, the garage door being enlarged, and three (3) 2 over 2 windows size 24X36, and two (2) bathroom windows style of 2 over 2, size 24X36, and the remainder of the windows style of 4 over 4 size 36X48.

- 6) CA-3116: Request for a Certificate of Demolition to demolish a garage apartment.

Applicant: City of Beaumont

Location: 2505 Angelina Street

The request was approved.

The meeting scheduled for October 14, 2019, was cancelled due to a lack of a quorum.

On November 4, 2019, the Beaumont Landmark Commission met to to review the following Requests for a Certificate of Appropriateness:

- 7) CA-3124: Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to construct hand rails to existing porch.

Applicant: Saeed Daniali

Location: 2572 McFaddin Street

The request was approved.

- 8) 57-HC: Request for a Historic-Cultural Landmark designation.

Applicant: Pastor Robert Walker

Location: 140 E. Threadneedle Street

The request was approved.

Report of status of THC sub-grant application for the National Park Service Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation Fund Grant

- On July 29, 2019, the Texas Historical Commission (THC) notified me Jefferson County has been preliminarily awarded \$249,913 for the purpose of conducting a survey plan, historic resources survey, and preservation plan. THC will begin coordination with the National Park Service, and will notify us when they are ready for the next steps in the process. The steps will include finalizing the scope of work, having the county sign a funding agreement, and executing any necessary preservation easement.

Report on Open Meetings Act Training Compliance

- All members of the Certified Local Government (CLG) Committee should attend Open Meetings Training. This training is available online from the Texas Attorney General's website. To date only four (4) members have submitted a certificate as proof of attendance.
 - Theresa Goodness
 - Don Smart
 - Linda McMahan
 - Jen Trenbeath

Report on Resume Submission of CLG Committee Members

- The Texas Historical Commission requires members of Certified Local Government committees to submit a resume. To date only seven (7) members have submitted their resumes:
 - Theresa Goodness
 - Linda McMahan
 - Leslie McMahan
 - Bruce Hamilton
 - Steven Lewis
 - Jay Camp
 - Don Smart