

JCHC BIMONTHLY MEETING
Thursday, May 23, 2013
JCHC Conference Room

Call to Order - Chair Theresa Goodness called the meeting to order at Noon. A quorum was in attendance.

Consideration of Minutes of Previous Meeting - Chair Goodness said everyone should have received a copy of the Minutes for the March 21st meeting and asked if there were any corrections. There were none. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Minutes as printed. The motion was passed unanimously.

Budget Report - The Budget Report was given by Secretary/Treasurer Paul Prosperie. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report as printed. The motion was passed unanimously.

Chairman's Report -Theresa Goodness –

- It was reported that the JCHC did not receive funding for a CLG grant request submitted last November. In general the grant review committee believed that the scope of the grant (a Survey) was too small, that we should have requested a Historic Preservation Plan. It was also learned that THC hired a new CLG State Coordinator, Marcus Watson who would arrive May 1st. The JCHC will wait for Marcus to come on board to further discuss Jefferson County's CLG needs.
- On March 25, 2013, Commissioners Court approved the use of public funds, county employees and equipment, and county inmate labor to clean-up and maintain Lincoln Cemetery also known as Broussard Cemetery, a historic cemetery located on Labelle Road in Precinct 4. It was agreed work would be put off until Linda returns to the office in June. The reason for that request was someone from the Jefferson County Historical Commission needs to be on site when the clean-up takes place. Volunteer assistance will be needed to locate and identify an unknown number of graves. Research has been ongoing and narrowing down the years of usage will help determine more about the cemetery.

Coordinator's Report -Given by Theresa Goodness

- Linda reminded members to turn in Volunteer Hours.
- After the March meeting, Ethelyn Jenkins and Nancy Scott spoke with Linda concerning their JCHC status. They have asked to be removed from Active to Emeritus status. They will continue to receive mail outs including JCHC Minutes and Newsletters. The JCHC wants to thank both Ethelyn and Nancy for their many years of service and wish them happiness in their retirement.
- In early 1987, the Nederland Chamber of Commerce coordinated a program to memorialize the seven astronauts who died in the Challenger disaster of January 28, 1986. Seven Live Oak trees were planted in the grassy island formed by State Highways 347 and 366. Bill Quick was very involved in this project and through the years saw to it that the trees were trimmed. Shortly before his death, the Texas Department of Transportation trimmed the trees at his request.

It was brought to the JCHC's attention that it was time to have the trees trimmed again. Linda contacted Mr. Brian Dodge of the TxDOT to see if it was possible to have this done. Mr. Dodge assured Linda that it was possible and they would be glad to do it. If you ride by this area going into Nederland or Port Neches, you will notice how nice the trees look.

Committee Reports

Archeology Committee - Ron Ellington - No report.

Cemetery Committee -Marianne Petry -See Chairman's Report

Certified Local Government (CLG) -Ramona Hutchinson -Ramona shared she and Ron would be visiting THC in Austin and would try and learn more why the JCHC's grant request was denied. A fifth CHC member is needed and Bill Cummings has agreed to serve on the committee.

Courthouse Oversight Committee - Because of Rebecca Bowden's resignation due to relocation, there is no Chair of this committee at this time. The JCHC continues to be contacted when questions arise as to changes in the historical (old) courthouse.

History Appreciation - (Film Commission) Jef Russell -No report at this time.

History Preservation -Charlotte Holliman -No report.

Marker Committee -Les McMahan -Les reported that the historical marker for Wesley United Methodist Church has been installed; Harry James Childhood Homesite, Central Baptist Church, Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church, and the Community Retirement Home have been received but no ceremony has been planned; and Moon Mullican has not been received. The 2013 marker application for Evergreen Cemetery, originally rejected by THC, is in the process of being resubmitted as an "Untold Story." The pre-application is in the form of an "essay" to be judged by THC, and if chosen, the JCHC will then file a full application and go through the usual marker application process.

Website Committee -Bill Cummings - The goal of this committee is to have a "new website" online by the end of December. The website will include JCHC Minutes, Newsletters, information, maps and links to many areas of Jefferson County history.

Unfinished Business / New Business - None

Adjournment -The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be Noon, Thursday July 25, 2013 in the JCHC Conference Room.