

Aransas County Historical Commission (ACHC)
Aransas County Historical Society (ACHS)
January 7, 2010 – Minutes

A Joint Meeting of the **Aransas County Historical Commission** and the **Aransas County Historical Society** was held **January 7, 2010**, in the History Lab, Room 15, Rockport School. The meeting was called to order around 4:05 pm by Linda Valdez, CHC Chair. A quorum of the CHC was declared.

ACH Commissioners Present: Bubba Casterline, Richard Dias, Carol Keller, Jay Pace, Sally Reynolds, Jackie Shaw, Linda Valdez, Pam Wheat-Stranahan, Janie White, and Asa Yeamans.

ACH Society Present: Carol Keller, Pam Wheat, and Janie White
Jim Smarr appeared and verbally resigned from the ACHC.

The meeting was called to hear information and discussion about the property at 910 Concho that has been purchased by the County for \$210,000. Chair, Linda Valdez, asked Bubba Casterline to relate what he knows from the County Commissioners' Court. Casterline said that the house will have to be moved from the property, and he wanted to know if the ACHC and/or ACHS are interested in the structure to use as a museum or office. The current occupants will have six months to vacate, and there may be 1-2 years before the property is used by the County. The County may have to take bids on the house or may be able to donate it.

Action: Bubba Casterline agreed to ask the county attorney what the requirements are.

The history of the house is sketchy—it fronted Highway 35 where the Presbyterian Church parking lot is (moved by Chester Johnson in 1975-80).

Action: Janet Taylor agreed to search for the history of the home—locations and previous owners.

Discussion moved to where the building could be located, if moved. Jim Smarr, as VIP task force chair, initiated a letter to the city to learn if there is property to which it could be moved. There is city-owned property around town—Live Oak where the scout hut is and 401 S. Magnolia where the gas company was.

Funding was discussed. Possible funds could come from HOT dollars or venue tax—need to prove the “heads and beds requirement” would be met. How is Heritage Park in Corpus supported? How does Galveston Foundation support the revolving fund? Another idea was “pennies” on utilities that now support fire departments. What would real costs be?

Action: Richard Dias agreed to find out how much a mover would charge.

Action: A motion was made and seconded to form a joint task force to develop a financial plan for this or similar projects to establish a county museum. The motion passed unanimously. There will be three people from each—the ACHC and the ACHS appointed to the group.

The meeting was adjourned around 5:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Wheat-Stranahan

Pam Wheat-Stranahan, Chair & Acting Secretary