

**Aransas County Historical Commission (ACHC)**  
**June 20, 2013 – Minutes**

**June 20, 2013;** Meeting convened at 5:34 p.m. and was held in the History Lab, Room 15, of the old Rockport School. **Chairman Carolyn Cauley presided.**

**Commissioners Present:** Carolyn Cauley, Sandy Garrison, Greg Harlan, Collin Jackson, Letha Kieffer, Dora McKelvey, Sarah Solis, Sue Travis and Janet Taylor

**Commissioners Not Present:** Diane Dupnik, Carol Pena, Lonnie Matthew and Betty Stiles

A Quorum was declared.

**Minutes** of March 19, 2013, were approved as amended. Motion to approve by Collin Jackson and seconded by Dora McKelvey.

**The Treasurer's Report – Letha Kieffer**

Letha reported there were no expenses in April. Later expenses included \$10.00 to the Mail Center for receiving 2 historical markers and invitations/ programs for historical marker dedication. Name tags were an encumbered item. Our bank balance was \$5,529.96. Sandy Garrison moved to accept the treasurer's report. Collin seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Collin indicated that our internet service was cut off because the internet provider kept incorrectly billing us. The new computer is currently set up in the vault and ready to use. Letha passed out copies of a suggested budget for 2014. It included \$3,600 for historical markers, \$2,700 for education, \$215 for memberships and subscriptions, \$500 for training and \$985 for office supplies for a total of \$8,000. Greg made a motion to accept the 2014 budget. It was seconded by Janet with all in favor.

**Committee Reports**

**Executive—Carolyn Cauley**

Carolyn passed out name tags to the new members. Carolyn reported she had ordered a tourism tape that needs to be converted before we can view it. We have \$700 to do something based on the Uniquely Texas Community Workshop. Oral history tapes have been moved to another shelf in the vault. Carolyn stated the 4<sup>th</sup> graders thought the calendars the ACHC gave them came from the ACHS. She suggested doing something else instead of the calendars. Among things she suggested were doing something with our historical markers, giving each 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher a copy of the ARANSAS book, and the ACHC taking over the marker guides. It was suggested adding crossword puzzles and word finds to make the marker guides more appealing to children. After much discussion, Sandy made a motion to buy the calendars for the students in 2014. Greg seconded the motion which passed. Collin suggested using the money in the budget for May Preservation Month to do something else for students. Everyone thought Collin had a good idea and Sarah volunteered to see what she could come up with that included our markers. Carolyn reported on attending a reception for James Doughty-Munoz at the chamber. It was a very nice event. A request for pictures of the Aransas Lighthouse was received. Carolyn said we have that information in the vault. Someone is needed to scan pictures and newspaper articles which are located in the vault. Carolyn suggested hiring someone to do this. We are to think about it for the next meeting.

**Preservation and Public Policy-Greg Harlan**

The key point about the Section 106 survey is this- whenever federal funds are used on a project, whether it is through a grant award, for a new boat ramp, for example, or if the federal government is constructing something directly, such as a 100,000 acre 100-story building to house employees and contractors to monitor the goings-on of its citizens. A section 106 survey must be completed to access the affect the action will have on historic properties, if any. The Advisory Council on Historic Properties reviews the findings and has an opportunity to comment. The full title is Section 106 of the National Preservation Act of 1966. If the findings are that historic properties will be affected, the agency works with the State Historical Preservation Officer (SHPO) to determine what to recommend to be done about it. If no adverse effects are determined, that is the end of it; if the survey suggests there could be adverse effects, there is a specific outline of steps to resolution- it usually ends with a memorandum of agreement (MOA) between the agency responsible for the work and the SHPO. The MOA spells out the tasks the agency will take to avoid, minimize, or mitigate damage. If talk breaks down without resolution, the agency can proceed with the work without the MOA. In other words, no one can compel the agency to stop the work or proceed with caution.

### **Historical Markers- Sandy Garrison**

Sandy indicated the Historical Marker Dedication for the Marine Lab was held on April 15, 2013, which was the month and day the lab opened. A large number of people turned out for this event. The Woods-Jackson (Wix house) marker dedication will be held in the fall. Ray McLester is working on the McLester Family Cemetery which is also receiving an historical marker. Both markers have already arrived. Janet said the Paws and Taws would be a good subject marker. Vicky Merchant, who square dances, is currently writing the history of the building and the square dancers. There will be a marker meeting next week.

### **Collections- Letha Kieffer**

We are currently providing temporary housing in the vault for the Foss Collection which consists of 3 boxes of historic value. They need to be scanned for all 3 history groups.

### **Friends of the History Center- Janet Taylor**

Only one bid was received for renovation of the Bruhl-Paul-Johnson House. It was submitted by Richard Dias and was way over the projected amount. Pathways and the County are working with Dias to bring the cost down and it looks very promising. The Leadership Class sponsored by the Chamber says the Gazebo should be finished next week. Next Thursday at 6:30 p.m. there will be a Gazebo dedication on the grounds of the History Center. Everyone was invited to attend.

### **Old Business**

The 2012 Historical Photo Calendars were presented to the Fulton Center 4<sup>th</sup> graders by Carolyn, Diane and Sarah. The secretary reminded everyone to turn in their volunteer hours for the first part of the year and their certificates for completing on-line Open Meetings Act Training. Certificates for Collin, Dora, Carolyn and Letha have already been turned in.

### **New Business**

Sarah will work on what a marker book might look like and bring some samples to share it with us at the next meeting

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m. after a motion by Greg which was seconded by Dora and unanimously approved

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Haseman Taylor, Secretary