

**ARANSAS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 9, 2018**

Commissioners present: Sandra Bridges, Jerry Brundrett, Betty Collier, Sherri Collins, Linda Haynes, Mike Geer, June Gregory, Barbara Gurtner, Gail Johnston, Pam Stranahan, Janet Taylor and Carol Thompson

Commissioners absent: Veronika Camehl, Sandra Garrison, Pat Rousseau, and Betty Stiles

Guests Present: Monica Burdette/Commissioner with THC

1. Chair Pam Stranahan called the meeting at the Fulton Schoolhouse Museum to order at 5:15 pm and declared a quorum was present.
2. **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:** Monica Burdette spoke briefly, thanking the ACHC for all they do, and reporting that she'll be speaking at the marker dedication.
3. **Minutes**—Linda Garcia Haynes
Minutes of the regular meeting of March 7, 2018, were distributed and approved as read after a motion from Betty Collier and a second from Sandra Bridges.
4. **Treasurer's Report**—Carol Thompson
ACHC budget for 2018 is \$10,000. The ACHC has not spent much to date. The account has \$8,927.40 remaining at the end of April. Some will be spent with dedications coming up and those attending conferences and workshops.
Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved after a motion by Linda Haynes and a second by Mike Geer.
5. **Committee Reports/Action Items:**
 - A) **Executive**—Pam Stranahan/Mike Geer/Linda Garcia Haynes/Carol Thompson
 - 1) Workshop on May 17—Pam reported we are a co-sponsor, and the event is 9:45-3pm at the Fulton Mansion Education and History Center. It is a digital workshop on how to research on the internet for those interested in history, genealogy, or just about anything.
 - 2) Connie Hagar Day May 26—Pam handed out a program for all interested in attending the event at the Connie Hagar Cottage Sanctuary, First and Church Streets, Rockport. The event features Connie Hagar as a "Citizen Scientist".
 - 3) Pam reminded everyone that the ACHC contributes as a partner to the Texas Tropical Trail.
 - 4) Sherri Collins completed the Open Meetings Act and turned her Certificate over to Secretary, Linda Haynes.
 - 5) Pam wrote a letter on behalf of the ACHC to the Regional Director of the US Department of Commerce in support of the proposed Rockport Center for the Arts and the collaboration between the Center for the Arts and Rockport Little Theatre.
 - 6) Pam explained why we could not get a marker for the Art Center and that it was being demolished today and tomorrow.
 - B. **Preservation and Public Policy**—Pam Stranahan/Barbara Gurtner/Pat Rousseau
Pam Stranahan reported on the Historic Resources Survey. She took Sherri Collins and Pat Rousseau to the History Center to observe the Notebooks. 2009 has been digitized. She talked with the THC regarding continuing the survey or wait till 2019/2020 when we know better what is up to date, especially since Harvey wherein everything has changed and some structures no longer exist.
 - C. **Historical Markers & Endangered Properties**—Sandy Garrison/Janet Taylor/Mike Geer/Barbara Gurtner/Veronika
 - 1) Sandy Garrison could not be here but asked Pam to report that the Shivers House was a possibility to nominate. (Linda stated that the County's Public Facilities Director, Rene Butler, is related—the Shivers House is her Grandmother's house).
 - 2) The Lamar VFD marker is in and the dedication is set for June 2nd at 10:30 am junction of Park Road 13 and Front Street in Lamar. Pam passed around a sign-up sheet for volunteers to help. Jackie Shaw will speak and Betty Stiles will do the unveiling.
 - 3) The Fulton VFD marker dedication will be set later.

D. Public Relations/Outreach—Carol Thompson/Gail Johnston, Sherri Collins, Betty Collier/Veronika Camehl

1) Report on Program/calendars to fourth graders on March 20th.

Carol reported that she, Sherri and Betty Collier went to present the calendars to the 4th graders and got good feedback. All agreed that in the future, they should wear historical costumes when presenting the calendars.

2) Report on Stroll thru Rockport held in April.

The Stroll thru Rockport was very successful in its second year and the costumes went over well.

E. Collections—Pam Stranahan/Carol Thompson/Sandy Garrison/Linda Garcia Haynes/Gail Johnston

Pam reported that the Oral Histories are ongoing.

F. Cemeteries—Sandra Gregory Bridges/June Gregory/Jerry Brundrett/Janet Taylor

1) The Lamar Cemetery is in good condition.

2) The Rockport Cemetery was damaged but a donation was given for repairs.

3) The Fulton Cemetery was damaged and lost the fence and there is no money for repairs. The ACHC can pledge \$500 to help—would need a letter of request first and then we can make the pledge. There is a cemetery association and the DRT could also contribute. Mike Geer suggested a possible “Cemetery Day” wherein citizens can come and do cleanup, etc. After some discussion, a decision was made.

A Motion was made by Jerry Brundrett and seconded by Gail Johnston to pledge up to \$500 for the Fulton Cemetery upon receiving a letter of request. Motion passed unanimously.

G. Symposium on World War I—Sandra Bridges/Pat Rousseau/Sherri Collins

Report on the South Texas Historical Association that was held Saturday, April 7th at the Fulton Mansion Education Center.

Sandra Bridges reported that the Symposium was the largest and best yet and very well received. There were 57 registered and five speakers. Goody bags from the Chamber were given out. \$122 was donated back, and the Gift Shop also made money.

6. Old Business –

Pam modeled the shirt she was wearing that Sandra Bridges had embroidered with the ACHC logo. Anyone interested in having a shirt embroidered (at a cost of \$10) can obtain the shirts at Academy and mail them to Sandra.

7. New Business –

1) Pam reported that the Railroad Depot is going up for sale and would like to see someone buy it with an interest in protecting it. (The marker came down but we can get it put back up—it is a subject marker). Asking price is \$400,000. Mentioned that maybe the Cultural Arts District would be interested.

2) Everyone was reminded that the Historic Tour of Homes this year is December 1st and 2nd.

3) Betty Collier is working on the facebook page—Cassandra listed her as an admin on the account so she’s hoping to start posting.

4) Monica Burdette reminded everyone that there is a Texas Treasure Business Award from THC for businesses 50 years or older and they do not have to have the same owner. We know there are several businesses in town that are 50 plus years old, and it was suggested we add it to our next agenda in the Fall to nominate one.

5) Linda reminded everyone that the 2019 budgets were due soon.

After a motion by Gail Johnston and a second by Janet Taylor, it was unanimously approved that the Executive Committee would meet to prepare the 2019 budget and then submit it to the County by the May 25th deadline.

8. Next ACHC Meeting Date and Time: Next meeting will be September 12, 2018, at 5:15 pm.

Next Committee Meeting Dates/Times: Executive Committee will meet Tuesday, May 15th at 3:30 pm at the Airport.

9. Adjournment:

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm after a motion from Linda and a second from Gail.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Garcia Haynes, Secretary