

Collin County Historical Commission
Thursday, October 29, 2009
Heard-Craig Carriage House
205 West Hunt Street
McKinney, Texas

Members Present: Clyde Kerley, Bruce McFadden, Larry Collins, Joy Gough, Erma Beeson, Diane Miller, Carol Lowe, Elaine Borgogni, Rita Roose, Lolisa Laenger. Also present was Historic Assets manager Jim Ryan.

I. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chairman Laenger.

II. A motion was made by McFadden to accept the minutes as written. It was seconded by Kerley and passed.

III. Treasurer Borgogni presented copies of the monthly and annual financial statements as well as the FY10 budget. The final report for 2009 is forthcoming. The funds for the grant program and the emergency fund are encumbered from 2009, as well as \$20,000 for Ryan and Associates. Last year the commission spent \$74,778.25 of its adjusted budget and left \$33,771.75 unspent. These figures are preliminary. A final 2009 balance sheet will be sent later.

The county does not have a written policy on how expenditures are to be made. The affidavit procedure made it very easy for us to be reimbursed for small things. When Judge Self came into office that procedure changed. We have asked ever since they left the affidavit procedure behind for a written policy on expenditures.

The members were given a copy of the FY10 budget with the line items. The county is no longer interested in the line items. This budget is what we turned in to the county budget office and they allocated us \$49,900 for FY10. From 2009 this budget increased by \$500. The difference was no carry over at all. The line items are for our benefit, basically. To find more money to give to the grant program we have to reallocate. Board members in charge of one of the line items on the budget need to do some reforecasting in order to get closer to what is actually spent rather than just putting a number in the budget. Any extra monies could be reallocated for grants.

The commission should not leave anything on the table.

The treasurer will send everybody on the commission a chart showing how much was spent on each line item in 2009.

The line items need to be consolidated. Fewer line items will make the budgeting process easier. The FY11 budget has to be turned in in April. It will be easier to get approval with fewer line items to justify.

The finance committee should come up with some suggestions about how to consolidate and

make this a better process for everybody.

Clyde Kerley made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. It was seconded by Erma Beeson and passed..

IV. Public comments:

Bruce McFadden is seeking a subject marker for the old McKinney hospital.

V. New Business

1. Amendment to the bylaws -

The bylaw committee recommended 2 changes for the bylaws. -

A. Change the bylaws to read "3 unexcused absences"

B. Change the number on the commission members from 15 to 16.

After discussion a motion was made by McFadden to accept the recommendation of the bylaw committee. It was seconded by Kerley and passed. The secretary will send a copy of the bylaws to the members so they can study the bylaw changes before the next meeting.

2. Nominating committee.

Bruce McFadden -chairman for the nominating presented the following slate of officers: Loydell Seward as president. Lolisa Laenger as vice president. Joy Gough for secretary, Elaine Borgogni as treasurer. Chairman Laenger asked for additional nominations. With no additional nominations, the slate was accepted. The board will vote on the nominations in November and the new terms will start in January.

3. Planning Retreat:

The Planning Retreat will be November 11 at the Carriage house. Members can make recommendations for the agenda. There will be no meeting in December, meaning the commission will not meet again until the end of January. The Nov 11 retreat is also the monthly meeting.

Suggested agenda items were: where are going to meet next year and tax abatement letters in December. E-mail Lolisa before the 6th for agenda items.

VI. Committee Reports

1 Historic Assets Survey

Jim Ryan - Progress reports for October.

We've reached a sticking about what the website is going to contain. He thought the website would contain a listing of all the historic places and it would have interactive maps on the county site but that it would also link to narrative histories. The problem is that the data base would not accommodate these 3 or 4 page histories.

At this time the county is only positioned to put the site on the interactive map with just the name and a brief description of what it is. They are not in a position to provide anything further beyond that.

Ryan will have a meeting with Eric Nishimoto to clarify what the county is prepared to do and what kind of support they are prepared to give us. The map should have those extended narratives.

He suggested three options.

1. County support on the county website.
2. Commission support on the county website.
3. Commission support on the commission's private website.

The original VIP program that the commissioners supported was that Historical Commission would gather as much information as it could and that the county would house that information for the use of the citizens of Collin County. This program is ongoing.

The commission and county have to establish criteria and decide who handles and administers information. The county does not have a physical presence assigned to do that as yet. The commission must tell the county that these are its expectations and not offer any other options.

2. Grant program.

Everyone has signed a contract who was granted money. All of the funds are encumbered but have not been dispersed. Once a contract is signed and tied to the grant, the group would receive that amount of money and then must make an accountability report on the use of the funds.

Have another grant program will be held in 2010. The dates will be moved forward so that everything is done by August. A group must be finished with current grants before applying for a new one. The Historical Commission will offer the grant program every year.

3. Preservation Celebration.

Not here.

4. Carry Along Collin.

About 100 people picked up the Carry Along Flier or had the flyer e-mailed to them. At the Civil War Reenactment on Nov 7 at 11:15 at the show barn the Historical Commission will gather the kids and present the certificates to participants. A couple of families have visited all 8 museums. The commission will give those kids books. Any kid who presents their name at the gate shall get in free. Erma did a great press release that went out about a week or so ago. It was in the Farmersville newspaper at least. There should be a piece in this week's Neighbors Go magazine for several parts of the county.

5. Civil War Reenactment.

The Historical Commission will have a table display at the reenactment. The North Texas History Center still needs volunteers. Back page of program was reserved for the Historical Commission. Bruce McFadden put together a nice page for the program for the historical commission. Very few members of the Historical Coalition have asked for tables. The Historical Commission table will include cruise brochures and museums brochure, and Carry Along Collin.

6. Lakes Trail

On Nov 18 the Lake Trails meeting is in Farmersville at civic center . The announcement

is on Texas Lake Trail website. Libby Buuck is the speaker. The programs is free. \$10 for lunch. Register on line. Registration starts at 9:30. The meeting at 10.

7. Markers.

A historical marker was applied for the Davis house in McKinney. The city of Celina is trying to get whole downtown on the National Register of Historic Places.

County markers. Need application forms for the county markers need to be updated.

8 & 9. Historic Online and the Coalition meeting.

Over 30 people attended the seminar at the courthouse on October 15 on online networking.

Another coalition meeting is planned for January. The possible subject will be grant writing.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Minutes approved as corrected November 11, 2009