

JOHNSON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Minutes of JCHC Meeting September 23, 2024

Held at the Restored Courthouse Conference Room

Sandra Neeley, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and presided over the meeting following the printed agenda.

Wilma Reed voiced the invocation, followed by pledges to the United States and Texas flags.

Chair Neeley took the roll call: 12 appointees present; 5 excused; and no guests.

Announcements:

Chair Neeley shared that the resignation of Kathy Misek was accepted on September 2, 2024. Kathy was assured she is welcome to return whenever her situation allows and that JCHC appreciated her participation.

Ben Head shared a handout and information about a THC webinar about conducting interviews.

Chair Neeley reported she had attended Commissioners Court that morning with John Warren where he presented a program about his 2 Legacy of East Cleburne books donated to the courthouse museum.

Secretary's Report:

Secretary Amy Nichols offered the August 26, 2024 minutes for approval.

Nita Redmon moved to accept; 2nd by Dan Roberts; Motion approved.

Chair Neeley announced reappointment applications for 2025 and 2026 will be available at the October and November JCHC meetings. Officers for the next 2 years will be elected at the January 27, 2025 meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Chair Neeley shared the Treasurer's Report and confirmed closing balance of \$11,958.73

Nita Redmon made a motion that JCHC request the Fiscal Year \$200 blanket Purchase Order to Bennett's for name badges, copies that cannot be made at the courthouse and miscellaneous office supplies. 2 nd by Danny Doggett; Motion approved
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Old Business: None

New Business:

Next JCHC Meeting October 28, 2024 to be held at **Burleson Visitors Center**

Friends will meet at 6 pm, followed by JCHC at 6:30

The November 25, 2024 meeting will be held at the **Dotey House**

Chair Neeley reported no information has been received from Save Old Cleburne regarding Dotey House's participation in Candlewalk – if the house will again be featured or possibly be a ticketed house.

Friends:

Chair Neeley reported Friends of JCHC has experienced low attendance and been unable to meet for several months. She encouraged anyone to join Friends who is interested and that appointment to JCHC is not required.

JCHC Minutes of September 23, 2024 meeting, continued

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. TX Historical Markers, RTHL Markers & TX Historic Cemetery Designation – Marker Chair Nita Redmon reported no update on Buell Cemetery's Texas Historic Cemetery application by Kathy Misek who recently resigned from JCHC.

Cleburne State Park's CCC Camp – Friends of the Park will need to work on funding for this marker.

Kyle-Bullard's Texas Historic Cemetery application is being worked on by Andy Asberry and Bill Parnell neither of whom attended this meeting.

Bennett Home on the Chisholm Trail replacement THM provided by JCHC will be installed this week by Facilities Management; No dedication is planned.

B. JCHC Historical Landmark Plaques and Narratives - Nita Redmon had no new information to report.

Dale Dexheimer reported that Burleson Heritage Foundation will hold a dedication of the plaque and narrative at the Hackney Building (now Grumps Burgers) at noon during Founders Day October 12.

He reported 41 oval Historic Landmark plaques have been installed in Johnson County and that 10 have narratives in place or in process.

C. Friends of JCHC: - No report. Friends have not had enough members to make a quorum. Andy Asberry (who was absent) asked Sandra Neeley to stress Friends of JCHC needs new members to assist with projects. It was decided that Friends will begin meeting at 6 p.m. rather than 5:30.

D. Dotey House

Chair reported the floor replacement is complete but Facilities requested some areas be redone. Some furniture is not in its former place after being moved by the floor installers. The roof is finished and even the wishing well got a new roof; Chimneys were capped and loose bricks removed. Facilities will advise Chair Neeley when JCHC can go inside.

Quote to putty and paint interior windows, doors and baseboards has been requested from Facilities Mgmt.

Candlewalk publicity will be needed. Christy Morton reported she is donating another Christmas tree. The CSA cotton jacket and wedding dress have no official donation forms; disposition will be discussed and voted on at the November JCHC meeting to be held at the Dotey House.

E. Museum Report – No Report - Director Darlene West did not provide a September Museum Report.

Chair Neeley reported several boxes of items from Joshua have been brought with a Memorandum of Donation form to the Museum but that JCHC volunteers must go through the boxes to decide what to accept if not all. No vote will be taken until this is complete.

Inventory:

Chair Neeley reported on an incomplete, undated donation form from Johnson Co. Heritage Foundation for the Spinning Wheel in the museum. It was never officially accepted by JCHC or Commissioners Court. A letter was sent to the Johnson County Heritage Foundation offering it back to them but no reply as of this meeting.

F. Burleson:

Dale Dexheimer reported Russell Art Farm will hold a Fall Fest on Saturday October 4 from 10-2 (free admission)

A Paranormal evening with Pat Dexheimer and Vivian Wright is scheduled for November 8 at 8 pm at the Burleson Visitors Center. Cost is \$25 and these events normally last until 2 a.m.

JCHC Minutes of September 23, 2024 meeting, continued

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

G. Digitization of Newspapers (The Portal to Texas History)

Sandra Neeley shared that JCHC-submitted items taken to The Portal in March 2023 have been completed and uploaded to the site.

An invoice was submitted this week and will be paid before September 30.

The next submission will be taken in early 2025 and the March 2023 items retrieved at that time.

Marsha Buckner asked about video interviews made several years ago and suggested they be digitized if possible.

H. Other Reports and Updates

Steve Wells shared that the Prairie Springs Cemetery CSA Monument Dedication will be October 5 at 10 a.m.

Terry's Texas Rangers SCV Camp will provide a color guard and fire a musket salute.

Meeting Adjourned at 8 p.m.

Amy Nichols, Secretary