

**Montgomery County Historical Commission
Chamber of Commerce
Minutes 11-6-2017**

1. **The November 6, 2017 meeting of the Montgomery County Historical Commission** was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by Larry Foerster, Chair.
2. **Commission members present:** Larry Foerster, Celeste Graves, Beverly Smythe, Jim Walker, Heather Montgomery, Ron Saikowski, Mark Canada, Frank Johnson, Robin Montgomery, Carolyn Carroll, Robin Bartholet, Jo Dell Whitehead, T. J. Wilkerson and Sue Ann Powell.
3. **Special guests:** Russell Cartwright, T. J. George and Annette Kerr.
4. **No comments from the public.**
5. **Motion to accept the minutes of the meeting of 9-7-2017 as written was made by Frank Johnson and seconded by Carolyn Carroll. Motion carried.**
6. **Announcements:** Larry Foerster discussed the following:
 - **County Historical Marker** dedication at Willis Antioch Baptist Church, Sunday, November 17, 2017 at 11:15 a.m.
 - **County Historical Marker** dedication at Sanders Cemetery north of Magnolia, 1774 N. (Sanders Rd.)
 - **Ron Saikowski reported** on the Conroe signage and Conroe Train Depot Project. Expects to have directional signs on I-45 to State Historical markers. County Engineers fixing up the warehouse with a façade of the Railroad Depot. Will include restroom facilities.
7. **Summarized Regional CHC Conference.** Good turnout from number of counties.
Discussed sponsoring Junior McKay's website training workshop and paying for it out of County budget after the first of the year.
Motion made by Ron Saikowski to allocate up to \$400 to pay Junior McKay after the first of the year. Robin Bartholet seconded the motion. Motion carried.
8. **Discussed preparation for the History Road Rally** coming up on January 27th in South County: Tamina-Oak Ridge-Egypt-Oklahoma Community. Heather Montgomery, Joel Deretchin, Randy Woods will work on history clues about the early days of the Woodlands.
9. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. **Distinguished Service Award Committee** – Larry mentioned Andy Dubois and Sandra Hernandez (The Courier) for what they've done to help promote the history of Montgomery County. Consider at the January meeting.
 - b. **Website and Facebook** – Switching to "Go Daddy" will cost \$360 + \$100 migration fee (\$30/mo.) Frank Johnson and David Frame will get this done before the end of the year. Will have backup.
 - c. **YAB** – problem retaining the Juniors and Seniors in the program. Meeting the Monday after Thanksgiving. On December 2nd, the Heritage Museum will sponsor a tour of parts of the original Montgomery County. Gertie Spencer and Sue Ann Powell will conduct the tour.
 - d. **Historical Preservation Grants** – Discussed the painting of the Crighton Theatre to seal it—brick was wicking water. Jim Bingham was to have gotten the information to Larry regarding the preservation reimbursement cost, but has not done so. The approved balance of the Heritage Museum's Strake-Gray House improvements has been submitted to Commissioners' Court.
 - e. **County Historical Marker Committee** - Frank Johnson is working on a State Historical Marker for Cartwright Cemetery. He is working with Sharon Russell to redo the narrative. The marker has already been approved.
 - f. **Endangered Buildings Committee** – Ron Saikowski discussed the \$400,000 - \$600,000 renovation of the building on Simonton Street.
 - g. **World War I Committee** – Larry reported that it is hoped that Dr. Jeff Littlejohn at SHSU is willing to help with putting the book together for publication. To be included is the fact that Pvt. Morgan Cartwright was the runner for the Allied Commander and delivered the handwritten message that ended WWI on the 11th hour of the 11th day.
10. **Reimbursements:** Expenses for the Regional meeting included: Church - \$300 (incl. water and tea); Lunch - \$419; Breakfast-\$42.22 (Anna Sheppard); Larry – Display binders and ice. Total - \$672.71. **Motion by Ron Saikowski to reimburse Larry Foerster. Seconded by Heather Montgomery. Motion passed.**
11. **Consider approving nominations:** Annette Kerr is applying for membership in the Historical Commission. She is a 1969 Cleveland graduate. Is retired and has done research on cemeteries. She is a member of the Magnolia and Waller Co. Historical Societies. **Motion by Celeste Graves to nominate Annette Kerr for membership in the Montgomery County Historical Commission. Seconded by Ron Saikowski. Motion carried.** Her nomination will be taken to the Commissioners' Court for approval.
12. **The next meeting of the Montgomery County Historical Commission** will be Monday, January 8, 2018.
13. **The motion to adjourn was made by Jo Dell Whitehead and seconded by Ron Saikowski. Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.**

Upcoming events: Nov. 12th – 4 p.m. – First Baptist Church hosting "We Care" decommissioning of current Veteran's Memorial Park. A new facility will be built on Hwy.105 and Flag Park. Small version of Jefferson Memorial. Saturday, Dec. 9th – Heritage Museum Open House.

**Submitted by:
Sue Ann Powell, Secretary**