

MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMITTEE
Chamber of Commerce
Minutes 1-6-2020

1. **The January 6, 2020 meeting** of the Montgomery County Historical Committee was to called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Larry Foerster, Chair.
2. **Roll call:** John Sellars, Larry Foerster, Ryan Londeen, Anna Sheppard, Robin Montgomery, Frank Johnson, Dell Wise, Ron Saikowski, Robin Bartholet, Annette Kerr, Mark Canada, David Frame, Brenda Beaven and Sue Ann Powell.
3. **Recognition of guests:** Luther Powell.
4. **No comments.**
5. **Motion to approve the minutes of November 4, 2019 as written** made by Ron Saikowski and seconded by Mark Canada. Motion carried.
6. **Discussed History Road Rally:** Will be inside Loop 336 in Conroe. Honoring Pat George. Joe Corley will greet people on 5th floor of Courthouse (county jail). Trophies will be given to top three teams and gift cards to each member of the top three teams. Road Rally will be staged at Conroe Bible Church. Registration – between 12:00 and 1:00 p.m. Pictures of Pat George at the past Road Rally events will be displayed. Ron Saikowski suggested getting elected officials to compete with each other. It is permissible for Commission members to participate
7. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. **Distinguished Service Award.** Larry presented Jean and Jane's awards at Commissioners Court in November.
 - b. **MCHC website and social media.** David Frame stated Frank Johnson designed new banner for website—takes up less room. David will post Road Rally. He suggested having the YAB students collect GIS coordinates for cemeteries. Annette Kerr has Magnolia coordinates. Ron Saikowski has placed some coordinates on Facebook. John Sellars discussed Facebook ads.
 - c. **Youth Advisory Board (YAB).** Brenda Beaven announced that only two students came last week. Numbers are down. Discussed trying to bring more in. Top students are busiest students.
 - d. **Historical Preservation Grants.** None at this time. Still don't know who new foundry is. When find out, need to get marker for Dean House. Anna Sheppard reported that Sharon Russell's health is much improved.
 - e. **Historical Marker.** Anna Sheppard stated the Cartwright Cemetery and the Dean House markers are waiting on the foundry. Conroe attorney Tay Bond wants a historical marker for the Old Bank—1st commercial building in Conroe, which he now owns.
 - f. **Endangered Buildings.** Ron Saikowski has offered his engineering services pro bono to TX Dot for the old Truss Bridge, but hasn't heard from them. Trying to get Building Preservation Ordinances established in different cities. Conroe is fastest growing city in Texas. Crighton Theatre is being forced to put in a sprinkler system. David Frame asked Ron about copying *Courier* files. *Courier* is now owned by the *Houston Chronicle*. Ron explained that Carl Smith at the Montgomery County Library has a good bit of *Courier* files digitized. Hearst media has sold rights o the newspapers. Newspapers.com has them digitized. Could have a link on our website. Don't have data base to locate *Courier* information. Have to know when articles appeared.
 - g. **Document Preservation.** John Sellars got a call regarding painting of Sam Houston that hung in Old Sam Houston Elementary. No information on it at this time.
8. **No reimbursements at this time.** Larry will attend "Real Places" Seminar in Austin.
9. **No nominations this month.**
10. **Next meeting:** March 2, 2020.
11. **Motion by Ron Saikowski and seconded by Annette Kerr to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.**

Submitted by:

Sue Ann Powell, Secretary