

MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Chamber of Commerce
Minutes 3/2/2020

1. **The March 2, 2020 meeting of the Montgomery County Historical Commission** was called to order by Larry Foerster, Chair, at 5:38 p.m.
2. **Members present:** Sharon Russell, David Frame, Dell Wise, Larry Foerster, Carolyn Carroll, Rebekah Werner, Lonnie Clover, Mark Canada, John Sellars, Missy Ringo, JoDell Whitehead, Maria Banos Jordan and Sue Ann Powell.
3. **Recognition of guests:** Steve Muir, Conroe ISD “historian” expressed an interest in joining the Historical Commission.
4. **No Public Comments** other than information shared by Steve Muir.
5. **Motion was made by Dell Wise and seconded by John Sellars to approve the Commission minutes of January 6, 2020 as corrected: “Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.” Motion carried.**
6. **History Road Rally wrap up:** Goal—learn a lot of things about Conroe. The winning team posted pictures on Facebook live as they were participating. Members made suggestions for future Road Rallies: Coolest Car, Oldest Car, Most Enthusiastic Team, Team Coming from Longest Distance, put clue sheets on website after competition, get groups, such as city officials, students and school districts to compete.
7. **Report on Real Places Conference:** Larry gave a brief report. Every 10 years, every historical commission is to update their historical structures in County (over 50-year-old structures. Pictures. Historical resource surveys. Compile information on coordinates on historical markers and cemeteries. Get data on markers using GIS. State and County markers. 1980 – starting point. See State Historical Marker Worksheet handout. Suggestion: Instead of regular meeting in September, have a Saturday workshop retreat with a meal.
8. **Texas Flags Festival, October 3, 2020: Motion by John Sellars and seconded by Sharon Russell for the Historical Commission to participate with a booth at the Texas Flags Festival and to be a co-sponsor of the event. Motion carried.**
9. **Discuss By-Laws:**
 - Standing committees update
 - Chair person only one that isn’t appointed by the committee—appointed by Commissioners Court
 - Each year revise Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. Term limits 2 years? Wait a year?
 - By-Laws Committee – meet one time (ad hoc). Suggestions for change – report at May meeting.
 - Review Scholarship application
 - Committee: JoDell Whitehead, Chairman, David Frame, John Sellars and Maria Banos Jordan will review the By-Laws
10. **Discuss appointment of CHC officers.** Combine with #9.
11. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. **Distinguished Service Award.** Larry recommends Jon Eden and John Meredith for their work on the Black Cemetery (Conroe Community Restoration Project). Larry will put together biography of both and plan presentation by this summer.
 - b. **MCHC Website and Social Media:** David Frame explained how to find the GIS coordinates for the historical markers in each area.
 - c. **MCHC Historical Preservation Grants.** No grants at this time. Will have \$20,000 to grant.
 - d. **Youth Advisory Board.** Carolyn Carroll explained there were only two active members. Need to revisit the application—feels it is intimidating. The By-Laws Committee will review. Leadership Montgomery County has a youth group. John will see about MCHC addressing the group
 - e. **County Historical Marker Committee.** Sharon Russell discussed the following:
 - Dean House – Magnolia – Sponsors: Celeste, David Hill and Charlie Riley.
 - Historic Cemetery Marker – Danville Cemetery. No narrative. Medallion next to Shepherd Hill Cemetery. Danville Family Cemetery. **Sharon recommends approving a Texas Cemetery Medallion and name plate and date. Recognizes the Danville Family Cemetery as a historical cemetery. Motion by Sharon Russell and second by John Sellars to approve Sharon’s recommendation. Motion carried.**
 - Elizabeth Shaw Cartwright cemetery marker has been approved and is in the queue. Waiting for the foundry.
 - Sharon Russell is working on the Turner Thomas Cemetery in Magnolia and the Decker Prairie Community Building.
 - Need sponsor for Addison-Gandy House in Montgomery. Larry will talk to Martha Gandy about sponsoring it.
 - f. **No report from Endangered Building Committee.**
 - g. **Document Preservation – Archives Committee.** John Sellars discussed Election Central’s Mini Archives and talking to Darrin Nichols, Chief Deputy Clerk.
 - h. **Cemetery Committee:** Discussed in e.
12. **Motion was made by John Sellars and seconded by JoDell Whitehead to approve reimbursing Larry Foerster for the following: Road Rally Buttons - \$135 and Gift Cards for Road Rally - \$375. Total \$510. Motion carried. Motion by John Sellars and seconded by JoDell Whitehead to reimburse Real Places Conference expenses totaling \$744.40. Motion carried.**
13. **Nominations: Steve Muir,** 31-year Conroe ISD employee considered the District Historian. Recruited by Ron Saikowski. Will vote on at next meeting.
14. **Next meeting will be April 27, 2020.**
15. **Motion to adjourn** by Missy Ringo and seconded by Carolyn Carroll. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Submitted by: Sue Ann Powell, Secretary