DECEMBER 4, 2017 MINUTES—BEXAR COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Members Present
Amy M. Porter, Ph.D.
Paul Ringenbach, Ph.D.
Francis X. Galan, Ph.D.
Linda Salvucci, Ph.D.
Mickey Killian
Corky Rubio
Tim Draves

Members Unable to Attend
Carey Latimore, Ph.D.
Felix D. Almaraz, Ph.D.
Francine Rowden
Clinton McKenzie
Mario Salas
Marcello Martinez

Associate Members Present
Gary Houston
Frank Faulkner
Brian McBeth
Scott Baird, Ph.D.

Associate Members Unable to Attend
Brother Edward Loch
Jose G. Jimenez

Guests:
Patti Zaiontz
Lisa Rudy Neira
CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Bexar County Historical Commission was held December 4, 2017 at the Paul Elizondo Tower Conference Room 204 with the Chair, Tim Draves, presiding.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:
From 12:04 to 12:34 PM, the History Awareness and Appreciation Committee, the Historical Markers Committee, and the Cultural Resources Committee met to discuss projects and priorities.

COMMISSION MEETING:
The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:34 PM. There being a quorum present, the minutes of the November 6, 2017 meeting were approved as amended.

ACTIONS:
Motion made to allocate $700 for student awards for the San Antonio Regional History Fair, a component of the National History Day in Texas. Motion passed.

Motion made to allocate $200 for student awards for entries that focus on the history of Bexar County at the San Antonio Regional History Fair, a component of the National History Day in Texas. Motion passed.

Motion made to allocate $500 to sponsor the Western Historical Association’s downtown walking tour during its annual meeting which will be held October 17 to October 20 in San Antonio. Motion passed.

History Appreciation Committee

Dr. Salvucci reported that the National Council of History Education will hold a conference in San Antonio in April 2018. The Committee agrees that participation and promotion do not appear to be worthy efforts at this late date. Further, the committee’s efforts to explore a project to coordinate with a curriculum writer to provide lesson plans to promote learning about the county’s Spanish Mission World Heritage Site have begun.

Historical Markers Committee
Gary Houston reported that the Committee met November 14 and voted to forward three historical marker applications to THC for consideration. The Committee has also approved text for two markers. The county purchasing department will seek bids to replace the Medina Battle marker.
Cultural Resources Committee
Scott Baird reported that owners of the Herritage Cemetery on Moursund Blvd. have replaced two markers removed in July.

Budget Update
Paul Ringenbach reported on allocations made thus far in the 2017/2018 year and available funds, as approved by Commissioners Court. There will be a much longer period of time to plan for the next fiscal year, and the Chair commented that tentative planning means that project and funding discussions will begin at the February 2018 meeting and finish up at the April meeting of the Commission.

Staff Update
Betty Bueché reminded the members and associates that Commissioners Court will expect participation at the May 5 dedication of the San Pedro Creek Improvements Project. Further, members and associates should consider ways that Committee and Commission projects result in quantifiable deliverables and ways to verbalize concrete successes to Commissioners Court as the Historical Commission formulates a request for funds for the next budget year.

Comments From Chair:

- Chair noted that Paul Ringenbach had written a memo regarding four history events all scheduled for February 24, 2018 that appeal to duplicate audiences. San Antonio Conservation Society had a favorable view of the memo and its implications for effective planning of history education, commemorations, contests, and symposia.
- Chair will work with Bexar County Heritage Department to draft a letter of agreement with the San Antonio Conservation Society to sponsor a Mass Meeting of county history organizations;
- The Chair will work with the San Antonio Regional Archivists (SARA) to present a proposal in January for an allocation of funds to develop a directory or brochure to promote scholarly research in the county.

The meeting adjourned at 1:34 PM.