



*Bexar County Historical Commission  
Bexar County Courthouse  
100 Dolorosa #311  
San Antonio, Texas 78205*

Minutes  
Bexar County Historical Commission Meeting  
June 5, 2017

**Members Present**

Felix D. Almaraz, Ph.D.  
Tim Draves  
Carey Latimore, Ph.D.  
Brother Edward Loch  
Marcello Martinez  
Amy Porter, Ph.D.  
Paul Ringenbach, Ph.D.  
Andi Rodriguez  
Francine Rowden  
Corky Rubio

**Members Unable to Attend**

Gilbert Cruz, Ph.D.  
Charles John  
Mickey Killian

**Associate Members Present**

Scott Baird, Ph.D.  
Gary Houston

**Associate Members Unable to Attend**

Catherine Danner  
Frank Faulkner  
Jose G. Jimenez  
Alfred Rodriguez

**Guests:**

Clinton McKenzie, UTSA-CAR  
Patrick McMillan, Toxey/McMillan Design Associates  
Steve Tillotson, Munoz & Co.  
Anne Toxey, Ph.D., Toxey/McMillan Design Associates

### **County Staff:**

David L. Smith, Bexar County Manager

Betty Bueche, Bexar Heritage Department

David C. Carlson, Ph.D., Bexar County Spanish Archives

Juliet Moke, Bexar Heritage Department

### **Call to Order**

#### **Comments:**

Felix D. Almaraz, Ph.D.: Presentation of the gavel to chair

Chair: Expression of gratitude to members and associates for supportive communication during time of transition

David L. Smith, Bexar County Manager: The County's emphasis during Tricentennial year on the importance of San Pedro Creek Project

Steve Tillotson, Munoz & Co.: Review of the historical and cultural elements in the design of the San Pedro Creek Project.

Anne Toxey and Patrick McMillan: Update of design elements included in the Bexar Heritage Center on first floor of the Historic Bexar County Court House.

Minutes for May 1, 2017 approved after motion to amend to show member Marcellus Martinez excused.

### **Committee Reports**

**Markers**—THC has received the Brackenridge Park 'Mexican Village' application for Undertold Stories. Chairman is expecting 'Woodlawn Theater The Alamo Premier' application within months. Several other applications in process. Submissions run September 1 to November 1. Motion to request the Purchasing Department to issue an IFB to replace the damaged 'Battle of the Medina' marker. Motion passed.

**Cemetery**—San Antonio River Authority now has a historian on staff. Continuing efforts regarding identifying ways to preserve cemetery dignity

**History Appreciation**—A Hidalgo will be presented to the Bexar County Historical Commission Chair Emeritas, Virginia S. Nicholas at Bexar County Commissioners Court June 6, 2017. Betty Bueche commented that Angelica Docog, Executive Director Institute of Texan Cultures, will partner with Bexar Bibliotech to host a catalog of archival materials held by the twenty-seven municipalities in Bexar County.

Dr. Carlson commented that the County has 45,000 digital images that account for all Spanish Archive material held by UT-Austin, but that they are not indexed, and not in a database. Documents dating 1718 to 1774 or about twenty percent of the material have been transcribed and translated to English. Some 200,000 remain. The Bancroft Library, the primary special collections library at the University of California, Berkeley, holds additional Spanish Archives that relate to Bexar history.

**Oral History**—Trinity University has an intern who begins working on interviews June 6, 2017. Paul Ringenbach shared the newly published oral history of the late Monsignor Lawrence Stuebben, Catholic Life Insurance Company printed one hundred copies.

### **Planning Session: Vision for the Tricentennial Year and Potential Partnerships**

*(Italics indicate proposals for further discussion and action. No action taken June 5, 2017.)*

1. *Undertold Stories—Bexar focus*
  - a. *Analysis of under-represented stories and groups*
  - b. *Two-year trial*
  - c. *Contract with university history departments to write narratives and identify potential marker sites. (OR Bexar County Historical Commission identify potential marker sites.)*
  - d. *Financial resources—i.e., fellowships*
  - e. *Sponsor Information sessions*
  - f. *Better outreach and follow through to diverse Communities*
  - g. *Ask THC for special year of application process specifically for Bexar county with expedited processing.*
  - h. *Request funding for effort*
  
2. *Lost historical marker applications and dropped efforts—a review of minutes over past seven years to discover marker applications begun but not approved by THC or installed in county, such as Eastview Cemetery, Council House Fight, Huizar and the Rose Window.*
  
3. *Oral History*
  - a. *Interns*
  - b. *Current Trinity University budget for interns: ten hours per week for sixteen weeks or 160 hours*
  - c. *Collections and Repositories*
  - d. *Explore options for transcription*
  - e. *Potential Oral History Budget*

#### *Part One Collection*

*Student interns: \$4000*

*Legal work: \$3,000*

*Travel: \$500*

*Misc: \$1,000*

*Total: \$8500*

*Part Two Preservation and Transcription: \$2,000*

4. *History Appreciation*

- a. *Recover Spanish Archives from University of Texas- Center for American History*
- b. *Collect Family histories. Step One: develop a protocol sheet for donations to Bexar archive repositories.*
- c. *Formalize list of historic and pre-historic cultural resources for Bexar*
- d. *Apply to state for county to become Certified Local Government which allows Bexar County to designate historic structures in the twenty-six municipalities outside COSA and the unincorporated areas.*

5. *Cemeteries*

- a. *Promote scheduled maintenance*
- b. *Better marketing*
- c. *Digitalize an inventory—searchable GPS coordinates*
- d. *Interface with UTSA GIS products*
- e. *Investigate whether genealogy groups have inventoried San Fernando burial records that may coincide with such events as Battle of Rosillo and Battle of Salado Creek, and changes in marriage and baptism frequency.*