

Minutes
Bexar County Historical Commission

Wednesday, February 2, 2022
100 Dolorosa, 2nd Floor
Double Height Courtroom

As approved April 13, 2022

Attendance

Members:

Hector J Cardenas
Joseph de León
Tim Draves
Alan Ernst
Mickey Killian
Jesus R. (Corky) Rubio
Mario Salas

Associate Members:

Scott Baird
David Carlson
Gary Houston
Robert Garcia
Jose Jimenez
Virginia Rutledge

Unable to Attend:

Dan Arellano
Angelica Docog
Michael Gallegos
Sue Ann Pemberton
Frank Faulkner
Brother Ed Loch, S.M.
Clinton McKenzie
Sharon Skrobarcek

Guests:

Paulina Rubio

- I. Call to Order at 1:01 P.M., Roll Call, declaration of a quorum in accordance with the bylaws and Texas Local Government Code Chapter 318. Introduction of guests; approval of January minutes. Tim Draves announced the appointment of Virginia Rutledge and Robert Garcia as associate members.
- II. Joseph De Leon reported that the Historical Markers Committee is reaching out to organizations about the Medina River Bridge marker idea; the Henry Porterfield marker is pending approval of the inscription; the next step for the Robert B. Green Memorial Hospital marker is installation and setting a dedication date; the narrative for the 202 King William marker is complete. Further, the Committee is working on goals for the year, including potential bylaws recommendations, a potential Undertold Markers Committee, a plan for engagement in research and writing marker applications, and plans to participate in THC Markers training.
- III. David Carlson reported for the Archives Committee that the San Antonio Regional Archivists held its winter meeting. A&M Archives has vacated the Presidio Bldg., the DRT Library will remain. Everett Fly hosted a Hockley Cemetery meeting with family descendants on January 29. Clinton McKenzie and Dr. Carlson joined AVAR on the Battle of Medina location field work.
- IV. Scott Baird reported he is working with the Leon Valley Historical Society, and the German Cemetery in Guadalupe County. He also offered an update about findagrave.com listing policies.
- V. There were no reports from the Historic Sites and Structures Committee, the Oral History and Social Media Committee, the Historical Appreciation Committee, or the Surveys and Inventories Committee.

VI. Alan Ernst said the THC Annual Report is due at the end of the month, and he reminded members and associates to report just hours. We do not report miles and dollars spent. He has continued to research the records of the Bexar County Historical Commission held in the Heritage office.

VII. Members Comments—

- a) Joseph de León asked for information about the Fray Olivares project. Dr. Carlson updated the Commission; Robert Garcia said there are potentially other community groups willing to consider public art to honor community heritage.
- b) Gary Houston said that various groups around town will offer Black History Month events.
- c) Mario Salas said that on February 12, UTSA will offer a history tour of historic East Side sites; Carver Library will also hold an event. At times SAACAM offers a River Barge Tour of critical African American history. There are COSA historical plaques at City Cemetery and the Baptist Settlement, and plans for recognition for G.W. Bolden's newspaper, Bellinger's Company on Commerce St., the Cameo Theater, John Inman at the Mount Baptist Church, Hattie Briscoe at the Cunningham Pharmacy, and the Langston Hughes African American Theater on Pine St. Professor Salas and Gary Houston are working with Commissioner Calvert on research regarding the historical record for the proposed Buffalo Soldiers Monument.
- d) Dr. Carlson mentioned that the Archives will present a photographic display of images by Allee Wallace of San Antonio Martin Luther King Day Marches from February 25 to March 11, 2022.
- e) Virginia Rutledge read the THC sent notification that the Pajalate Language Undertold marker application had been approved earlier in the afternoon.
- f) Micky Killian said there is a Fr. Margil statue in storage with the National Park Service; it once was displayed at Mission San Juan Capistrano. Tim Draves asked Robert Garcia to contact the NPS to determine the status of the statue. Hector Cardenas recalled the Father Hidalgo statue at the HemsFair Plaza located near UNAM.

VIII. Mr. Draves offered the Chairman's Report, saying he represents Bexar County as a member of the Alamo Plaza Museum Committee with other County representatives: Dr. Jessica Nowlin, Commissioner Clay-Flores, and Commissioner Barnard. Also, Dr. Christopher Fullerton, who visited as a guest last year, has been appointed to a new United Nations ICOMOS working group on Water + Heritage and that he plans to updating the Commission on that work. Also, Draves informed the Commission one of his goals for the year as Chair is to access THC online training. He will present formal statement of Chairman's Goals at the next meeting, and he encouraged committee chairmen to likewise make a written statement of 2022 goals.

IX. The meeting adjourned at 2:17 P.M. after the announcement of the next meeting March 2, 2022.