



## MINUTES

### DALLAS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

**April 14, 2022**

Commission Chair Juanita Nañez called the meeting to order at 11:46 a.m. This meeting was held at the Dallas County Records Building at 500 Elm Street, Dallas, TX, 75202.

**Members present:** Juanita Nañez, John Roppolo, Jearlene Miller, Elizabeth Gunby, Patricia Hicks, Priscilla Escobedo, Jim Gaspard, Coy Poitier, Roosevelt Nichols, and Jerry Hawkins.

**Members absent:** Elizabeth DeLeon and Rose-Mary Rumbley

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Ms. Nañez welcomed all members and attendees. Mia Brown noted a quorum was present.

**2. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**3. Approval of the March 10, 2022, Minutes**

Mr. Gaspard moved that the minutes from the Commission's March 10, 2022, meeting be approved, and Mr. Roppolo seconded the motion. This motion was approved unanimously.

**4. Committee Reports**

**a. Newsletter Committee (Obj. 1, 2, 4)**

Mr. Nichols noted that due to staff changes at the City of Lancaster that an article would run in the City's May newsletter. Mr. Nichols asked the members what other ways there may be to represent more cultures in the Chronicle. After discussion, there was consensus that more outreach needed to be done. Ms. Nañez requested that members send their ideas to Ms. Hicks.

**b. Marker Committee (Obj. 7, 8)**

Mr. Roppolo stated that the committee received eight applications, and all had been vetted. Summaries of each application were provided to attendees as a handout. Applications would be discussed in more detail during Item 5.

**c. Events/Outreach Committee (Obj. 3, 6)**

Ms. Gunby said that the dedication of the marker at Flag Pole Hill Park will be on June 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Ms. Hicks discussed the Antioch Life Park Cemetery, which was the subject of the latest meeting of the Grand Prairie Historical Organization. Mr. Hawkins attended the Latino Arts Project, the Yanga Journeys to Freedom exhibit at the African American Museum, and the Underground Railroad to Mexico Conference. Ms. Gunby attended a presentation by Sol Villasana, author of Dallas' Little Mexico. Ms. Nañez asked that members who attend events identify themselves as members of the DCHC.

**d. Historical Organization Contact List (Obj. 5)**

Mr. Gaspard said that he is working to complete a list to distribute to the DCHC.

**5. Approval of 2022 Texas Historical Marker Applications**

Mr. Roppolo gave an overview of each of the eight historical marker applications the Marker Committee had received. The DCHC members voted to approve each application one by one; all motions passed unanimously. The applications were: Junior League of Dallas (motion by Ms. Escobedo, seconded by Mr. Hawkins), Salem Institutional Baptist Church (motion by Ms. Escobedo, seconded by Mr. Poitier), W.R. McMillan (motion by Ms. Miller, seconded by Ms. Gunby), Henry Keller (motion by Mr. Hawkins, seconded by Ms. Miller), Manuel and Maria Valle Family (motion by Ms. Escobedo, seconded by Mr. Poitier), Hope Thompson (motion by Ms. Escobedo, seconded by Ms. Gunby), Fields Cemetery (motion by Ms. Escobedo, seconded by Mr. Hawkins), and Elm Thicket – Northpark Neighborhood (motion by Ms. Escobedo, seconded by Mr. Hawkins).

**6. Future Agenda Items**

No future agenda items were proposed.

**7. Upcoming Meetings**

**a. Meeting Schedule and Locations**

The DCHC members discussed that they would prefer future meeting locations outside of downtown. On a motion from Mr. Roppolo and second from Mr. Hawkins, there was a unanimous vote to hold the May meeting at the Aldredge House and the June meeting at the Oak Cliff Government Center.

**b. Next Meeting Date**

Ms. Brown noted that the next meeting date is set for May 12, 2022.

**8. Adjourn**

There being no other business, Ms. Nañez adjourned the meeting at 12:45 p.m.