



MINUTES

DALLAS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

May 12, 2022

Commission Chair Juanita Nañez called the meeting to order at 11:36 a.m. This meeting was held at the Aldredge House at 5500 Swiss Avenue, Dallas, TX, 75214.

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

Members absent: Jearlene Miller 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 April 14, 2022, Minutes

Ms. Hicks moved that the minutes from the Commission's April 14, 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)

Ms. Nañez noted that the Winter 2022 Dallas County Chronicle was distributed to the mass email list on April 5th. She read compliments received for the latest edition from Michael Lowenberg and Sherry Duffer. She also suggested to the members that some future articles could come from state historical marker applications that have been vetted by the DCHC and be edited for length. Mr. Roppolo said that even those applications that are not forwarded to the Texas Historical Commission (THC) could be included as they would still make good articles. Ms. Nañez discussed the possibility of the DCHC taking on the responsibility of compiling articles for the Chronicle and formatting it for distribution. Mr. Hawkins, Ms. DeLeon, and Ms. Escobedo volunteered for this task. Mr. Roppolo requested deadlines to receive articles for the coming year. Ms. Brown gave the email metrics from the Winter Chronicle, which received more interactions than the Summer Chronicle. The email had 588 recipients, 240 unique opens, and five additional people subscribed after the email was distributed.

b. Marker Committee (Obj. 7, 8)

Mr. Roppolo stated that he sent five of eight DCHC-approved marker applications to the THC. The remaining applications did not yet have property owner consent for placement. Inscriptions for two of the 2021 marker applications are awaiting approval

by the THC. Ms. Hicks gave an overview of informational letters that she drafted for state historical marker applications and for Dallas County untold marker applications.

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 4th at 10:00 a.m. and most members present indicated they plan to attend. Mr. Hawkins hosted a panel at EarthX about preservation of historic African American neighborhoods and attended the Texas Library Association Conference where he was a speaker and attended a panel on archiving. Ms. Escobedo said she will speak as part of a panel on Asian American and Pacific Islander history at a workshop at the UT Arlington Central Library on May 19th. Mr. Poitier and Mr. Nichols attended a THC workshop in Bosque County on historical interpretation for museum curation. Ms. Nañez asked that members who attend events identify themselves as members of the DCHC so that the events can be tracked for inclusion in the Annual Report that is sent to THC.

d. Historical Organization Contact List (Obj. 5)

Mr. Gaspard said that he is working to compile the contact information for 20 historical organizations in Dallas County, which are currently primarily email addresses. He stated that this information will need to be updated every year.

5. Texas Historical Commission Real Places Conference and Preservation Awards

Ms. Nañez gave an overview of the Real Places Conference which will be held February 1-3, 2023, in Austin. Submissions of workshop abstracts are being accepted until May 31st. She noted that the nomination period for the 2022 THC Preservation Awards is open from May 1st to July 15th and encouraged members to nominate individuals in the various categories to recognize them for their preservation work.

6. Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items were proposed.

7. Upcoming Meetings

a. Next Meeting Date : June 9, 2022

The June meeting will be held at the Oak Cliff Government Center in Dallas.

b. No Meeting in July - Recess

8. Adjourn

There being no other business, Ms. Nañez adjourned the meeting at 12:27 p.m.