



MINUTES

DALLAS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

August 11, 2022

Commission Chair Juanita Nañez called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m. This meeting was held at the Dallas County Oak Cliff Government Center at 702 E Jefferson Blvd, Dallas, TX, 75203.

Members present: Juanita Nañez, John Roppolo, Jim Gaspard, Roosevelt Nichols, Elizabeth De Leon, Jearlene Miller, Patricia Hicks, Elizabeth Gunby, and Jerry Hawkins.

Members absent: Coy Poitier, Priscilla Escobedo, 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 June 9, 2022, Minutes

Mr. Gaspard moved that the minutes from the Commission's June 9, 2022, meeting be approved, and Mr. Roppolo seconded the motion. This motion was approved unanimously.

4. Committee Reports

a. Newsletter Committee (Obj. 1a, b, c)

Mr. Nichols asked for clarification on roles for the Newsletter Committee. Ms. De Leon said that all five members will plan the structure for creating and distributing the Chronicle. Mr. Hawkins said that publications days will be scheduled on DCHC meeting dates and that Ms. De Leon will lay out the newsletter. The standard length will be four pages unless more information needs to be added. Ms. De Leon will send the Summer Chronicle out for review in the next few days and she will put together an informational document with article guidelines.

b. Marker Committee (Obj. 5, 6)

Mr. Roppolo stated that all six applications that were submitted to the Texas Historical Commission (THC) were approved: Salem Institutional Baptist Church, Henry Keller, Fields Cemetery, Valle Family, Junior League of Dallas, and Elm Thicket/Northpark Neighborhood. The remaining two applications approved by the DCHC during the April meeting were not submitted to THC because they did not have the property owner's signature. Ms. Hicks told the DCHC that THC's Undertold Marker application period will be open from October 1 – November 15. Applications will be posted on the THC website on September 1. Ms. Gunby gave an update on the Aldredge House historical marker, which was stolen last November. The marker was returned, and the THC gave the Dallas County Medical Society Alliance Foundation a waiver for the requirement to use a post to mount the marker. Ms. Nañez noted that the THC approved a price increase for

historical markers beginning with the 2022 application period. The costs were not included in the application, but it did note that pricing would be given at a later date. She sent an email to the THC requesting them to honor previous prices from 2021 for the 2022 applications and is awaiting a response. Ms. Nañez also shared that the 2019 marker for Johnny Graham's Barbershop is being held by TxDOT and will be placed in a median in the Fair Park area. Plans for a dedication ceremony at a nearby location are pending.

c. Events/Outreach Committee (Obj. 2, 4)

Ms. Miller attended the Irving Heritage Society tour of the Heritage House with other DCHC members, held on Sundays. She also mentioned that the City of Irving is looking for Native American organizations. Mr. Hawkins recommended that the City contact the organizers of Native American Heritage Day. He also suggested Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, a program of Native Womens Wilderness. Ms. Nañez said that a member of the Dallas Mexican American Historical League may have some information. Ms. Gunby said that she, along with Mr. Gaspard and Ms. De Leon, attended the marker dedication at Antioch Cemetery. Mr. Nichols proposed sending letters to smaller communities in Dallas County to spread awareness of the DCHC. Ms. Miller said she would draft a letter, and Ms. Brown recommended sending it to city secretaries.

d. Historical Organization Contact List (Obj. 3)

Mr. Gaspard said that he is still working to compile the contact information for historical organizations in Dallas County. Many of the contacts are phone numbers only. Mr. Hawkins recommended that Mr. Gaspard reach out to the Puerto Rican Association of DFW.

5. DCHC Membership

Ms. Nañez gave an overview of the Dallas County policy regarding appointments to the DCHC. Each member is appointed for up to three two-year terms. She asked members to talk with Ms. Brown if they have questions about their term. She also requested that members support their county commissioners by referring future potential members to Ms. Brown.

6. Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items were proposed.

7. Upcoming Meetings

a. Next Meeting Date: September 8, 2022

The members requested that the August meeting be held at the Oak Cliff Government Center in Dallas.

8. Adjourn

There being no other business, Ms. Nañez adjourned the meeting at 12:37 p.m.