



MINUTES

DALLAS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

November 16, 2022

Commission Chair Juanita Nañez called the meeting to order at 11:33 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, Elizabeth Gunby, Coy Poitier, Jerry Hawkins, Patricia Hicks, Priscilla Escobedo, Joan E. Jackson Bouldin, Cheryl Jackson.

Members absent: 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 September 8, 2022, Minutes

Mr. Gaspard moved that the minutes from the Commission's September 8, 2022, meeting be approved with changes, and Mr. Roppolo seconded the motion. This motion was approved unanimously.

4. Committee Reports

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

Ms. DeLeon said that she is currently compiling content for the December edition of the Chronicle. Ms. Gunby said that she will be sending an article by Renee Schmidt on the restoration of the Junius Heights trolley.

b. Marker Committee (Obj. 5, 6)

Ms. Hicks stated that she gave a presentation at the Bennett Family Gardens on the steps for both the state historical marker and the undertold marker applications. Mr. Roppolo was also at the event and was presented with a Texas Historical Commission Certificate of Appreciation from Dean Barker, General Manager of the Laurel Oaks Memorial Gardens & Cemetery, where the Bennett Family Gardens are located. Mr. Roppolo said that they are seeing the fruits of their labor from the marker applications and that more ceremonies are coming as the approved wording for markers goes to the foundry. He also mentioned that the Johnny Graham Barbershop was featured on Channel 4, including a soundbite from Ms. Hicks, during their marker dedication ceremony. Ms. Nañez thanked Ms. Hicks and Mr. Roppolo and all who attend the marker dedications.

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

Ms. Gunby attended the Junius Heights Historic District Restoration Tour on November 5, which featured 200 structures across the 190-acre district. Ms. Hicks attended the Irving Archives and Museum to view the Smithsonian traveling exhibit entitled “The Negro Motorist Green Book,” which runs through January 8, 2023.

d. Historical Organization Contact List (Obj. 3)

Mr. Gaspard said that the list is still a work in progress, but it is close to completion. He will replicate the final product so that all have a copy.

5. THC RTHL Project

Ms. Nañez discussed the Texas Historical Commission’s (THC) effort to build a smartphone app for Registered Texas Historic Landmarks (RTHL). THC requested that each county historical commission take photos of each of their RTHL properties to include in the app. Dallas County has 77 properties. Mr. Roppolo moved that the RTHL documentation project be added to the DCHC Goals and Ms. Miller seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Mr. Poitier and Ms. Miller will coordinate on this effort.

6. Future Budget Requests

After discussion, the members asked that Ms. Brown make the following budget request for several activities in the current fiscal year: \$2500 to sponsor the Best Historical Film Award at the 2023 Dallas International Film Festival, \$500 for sponsorship of the 2023 Legacies Dallas History Conference, as well as funds for a banner, tablecloth, promotional items, and printing expenses.

7. Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items were discussed.

8. Upcoming Meetings

- a. Next Meeting Date: December 21, 2022

9. Adjourn

There being no other business, Ms. Nañez adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.