



## MINUTES

### DALLAS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

**JULY 17, 2024**

Commission Chair Elizabeth Gunby called the meeting to order at 11:41 a.m. This meeting was held at the Oak Cliff Government Center, 702 E. Jefferson Blvd., Dallas, Texas 75203.

**Members present:** Elizabeth Gunby, Roosevelt Nichols, Joan Jackson Bouldin, Deah Berry Mitchell, Christopher Cornell, Yasir Arafat, Priscilla Escobedo, Anthony Cornell, Jearlene Miller, and Patricia Hicks

**Members absent:** John Roppolo, Cheryl Jackson, Coy Poitier

#### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Ms. Gunby welcomed all members and attendees, and noted a quorum was present.

#### 2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

#### 3. Approval of May 15, 2024, Minutes by Pat Hicks

Ms. Gunby requested a motion to approve the May 15th DCHC meeting minutes. Ms. Bouldin pointed out that the commas in the members present section need to be fixed. Additionally, "Forest Hill" in the committee reports section should read Forest Hills.

Mr. C. Cornell made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Mr. A. Cornell seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. Mr. A. Cornell noted that the meeting agenda should reflect committee members accordingly. Mr. C. Cornell on the marker committee and Ms. Bouldin on the newsletter committee. Ms. Allen indicated that it would be updated by the next meeting.

#### 4. Committee Reports

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

Mr. A. Cornell reported that the summer newsletter was sent out and that he is accepting submissions for the next Chronicle. Ms. Vargas reported the newsletter statistics: it was sent to 623 email addresses, 269 emails were opened, 55 emails bounced back, and 4 emails unsubscribed. Ms. Bouldin shared that Commissioner Daniel would like to assist with the request to print newsletters. Ms. Escobedo and Ms. Berry Mitchell will send their personal bios and headshot photos so they can be featured in the next newsletter. Ms. Gunby reported that articles on Martyrs Park and Elm Thicket will be prepared for the next newsletter. Mr. A. Cornell requested that the submissions be sent to him with all caps in the email title for easy identification.

Ms. Berry Mitchell created a historical sites application for the City of Dallas and she will write an article about the application for the newsletter. Ms. Miller asked Mr. Tamayo an article has been published about the historical cemetery next to Townview. Mr. Tamayo will confirm. Mr. Arafat asked if commission members are directly responsible for writing the articles or if articles may be prepared by community members. Mr. Tamayo said that third party articles may be submitted for consideration if the commission has permission to include it in the newsletter. Ms. Gunby added third party articles may also be edited or condensed if they are too long. Mr. Arafat will look into an article featuring Bear Creek in Irving. Mr. Nichols noted that an article on Bear Creek was previously included in the chronicle and that it may be worth including if it is written from a different perspective.

**b. Marker Committee (Obj. 5, 6)**

Ms. Gunby shared that Mr. Roppolo could not attend today's meeting due to his granddaughter's graduation in Manchester. There is no report.

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

No report.

**d. Social Media**

No report. Mr. Poitier was not in attendance, but Ms. Gunby reminded members to share their activities for social media posts. Ms. Gunby reported that she, Ms. Hicks, and Mr. Roppolo attended the Elm Thicket North Park neighborhood dedication. Several Dallas City Council attended. Interviews and oral history accounts were conducted at the dedication and are published on you tube. Ms. Alice Ferguson, a community member who is 95 years old, provided an historical account of the neighborhood. Ms. Hicks added that she attended the Martyrs Park dedication. She had an opportunity to highlight the work of the DCHC. Ms. Gunby suggested that Ms. Hicks write an article about the Martyrs Park dedication. Ms. Hicks is also working on another article idea about a school named after a community member, Mildred Barrett Ellis. Ms. Gunby reported that the RTHL project is almost complete.

**5. Future Agenda Items**

No report.

**6. Upcoming Meetings**

The DCHC August meeting is scheduled at the Oak Cliff Government Center. Ms. Gunby would like to schedule the October meeting at the Caruth House and is awaiting a response. The Caruth House has a pioneer cemetery on the property. Commission members are open to meeting that the Caruth House and inquired whether the location addresses historical responsibility. The Caruth House has been restored and is in great condition.

Mr. Nichols requested that commission members make the effort to show up on time for future meetings.

**7. Adjourn**

Ms. Gunby adjourned the meeting at 12:23 p.m.