



MINUTES

DALLAS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

OCTOBER 16, 2024

Commission Chair Elizabeth Gunby called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. This meeting was held at the Oak Cliff Government Center, 702 E. Jefferson Blvd., Dallas, Texas 75203.

Members present: Elizabeth Gunby, Patricia Hicks, Anthony Cornell, Christopher Cornell, Deah Berry Mitchell, Jearlene Miller, Priscilla Escobedo, John Roppolo, Cheryl Jackson, Coy Poitier, Roosevelt Nichols, and Joan Jackson Bouldin

Members absent: Yasir Arafat

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Ms. Gunby welcomed all members and attendees, and noted a quorum was present. Blanca Gonzales with Commissioner Daniel, Jheison Romain with Commissioners Court Administration, Socorro Salazar with Commissioner Garcia, and Todd Hensley with Commissioner Sommerman were in attendance.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of September 18, 2024, Minutes

Ms. Gunby requested a motion to approve the September 18, 2024, DCHC meeting minutes. A motion to approve the September 2024, minutes was made by Mr. C. Cornell and seconded by Mr. A. Cornell. The minutes were unanimously approved.

4. Committee Reports

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

Mr. A. Cornell distributed a draft of the next Chronicle for review by commission members. Mr. A. Cornell recognized his student, Aubrey Stafford, for assisting in the creation of the document in CANVA (an online graphic design tool). Mr. A. Cornell reported that he has one article in the queue for the next Chronicle publication. Chair Gunby will provide photos of the Hilliard Golf Course for the next newsletter. Mr. Tamayo reported that the Chronicle newsletter e-blast will go out soon, as well as a reminder to forward to friends. Ms. Berry Mitchell noted that her name needs to be added to the member column on the newsletter template.

b. Marker Committee (Obj. 5, 6)

Mr. Roppolo had no report for this meeting. Mr. Roppolo received a new application and will provide an update at the next meeting.

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

Chair Gunby led a discussion about recent webpage updates to the links section on the DCHC website. It was noted that the DCHC website has section dedicated to other historical organizations and that upon

review some of the links were not historical in nature. The commission agreed that it makes sense to keep a listing of historical organizations and that it is worth exploring other avenues to promote cultural organization listings.

Ms. Miller has no report for this meeting. Ms. Miller asked for event updates from members. Ms. Hicks attended the Mexican American Museum traveling exhibit at the University of Dallas. Chair Gunby added that there is an article in the Chronicle about that exhibit. Mr. Poitier attended a Living History exhibit with Deep Ellum Foundation and Remembering Black Dallas. Ms. Jackson attended a fundraiser for the Baker Estate, Good Samaritan Hospital, on Leland Avenue. Vanessa Baker is working on a marker application for the hospital, which was initially a hospital for unwed Jewish mothers and later became a hotel for African Americans. Ms. Escobedo did a presentation at the Golden Rule School in Desoto on Hispanic Heritage Month. Chair Gunby reported that Mr. Arafat is working on identifying organizations to add to the resources list on the DCHC website. Chair Gunby recommended that cultural organizations have a designation on the county website and introduced Mr. Jheison Romain, Chief of Diversity and Inclusion with Commissioner Court Administration, who will explore that possibility.

d. Social Media

Mr. Poitier requested PDF files of the newsletter to post on the social media platforms. Secondly, Mr. Poitier shared exciting news that some of the movies that are presented at the Dallas International Film Festival (DIFF) may be considered for Oscar nomination and that Commissioner Garcia wants to increase the DCHC donation amount to the film festival.

5. Future Agenda Items

Chair Gunby mentioned that History Conference will be in January 2025 and will provide an update in December. There were follow up questions on budgetary items. Ms. Hicks asked if budget requests may be presented after the budget is approved. Ms. Allen confirmed that although the budget has been approved for the fiscal year, individual requests may be brought to Commissioners Court for approval. Mr. C. Cornell requested a follow-up on Commissioner Daniel's request to provide funding for printing newsletters.

6. Upcoming Meetings

The next meeting will be held November 20, 2024, at the Oak Cliff Government Center. The December DCHC meeting will be at the Aldredge House. Chair Gunby will confirm at the next meeting.

7. Adjourn

Ms. Gunby adjourned the meeting at 12:07 p.m.