

Burnet County Historical Commission Minutes

February 6, 2024

The Burnet County Historical Commission (BCHC) met in regular session February 6, 2024 at 1:00 PM.

Those in attendance include:

Members:

Chairman-Rachel Bryson, Vice Chair-Polly Krenek, Treasurer-Carolyn Liles, Secretary-Terri Burger, Mary Ellen Keith, Jane Knapik, Amanda Seim, Florence Reeves, Linda French, Lela Goar

Prospective Members:

Bob Kent, Nicole Westhoff, Danielle Meredith

Guests:

Suzanne Freeman-Daily Trib.com, Toni Schmid, Judi Beauford, Norman L. Dierks

The meeting was called to order, opened with the pledge of allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

Introduction of guests, identified above.

No Commissioners in attendance.

Update on Joppa Bridge

- **Bridge marker dedication in 2017**
- **County later identified structural damage, bridge closed to public access**
- **Joppa community concerned about funding and getting repairs done, reaching out to BCHC for assistance**
- **Rachel will attend upcoming commissioner's meeting to get update on bridge repair plans**

Minutes from January 2, 2024 were approved as published. Financial report reviewed by Treasurer.

Gus Wilke Granite Yard, a detailed history provided by Florence Reeves and Bob Kent.

- **Gustav (Gus) Wilke, a German immigrant moved to the United States in 1868, known as the builder of the state Capitol.**
- **Wilke also oversaw the construction of the Austin to Oatmanville (Oak Hill) rail line, as well as a branch line from Burnet to Granite Mountain near Marble Falls, both of which were built to facilitate the transport of large quantities of limestone and granite needed in the construction of the Capitol.**

Certified Local Government Grant (CLG) update by Lela Goar:

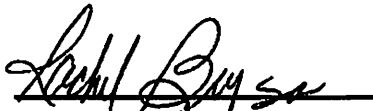
- Stringtown Cemetery was approved for CGL grant
- Undertold Marker application was approved by the Texas Historical Commission (THC)
- The Undertold marker grant request also includes the THC to consider approval of an Official Texas Historical Marker for the Undertold topic. A minimum 5 page history of Stringtown is required. This will assist the THC for the needed verbiage for the historical marker.
- BCHC members approved the grant to be accepted for the Stringtown Cemetery Undertold Marker.

Cookbooks and Bluebonnet Festival

- Meeting after BCHC meeting to discuss cookbook
- Will need volunteers for a booth at the festival. Polly volunteered to oversee.

The BCHC Annual report to THC is due March 1, 2024. Rachel will oversee and ask for assistance in completing some areas in the writeup.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm. Next meeting is on March 5, 2024 at 1:00 pm at the Herman Brown Library in Burnet.


Rachel Bryson, Chairman


Terri Burger, Secretary