

# BURNET COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

## MINUTES

MAY 2, 2023

The BCHC meeting was called to order by President, Rachel Bryson at 1:00. Those in attendance were Rachel Bryson, Polly Krenek, Carolyn Lyles, Lela Goar, Jane Knapik, Mary Ellen Keith, Amanda Seim, Florence Reeves, Blair Manning, Jim Luther, Joe Don Dockery, John Potts, and Tommye Potts.

Florence and Amanda gave an update on the website and roots web. All files have been downloaded and ready to decide the next steps. They are going through the files to get a feel of what all is there and how and where to preserve the information. They are working with the county IT to get a new password which will be held by the county.

Commissioners gave an update on work on the Joppa bridge. Commissioner Beierle has reached out to people in the area with knowledge of what needs to be done and discussed options with them. So far, no bids have been received or date of repairs made. They also stated that they could go get the granite stone in Marble Falls and bring it to Burnet for placement on the courthouse lawn. It will be on the east side of the courthouse close to where the Wallace Riddell statue was.

The granite stone for the 1936 marker that has been found behind the LaQuinta Inn in Marble Falls and the replacement plaques was discussed. Questions were asked about the condition of the original stone and whether it could be used to put the new plaques on when moved to the courthouse in Burnet. Several questions were asked and discussed in regard to what needs to be done and how to proceed. Blair Manning was asked to contact Bob Brinkman at the THC in Austin and find out some of the requirements as to size of stone required and whether the stone in question could be used. Also of concern is the round plaque that goes on the front was mislabeled and she will see if that can be replaced to what the original plaque stated.

Minutes were amended and approved as amended and will be filed with the county and sent to the state. The treasurer's report was given but is still not clear as to how the money is listed. It needs to list money that is in the account that can be used to pay for commission needs, i.e. name badges, etc., instead of lumping it in with the donations money that will be used to help preserve history of the county in memory of Ina Cooper and Darrel Debo.

Rachel gave a report from Doak Field on the possibility of getting a small tablet and secure a block to use for book sales online and at events since most people do not carry a lot of cash anymore and this makes it very difficult to sell any of the history books. The motion was made and seconded to work with Blair to buy a tablet and obtain a block to read and accept credit cards that would be approved by the county. The motion passed.

Amanda Seim reported on the possibility of being accepted to have a Smithsonian exhibit in Burnet County. Six sites will be selected in each state and must be located in communities of less than 15,000. Falls on the Colorado Museum in Marble Falls is applying. The county Chambers of Commerce will be asked to assist in setting up activities for people to attend while in the county. If selected there will be training ahead of the arrival of the exhibit to the county. This is a work in progress and we will learn more about the process if selected.

Lela Goar presented a report on the Ina Cooper/Darrel Debo funds in Caryl Calson's absence. After much discussion, the decision was proposed not to do grants but use the money to assist local individuals and communities in getting historical markers by paying the \$100 application fee and working with them financially if necessary to obtain the historical markers due to the high cost of the

markers. Lela made a motion to pay the application fee and work with the entities if necessary to help with the marker funds. The motion was seconded by Jane Knapik and passed. The second part of the discussion concerned places in Burnet County communities that are of historical value but not eligible for state markers. The motion was made by Lela to work with cities and county members to make it possible to place a Burnet County historical marker on any site that meets the qualifications of historic value. Carolyn Liles seconded and motion passed.


Rachel announced that the new nametags were in and asked those that had not picked theirs up to do so. She also mentioned the fact that the Commission is working with the Genealogy Society to man a booth at the Burnet County Area Fair on June 10<sup>th</sup>. This will be an excellent opportunity to let people know more about what we are trying to do to preserve Burnet County History and encourage more people to get involved. People will be needed to help man the table from 9:00 – 3:00.

Emeritus members were discussed and Delbert Cain was nominated by Lela and Polly seconded the motion. He has had to opt out of being an active member due to health problems but is still very active in the Joppa Community with Coffee on the Bridge once a month and other activities with the bridges. The motion passed.

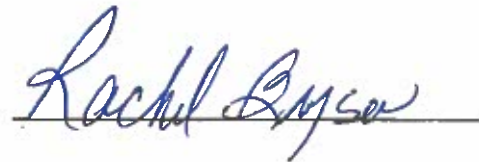
The Bethel Extension Education Club has invited all members to their next meeting which will be at Fort Croghan, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm. The Burnet homeschool group will be presenting the program. They have chosen 15 names from the 40 bricks in the middle of the Plaza of Honor and will be presenting a live wax museum on each one. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Other business was tabled until the June meeting which will be June 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 at the Herman Brown Library.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:00 pm.



Lela Goar, Temporary Secretary



Rachel Bryson, Chairman