

WEBB COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Minutes of Meeting Thursday, March 26, 2009

The Webb County Historical Commission met Thursday, March 26, 2009 at noon at the Webb County Records Administration Building, 7117 E. Saunders Avenue.

Attending were:

Joe Moreno, Jose Roberto Juarez, Odie Arambula, Stan Green, Nelda Rodriguez, Bibi Garza Gongora, Elizabeth Gill, Elisa Gutierrez and Rebecca Sepulveda. Guest: Carlos Ordonez.

- I. Call to order – The meeting was called to order by Chairman Joe Moreno.
- II. Approval of minutes – With a correction in the name of Thelma Acosta, the minutes of the February meeting were approved on a motion from Odie Arambula and a second by Stan Green.
- III. Committee Reports
 - a. Finance and Budget – In the absence of the treasurer, Mr. Moreno reported a balance of \$805 in the International Bank of Commerce account with a check for \$4,200 pending from Webb County; and a balance of \$4,840.29 in the Wells Fargo account.

Commissioners voted to approve travel expenses of approximately \$700 each for two members to attend the annual state preservation conference in Austin. Traveling will be chair Joe Moreno and member Nelda Rodriguez. The motion was made by Odie Arambula and seconded by Jose Roberto Juarez.

- b. History Appreciation – Stan Green requested a vote on various options presented by the essay contest committee. Commissioners approved an April 30 deadline and awards of \$150 for Grand Prize, \$50 for Honorable Mention and a prize valued at \$100 (book or supply certificates, etc.) for teachers. The motion was made by Stan Green and seconded by Odie Arambula.

The location of the 2009 awards ceremony was discussed, but a decision on whether to return the location to the historic downtown area was delegated to the committee on a motion by Elizabeth Gill and a second from Jose Roberto Juarez.

- c. Research and Markers – Dr. Juarez reminded members that the airport marker ceremony was scheduled for April 1. He reported that he was still working with Dr. Norma Cantu and the Heritage Foundation for scheduling a lecture on the Matachines for which a marker is being considered. He reported that the inscription for the Bruni marker was under revision. He added that the Martin High School marker was pending dedication although it has been installed.
 - d. Public Policy – no action
 - e. Library, Archives and Museums – no action

IV. New Business - none

V. Other business – Nelda Rodriguez reported information about the Save Our History grant which could support a variety of youth-related activity. However, time is needed to develop a project before an application can be submitted and she recommended the commission apply in the next year. She agreed to bring project recommendations to the commission.

Elisa Gutierrez reported that discussion with Webb County regarding the proposed celebration of the courthouse's 100th anniversary is still pending

VI. Announcements – Joe Moreno reminded the commission of the state requirement that members receive training in the Open Meetings Act and Open Records Act. Members requested clarification whether the training is required for both meetings and records.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Jose Roberto Juarez and a second by Odie Arambula.

Rebecca C. Sepulveda, Secretary