

WEBB COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Minutes of March 1976 Meeting

Date: Sunday, March 28, 1976

Time: 07:30-09:30pm

Place: Laredo Public Library

Convened by: Miss Rose Vela, Chairman

Other members present: Mrs. Carmen Nelson, Joe and Virginia Puig, Dr. Green, Dr. De King, and Mr. Porfirio Flores

Agenda:

1. Approval of minutes of previous meeting
2. Approval of agenda
3. Reports
  - A) Progress on securing funding from Commissioners Court
  - B) Status of developing relationship between Laredo Historical Society(Museum of the Republic of the Rio Grande) and the Museum of Nuevo Santander.
  - C) Clarification of plans for participation of Bishop of Corpus Christi in May 15 & 16, Foundation of Laredo celebration.
  - D) Status of plans to replace Vidaurri(Santos Benavides) home historical marker.
  - E) Coordination of Laredo photo-history studies.
  - F) Status of WCHC support of effort to name new LISD elementary school after Santos Benavides.
  - G) Plans for bus tour to Goliad.
4. New Business
  - A) Discussion of progressive destruction of St Augustine Plaza.
  - B) Money for historic preservation projects.
  - C) Prospective WCAS/WCHC visit to UTSA archeology site at Mission San Bernardo, Mexico.
  - D) Procedure for new historical marker processing.

Proceedings:

1. At request of Mrs Virginia Puig, minutes of 2-29-76 meeting corrected to read, "Mrs. Virginia Puig" instead of "Mrs Alicia Puig." Moved by Sheriff Flores, seconded by Mrs. Nelson, and approved was that the minutes of the 2-29-76 meeting be accepted as corrected. Noted by Mrs. Virginia Puig was that Luis and Alicia Puig had moved to San Antonio.
2. Moved by Sheriff Flores, seconded by Mrs. Sutton, and approved was adoption of the published agenda for the meeting.
- 3A. Reported by Rose Vela and Joe Puig were their efforts to contact Judge Santos and the Commissioners court concerning funding support for Webb County Historical Commission. Miss Vela and Mr. Puig agreed to continue efforts to secure funding.

3B. Reported by Mr. Joe Puig was that no new action had been taken concerning the proposed relationship between the Museum of the Republic of the Rio Grande and the Museum of Nuevo Santander.

3C. Reported by Rose Vela was that plans for the participation of the Bishop of Corpus Christi in the celebration of the foundation of Laredo had been settled on May 15, 1976.

3D. Reported by Rose Vela were her continuing contacts with Mrs. Lafon and Mrs. Hanchett (Present owners of Vidaurri-Santos Benavides home, from which plaque was stolen) to secure data for justification of new marker. Miss Vela also reported no contact, as yet, with Mrs Shiner, regarding possibility of relocation of plaque on Shiner home (to be destroyed for approaches to new bridge) to the Vidaurri-Santos Benavides home.

3E. Reported by Dr. Green, with regard to coordination of Laredo photo-history study(ies), were efforts of Dr. Carl Johnson of the Laredo Junior College Library, and of Mrs. Mary Cook, of the Laredo Public Library to complete copying Laredo historical photographs. Present major effort directed toward completing copying of Sam Johnson, Sr. Collection (Laredo Public Library). Dr. Green agreed to continue efforts to contact Jim Parish, to ascertain direction and progress of Laredo Times Laredo photo-history project.

3F. Reported by Rose Vela, was that Mr. Jerry Thompson had agreed to see to sending letter, concerning WCHC position regarding naming of new LISD elementary school after Santos Benavides, to LISD Board members and Laredo Times.

3G. Reported by Mrs. Carmen Nelson were her efforts to plan bus trip to Goliad. Most economical bus rates [\$308 for 34 persons, and \$344 for 43 persons] were from Continental Trailways.

4A. New business item, regarding discussion of progressive destruction of St. Augustine Plaza, tabled until next meeting.

4B. Agreed was that sources of money, aside from Commissioners Court funds, for historic preservation projects would be either private funds or federal matching grants. Sheriff Flores and Mrs. Nelson agreed to investigate the matching grant prospects.

4C. Moved by Mrs. Nelson, seconded by Virginia Puig, and approved, was that bus tour to Goliad be scheduled for Sunday, May 9, 1976. Appointed as a committee to plan and organize this project were Virginia Puig, Norma Benavides, Mary Cook, and Dr. Green.

4D. Noted by Dr. De King was prospect of a similar trip to visit the UTSA Archeological Research Center dig at Mission San Bernardo, Mexico. Agreed was that Dr. De King would investigate particulars of such a visit and report back at a future meeting.

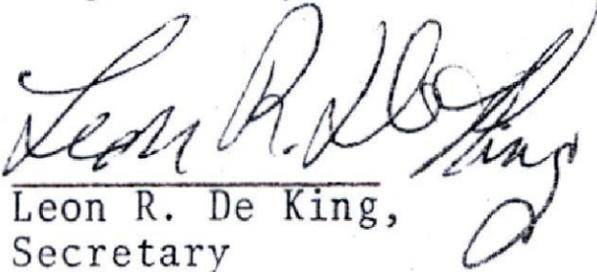
4E. Mrs. G.P. Sutton agreed to contact Bishop Drury, Bishop of the Diocese of Corpus Christi, concerning his support for historic marker(s) honoring the memory of Bisop Verdaguer.

4F. Presented by Rose Vela was an Official Memorandum from Governor Briscoe authorizing Webb County designation of a "County History Appreciation Week." Dr. Green agreed to chair the committee to plan time and events, with the assistance of Dr. De King.

4G. Porfirio Flores and Joe Puig agreed to report on the prospect of a tour of local, historically significant, ranches at the next Commission meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 09:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted;

  
Leon R. De King,  
Secretary