



Bexar County Historical Commission  
Bexar County Courthouse  
100 Dolorosa #311  
San Antonio, Texas 78205

## BEXAR COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Minutes - October 3, 2018

1:00 pm

Commission Members in Attendance:

Dr. Félix D. Almaráz, Jr.  
Mickey Killian  
Dr. Scott Baird  
Clinton McKenzie  
Dr. Francis X. Galan  
Dr. Amy Porter  
Dr. Paul T. Ringenbach  
Jesús R. (Corky) Rubio  
Tim Draves  
Dr. Linda K. Salvucci

Associate Members in Attendance:

Jose Jimenez  
Frank S. Faulkner, Jr.  
Gary Houston  
Brother Ed Loch, S.M.  
Dr. David Carlson

Guests or County Representatives in Attendance:

Juliette Moke  
Alan Ernst

Meeting called to order at 1:10 pm

McKenzie moved to approve the June minutes; Salvucci seconded; minutes approved as written

Motion to approve September minutes as corrected. Rubio seconded. Minutes approved.

## **Vice Chair's Summary of Expenditures and Balances and FY-19:**

Budget Report  
October 3, 2018

FY-18 Funds Status. You will receive the final dollar totals at our November meeting. All approved projects except one for \$200 have been paid or are in the final steps at the County. All checks should be issued NLT October 31.

FY-19 Budget Project Proposals. All proposed projects for FY-19 must be sent to me by email NLT October 19, 2018 if you want them presented at our November meeting. I will check them out and return them to you for changes or corrections as soon as possible so that you can have the proposal returned to me on the letterhead of the requesting organization or institution via email NLT November 2, 2018. I will assemble all of the proposals submitted and will present them for Commission approval at our November meeting. No proposals will be considered by the Commission unless they are prepared as stated above. While any proposals may be considered for submission, some routine ones below must be included:

- a. San Antonio Regional History Day. (Dr. Wm. Bush, TAMUSA)
- b. Navarro Scholarships (Rubio)
- c. Oral History Student Assistants – Trinity University (Latimore)
- d. TSHA annual meeting support (?)
- e. Support of State or National Historical Meetings or Conventions held in San Antonio (?)
- f. BCHC member's attendance at Historical Meetings or Conventions (Ringebach)

Respectfully submitted,

Paul T. Ringebach, Ph.D.  
Interim Treasurer/Budget officer

Draves asked if Conservation Society has pursued a Congress follow up. Ringebach said no, and Draves said he would work on it to get something submitted by October 19.

### **Historical Markers Report presented by Dr. Almaraz:**

1) Shiner House in Monte Vista area; waiting for Professor Jimenez to go to the Shiner House, look at the house, make an assessment as an architect, and bring report to marker committee on whether it is original 2) Mariah Pfeiffer has submitted two- Charles M.A. Hummel House in the Monte Vista area; it was submitted last year but not selected in Austin; also the Robert B. Green

hospital 3) St. Hedwig by Alan and Regina Kosub; this application has been with us for about 18 months; BCHC has been asked by the THC to conduct a special assignment- Frost Bank has two markers that they want to temporarily remove until the new building is complete; they can be kept secure by the bank

### **Cemetery Report presented by Dr. Baird:**

- Seeking Historical Recognition:
  - 1) Herritage Cemetery- Baird and Carlson will make the complaint to the sheriff
  - 2) Bacon-Beckmann
  - 3) A&M campus- Somerset contact (Mitchell?)
- Seeking Maintenance Help
  - Herrera-Ruiz (Somerset)- This cemetery has been inspected and can apply for grants.
  - Linda Ramos and cousin
  - SARA- Monica-Treviño-Ortega (Public Info)
  - Amanda Nasto- site records
- Historical
  - 1) Coker Cemetery-Butch Gerfers
  - 2) Gerfers Cemetery-Dedicated September 22<sup>nd</sup>; Almáraz and Baird attended
- Outside County
  - Comal County asked for advice on starting a committee
  - THC- Jennie McWilliams- German translation

Dr. Baird gave a talk at the Somerset Historical Society. The president is Linda Ramos. There he met Jessie Alvarado who is a Navarro descendant and Patricia Limon who is a genealogist.

Dr. Ringenbach added that he was at a talk given by Everett Fly. He noted that the Hockley Cemetery is having a cleanup on October 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 8:30 am. Dr. Galan is attending this event.

McKenzie added that UTSA's CAR has been asked to create a synthesis report on the items collected at the Hockley cemetery. Perhaps this can be a template that can be used for future projects.

**Historical Appreciation Report:** no official report.

### **Archives Committee Report:**

The Catholic Archives at San Antonio has a grand re-opening the week of September 17, 2018. The afternoon of the 17<sup>th</sup> was the opening for viewing of the remodeled and expanded archives area at the Catholic Chancery for the workers in the chancery building. On Tuesday the 18<sup>th</sup> in the evening from 6:00 8:30 pm the archives were open to the priests, deacons, officials, and their wives. About 200 attended. There was a blessing of the archives by the archbishop, several

talks and then guided tours. The new vault is finished but nothing has been moved back from storage. The new furniture is still to be delivered to the other rooms. There were a few books on the shelves in the research room for atmosphere. The famous Alamo book was on display for several days. It is now back on display at the Witte Museum. The book was opened to the page where the foundation of Mission San Antonio de Valero was certified, May 1, 1718. On the 19<sup>th</sup> there was a gathering in the evening for historians, archivists, and researchers. There was a light reception and then a talk with a discussion followed by tours of the facility. On the 20<sup>th</sup> there was to be a dinner for the major donors followed by tours of the facility. The opening was covered by the *Express News* and also *Today's Catholic* newspapers.

The archivist emeritus has found a new position at the National Archives of the Marianist Province of the United States (NAMBUS). His title is that of researcher. He has put order in some of the 8 boxes of Miscellaneous that were shipped down recently from St. Louis and is now listening to hundreds of hours of cassette tapes to determine which are to be digitized and which had to be destroyed. There is one set of 24 tapes, 90 minutes each on the history of the religious order in the US 1850-1994, which will be saved. I found it fascinating. I also attended a lecture by Dr. Poyo on the History of San Antonio through Art. The next night I was with him and the staff of NAMBUS, to help an art history class preparing students to be museum curators. Dr. Poyo told the history of the Brothers in San Antonio 1852-1927 and how we fulfilled the bishop's order when we came to teach the Hispanic boys. Dr. Poyo has studied the student roles to see the ratio of Hispanics to Anglos up to the time of the university. Now St. Mary's University is 75% Hispanic.

The San Antonio Regional Archivists will hold its fall meeting on Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at the Catholic Chancery at 3:00. The next report will detail this meeting.

Respectfully submitted Brother Edward Loch, S.M.

The new archivist at the Catholic Archives at San Antonio is Elvira Sanchez-Kisser. Her contact number is (210) 734-2620.

Carlson asked about press attention about a book that had showed up. Loch answered it was the first edition of the Life of Fray Antonio Margil. It was written in 1739 and leather bound. The Cardinal Archbishop of Guadalajara gave it to the Menger owner as a Christmas present. Menger turned it over to the archives. This book was found in the vault and put on display at the Archives reopening.

Draves said it must have been William Louis Menger who received the book as a gift.

### **Progress of Research and Composition on County Properties-**

Almáraz noted that there will be a report at the November meeting

## **Special projects-**

Trademark issue- THC has asked for a copy of the BCHC trademark resolution. An individual had a trademark on a signature of a historical figure; she also targeted a portrait; Houston noted that trademarks are often associated with a business, does she have a business? Almáraz does not know about the business question; they are waiting for a trial.

## **Announcements:**

McKenzie: we have sponsored a symposium on archaeology of colonial San Antonio at the Menger hotel in the Renaissance Room at the annual meeting of the Texas Archaeological Society meeting. This is a public symposium on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> at 3:20 in the afternoon. We are in the program as the sponsor, and McKenzie is the moderator for that session. Great research will be presented on that panel by Dr. Casey Hanson and CAR. There will be work from Military Plaza presented as well as other research. McKenzie encourages everyone to attend.

Ringenbach- Bexar Heritage – Juliette Moke has been promoted to be the Manager to the Bexar Heritage Center. She will be looking for a part-time position for a college student, and she is looking for history students who have strong recommendations from professors. She is looking for someone who is focused and dedicated. This is a paid position but could earn a credit if university allows it. Hopefully in December the Center will open. This will be an interactive site.

Almáraz- Back in June, Dr. Carlson and Dr. Almáraz were in Seguin for the filming of a movie. Almáraz presented a newspaper article with a write-up to Dr. Carlson. Then, the *Express News* printed an article about the cemetery dedication with a photo of Scott Baird.

Carlson- the 39<sup>th</sup> Hispanic Genealogy Conference; Carlson and Galan attended and presented. George Farias is looking for support for a massive collection that could be used for genealogy. He is looking for a home for this collection.

Almáraz introduced the guest-Colonel Alan Ernst- He is doing good work in history and is interested in becoming a part of the commission.

Meeting adjourned at 2:06 pm.

