



Bexar County Historical Commission

AGENDA

Wednesday, June 5th, 2019 – 1:00 P.M.

Bexar County Courthouse

Double-Height Courtroom, Media Briefing Room

Commission Members in Attendance:

Dr. Felix Almaráz
Dan Arellano
Hector Cardenas
Angelica Docog
Joseph de León
Dr. Francis X. Galan
Mickey Killian
Clinton McKenzie
Dr. Amy Porter
Jesús R. (Corky) Rubio

Commission Members with Excused Absence:

Hon. Alan Ernst
Prof. Sue Ann Pemberton
Mario Salas

Associate Members in Attendance:

Dr. Scott Baird
Dr. David Carlson
Gary Houston
Jose G. Jimenez
Brother Edward J. Loch, S.M.
Dr. Sharon Skrobarcek

Associate Members with Excused Absence:

Frank Faulkner

Guests or County Representatives in Attendance:

Juliette Moke
Mrs. Yvonne Martinez
Hon. Martinez de Vara
Mrs. Norma R. Langwell
Karen Kincaid Brady

Tim Draves
Dominick Porter
Anna Porter
Rhett Smith
Amber Campos

- I. Welcome: Dr. Felix D. Almaráz, Jr., Chairman
Roll Call: Dr. Amy M. Porter, Secretary
Meeting called to order at 1:25 pm
Review and Approval of BCHC Minutes of April 3, 2019.
Minutes approved.

- II. Summary of imminent Trademark Trial:

Hon. Martinez de Vara & Ms. Norma R. Langwell
Martinez de Vara: Trial has been reset several times. It has been reset now to July 8. Martinez de Vara wanted to ask the BCHC to file a challenge to the trademarking of items from documents in the Bexar Archives. Anyone can file a challenge to a trademark registration for up to five years. In this case, there are two years left. In this case, there would be two challenges- 1) descriptiveness (you can't trademark something that is merely descriptive) 2) fraud- due to history of two being rejected and third being very similar, it should be rejected. Also, another possible rationale is that it is being used improperly. Another thought was to approach legislature to do something to protect public archives. Porter asks about the process- Martinez de Vara says there is a challenge process, use an attorney, fill out the form, all generally written submission; another process would be to file an antitrust lawsuit- this is more expensive and arduous. Houston- asks about the use of a name in a trademark case- Martinez de Vara says that case law says that there are some cases where a business has used a name for a long time (John Hancock company example), but otherwise it is difficult; when you are awarded a trademark, there are use categories attached to it.

- III. Succinct Reports of Standing Committees:

- a. Archaeology (Clinton McKenzie)-

There is work envisioned on Alamo Plaza now that they have finalized the cemetery designation. This will lead to a lot of work this summer. McKenzie gave a presentation to the Northern Hills neighborhood association for the Hockley Cemetery. Over 100 people attended. They asked a lot of questions about the cemetery

and were generally in favor of protection. Kay Hindes retired and was replaced by her second in command. Killian and McKenzie attended a retirement party for her and presented her with a Hidalgo award from the County.

b. Archives (Brother Edward J. Loch, S.M.)

SARA meeting occurred since last BCHC meeting. The main topic was meetings. They decided to take votes by email. They decided to meet at least four times a year, so that will be the standard. That was most of the business covered at the meeting. Next meeting will involve discussing putting together a constitution. Museum of Faiths is having a celebration to look at Emma Tenayuca and Fr. Carmelo Tranchese. The History Shop is closing down and selling historical guns. Loch is working on DRT scrapbooks.

c. Cemetery (Dr. Scott Baird)- 1) nothing new for historical designation yet 2) Heideman cemetery had a marker ready 8 or 9 years ago but never sent to state; now they sent it to the state 3) gave a paper 4) Coker Cemetery has a historical designation here; a woman has written a book and asked Baird to write a letter 5) working with state on inventory on every cemetery in Bexar County 6) after we discovered that infringement on a cemetery is civil not criminal law, Herritage Cemetery wants to take a major law firm in New York to task with their small law firm; David went to a meeting and represented us there; they are meeting again next week 7) Eastview Cemetery- still don't know what to do; applied for designation a long time ago; the approval was not made at the county level; we plan to go back and look at this- Houston noted that this was an undertold story 8) he had a phone call from Robin Sanchez who wants to meet to talk about a cemetery

d. Historical Markers (Dr. Almaráz)-

There have been several inscriptions approved and sent to foundry- 1) Mexican Village (an enterprise before WWII in the sunken garden area; they advertised for artisans from Mexico to come and work there; then they merged with Japanese immigrants there) 2) Station X- has been moving around; now city of San Antonio have created a historical district where marker will be placed 3) proposed markers- building on Josephine St., Dr. Patrick Ireland Nixon; he helped form the San Antonio Historical Association; his library has gone to UT Health Science Center- they would like to apply for a marker for his library; George Dooley- constructed buildings- will apply for marker (subject marker); Star Ranch Film Studios on Hot Wells; need to

address the Council House Fight Marker- need to get documents from Comanche Nation in Lawton, OK

Wants to note the Lydia Mendoza Marker Dedication and Unveiling- Almaráz, Loch, Amy Porter, Gary Houston, and Frank Faulkner attended; Paul Ringenbach and Virginia Nicholas attended as well

e. History Appreciation (Dr. Sharon Skrobarcek)

Working on the current report; everyone thanks her for her great work

IV. Unfinished Business: Revision of By-Laws (Dr. Almaráz)
Appointment of Ad Hoc Committee

V. New Business: (Concise and audible)-

Tricentennial Publication- Cardenas explains that members of the History and Education committee developed a chronology of the history of San Antonio; copies were sent to libraries and schools- the real object is to work with Betty Bueché and county to develop an online archive with the County's IT group; people could then go online and do research and folks can add missing items to chronology; Almaráz asks why he is presenting this to the BCHC. Cardenas wants the BCHC to help get this on the website. Almaráz will appoint a committee of three.

Rubio worked the booth at Mission San José History and Genealogy Day for the sixth year in a row- several people requested photos of the poster reproduction of the José Cisneros rendition of the Rose Window at Mission San Jose; the booth had new brochures on the Bexar County Heritage Center as well as Bexar County Historical Markers. The table was located next to the Bexar Archives table, and this partnership has worked well.

Arrellano discussed the visit to the state legislature and proclamation.

Porter motion-

Partial Payment for UTSA Air Force ROTC Students for Assisting the Commission in the Development of a Military Aviation Brochure

Motion to be presented for approval on June 5, 2019.

Background

Early last year Gary Houston proposed the development of a brochure on “Military Aviation Historical Sites in Bexar County.” He later proposed that the Commission work jointly with the AFROTC detachment at UTSA with any designated funding being directed to the Arnold Air Society on campus.

In the Commission meeting on November 7, 2018, the Commission voted unanimous approval of the proposal in principle and authorizing Gary Houston to proceed on the project.

During the February 6, 2019 Commission meeting, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the expenditure of \$3500 for the development of the brochure, “Military Aviation Sites in Bexar County.”

On April 9, 2019, Commissioners Court unanimously approved the expenditure of \$2000 to pay for the assistance of AFROTC UTSA students for developing the brochure, with the understanding among the BCHC and staff that the publishing costs would be addressed in the budget for the coming fiscal year.

By May 15, 2019, the UTSA students had completed more than half of the required historical research, brochure development, and web site development in support of the brochure. To pay for the efforts already expended and to encourage the students to complete the project by the end of summer, Gary Houston and former member Dr. Paul T. Ringenbach recommend the payment of half the authorized \$2000 to the Arnold Air Society at UTSA.

Recommended Action

I move that Bexar Heritage request a check for \$1000 to pay for work completed thus far by UTSA students on the Military Aviation brochure. The check should be made and mailed to:

Arnold Air Society – John D. Ryan Squadron
AFROTC Detachment #842
University of Texas at San Antonio
One UTSA Circle
San Antonio, TX 78249

Motion passed.

Almaráz- Normally we don't meet in July because it is hard to get a quorum. August is the same. Chair will recommend a motion to suspend meeting for July and August. December is a problem as well. Galan moves to suspend meetings in July, August, and December. Second by Porter. Motion passes.

DeLeon noted that he was working with OLLU to create an online exhibit on Maria Berriozabal.

Brother Loch- The King House has been moved; marker is not there; hopes it was saved by the moving company and not lost.

VI. Announcements: (Relevant and limited to 2 minutes)

VII. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:22 pm.