

CITY OF BLANCO
Blanco Historic Preservation Commission
Minutes of February 28, 2022, Meeting

The Blanco Historic Preservation Commission Meeting was called to order at 5:34 at the Byars Building.

All commissioners (Roxanne Sorrell, Hollis Boatright, Billie Jean Kutzer, Gail McClellan, Pamela Capps, and Wendy Cambridge) were present as well as HPO Rudy Nino and City Administrator Warran Escovy. A quorum was established.

There were no public comments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PEC will have the electricity turned off in Blanco on March 17, 2022, in order to work on transformers.

We were reminded that tonight's meeting is to be held for 30 minutes in order for a workshop to be held immediately after the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

The swearing in of the new and re-appointed BHPC commissioners was postponed for a time when the mayor could be present.

The BHPC minutes of January 31, 2022, were unanimously approved.

HPO Nino led the discussion about the "Hondo Bank" sign being replaced with "TXN Bank". The replacement sign footprint is identical to the sign that is there and it will be installed with anchors through the mortar. After the explanation and discussion of the sign replacement, the finding of fact was unanimously approved. The COA for the sign change was then unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Wendy reported on her progress with subject markers. She visited the school and there is interest in having students be involved in the writing of the personal histories from the older generation. They will continue to work toward organizing this effort.

Eric Burkhart is almost finished with his history on Pittsburg which can be submitted to the State for a marker. After a discussion about the State's submission guidelines, Gail McClellan said she would call the State for the time line.

Concerning the May History Month, Billie Jean Kutzer has an email address and will rent a post office box for people to send their stories of past years. She spoke to Libby at the Chamber of Commerce about a May 1st kick-off and making an annual event of the May National Historic Preservation Month by starting small and growing each year. One idea is to take people in a van around to historical places in buses like they do during the Wild Women Weekend. Billie Jean is still working with the newspaper to help make people aware of this effort. One option might be to buy an ad in the newspaper. She has been in touch with a Mr. Bill Harris from Pflugerville, who worked for LBJ in Washington. Bill is interested in keeping history alive as a historical storyteller in Blanco and in Johnson City.

Retta Martin explained the history and overview of Street Scape. She also explained the status of Street Scape as it is going forward today. Street Scape has had its ups and downs but has momentum to go forward at this time.

The next meeting of the BHPC will be the last Monday in April at 6 p.m. at the Byars Building.

The motion to adjourn was made, seconded and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m.