

CITY OF BLANCO  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES

For Regular Meeting

July 29, 2024

Byars Building, 308 Pecan Street, Blanco, Texas 78606

CURRENT COMMISSIONERS

Gary Currier, Chair; Patty Haas, Vice-Chair, Hollis Boatright, Gail McClellan,  
Jacqueline Milford-Flores, Alli Franki

Rudy Nino, Historic Preservation Officer

1. Gary Currier called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.
2. A quorum was established.  
Present: Gary Currier, Patty Haas, Allie Franki, Gail McClellan  
Absent: Hollis Boatright, Jackie Milford-Flores

3. Public Comments

Wendy Cambridge spoke concerning the brochure. She designed it and she is recommending that we reorder 1000 instead of 500 copies.

JoNell Haas reminded us about the TxDot situation concerning building the loop around Blanco. When we report historical landmarks, TxDot only recognizes it if it has longitude and latitude reported. She is encouraging the Commissioners to help report these landmarks especially in the city. There was a meeting with TxDot at Twin Sisters. The local ranchers and property owners presented all the historical landmarks to TxDot. TxDot has to consider the rich history of the area.

Wayne Gosnell spoke concerning the Night Sky Ordinance. He gave evidence of public support from the community. However, there are at least 11 businesses that are not in compliance with the ordinance. He spoke about possible solutions. They have not had good outcomes by sending letters. He is suggesting that Night Sky members hire a part time code enforcer. This would be a short time code enforcer because the intent is to have those businesses respond in a positive way.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Warren Escovy gave an update on the 4-way stop sign at Pecan Street and 4<sup>th</sup> Street. TxDot has been authorized to replace the stop signs that are currently in place, and the replacement should happen in the next month or so. They have approved the drainage issue fix at that location but do not have the funds to correct the problem at this time. There is a proposed Certificate of Obligation to finish the water plant. The retaining wall on the Pecan Bottom has been mentioned as a possible use for some of the same funds.

## CONSENT AGENDA

Patty Haas made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 27, 2023 , and the January 29, 2024, regular meetings. Gail McClellan seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

## OLD BUSINESS

Consider, discuss, and approve a committee to prepare and/or present an annual report to the City Council.

Gary Currier reported that this is not required but that we have the right to present an annual report to the City Council. The Commissioners agreed that it would be a good avenue of communication to prepare the report. Gary Currier volunteered to prepare a draft of the annual report and send it to the Commissioners to review by the next meeting. Gary Currier made a motion for BHPC to prepare and present an annual report to the City Council. Gail McClellan seconded it. and the motion carried unanimously.

## NEW BUSINESS:

CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. Consider, discuss and take action on the reimbursement for Rudy Nino and Allie Franki \$40.00 each for their attendance fees at the CAMP training in New Braunfels, Friday, June 29, 2024.

Rudy Nino was unable to attend so Patti Haas took his place. Gail McClellan made the motion to reimburse Patti Haas and Allie Franki \$40.00 each for their attendance fees at the CAMP training in New Braunfels, Friday, June 29, 2024. Gary Currier seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Consider, discuss and take action on the Certificate of Appropriateness filed for 207 Pecan St. by Heidi Savory.

Rudy presented a detailed report for this request via email. The sign size is 4 by 4. It is wood with vinyl lettering. The sign is placed on an existing bracket. It was made with an existing sign that was used once before. The colors are brown and tan. Heidi Savory is the tenant. The building is owned by someone else. The regulations require that the owner sign off on the application. Warren Escovy will be sure that the owner signs off on the application. Alli Franki made the motion to approve the COA with the stipulation that the owner sign the application of the COA. Gary Currier seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Consider, discuss and take action on the appointment and/or re-appointment of advisors to the Commission for a two (2) year term.

Gail McClellan made the motion for Wayne Gosnell, JoNell Haas, Wendy Cambridge, and Retta Martin to be appointed official advisors for the BHPC for the next two years starting tonight. Patty Haas seconded it, and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Consider, discuss and recommend persons to be appointed by the City Council as the seventh Commissioner.

Gail McClellan made the motion to table this issue until the August meeting so that we can look for people interested in being on the Commission. Gary Currier seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

5. Consider, discuss and take action on approving a budget for the purpose of requesting funding of BHPC operations in the upcoming fiscal year from the City Council.

Gary Currier reminded us that last year's budget was \$3500. This money comes from HOT taxes. Retta Martin said that we need to consider rebudgeting making copies of the "Portrait of Blanco". The "Portrait of Blanco" is sold and not just handed out. A motion was made by Gary Currier to request between \$3500 to \$4500 for our new budget. Alli Franki seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

6. Consider, discuss and take action on the ordering of an additional 500 copies of the pamphlet "Discover Historic Blanco" to be available in the Information Center at the Old Historic Blanco Courthouse for visitors and forming a committee to update the pamphlet.

Allie Franki presented the option of creating a digital copy of the “Discover Historic Blanco” pamphlet. The consensus was that we explore that option in more detail at the August meeting.

Gail McClellan made the motion to order 1000 copies rather than 500 and pay for it. Allie Franki seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

7. Consider, discuss and take action on the formation of a committee regarding compliance with the City Sign Ordinance in the Historic District.

Form letters on the City of Blanco’s letterhead were discussed. Warren Escovy explained that they are often successful. Warren will send Gary Currier information concerning the letters so we can consider using them to resolve our issues with sign ordinance compliance. Gary Currier made the motion that we table this item until our August meeting when we can apprise the situation and act accordingly. Gail McClellan seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Gail McClellan made the motion to adjourn and Patty Haas seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail McClellan