

BLANCO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

MINUTES for August 26, 2024 Byars Building, 308 Pecan Street, Blanco, Texas 78606

CURRENT COMMISSIONERS

Gary Currier, Chair; Patty Hass, Vice Chair; Gail McClellan, Secretary, Hollis Boatright, Allie Franki, and Jacqueline Milford-Flores

Rudy Nino, Historic Preservation Officer

Advisors: Retta Martin, Jo Nell Haas, Wendy Cambridge, Wayne Gosnell

AGENDA

- 1 Gary Currier called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. A quorum was established.
Present: Gary Currier, Patty Haas, Gail McClellan, Allie Franki, and Jackie Milford-Flores
Absent: Hollis Boatright
3. There were no public comments.

Announcements:

The Texas Historic Commission has approved our request for a historical marker for the old town of Pittsburg. Many thanks go to Eric Burkhart, JoNell Haas, Retta Martin, and others for all the research and work put into this application. It is a rarity that such an application gets approved without additional review or changes by the THC.

There have been no responses to announcements posted to fill the vacant spot on the Commission.

Gary Currier signed our commission up for the mayor's requested presentation. The presentation will be at the September Council meeting. Streetscape will make their presentation the same night.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the minutes for May, June, and July meetings of the BHPC is tabled until our September meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Consider, discuss, and take action on downtown sign ordinance compliance, including possibly creating a committee.

Warren Escovy will send Gary Currier a copy of a form letter to present to people or businesses who are not in compliance with the downtown sign ordinance. Gail McClellan made the motion that this item be tabled until we review the letter and decide on a plan of action. Patty Haas seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

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

1. Consider, discuss, and take action on the Certificate of Appropriateness filed for 418 Pecan Street by Pat Ryan.

The owners were given a permit to build a fence on this property. The permit was not specifically for the historic district. Comments were that the fence looks nice but is not historical in character. Since the type of permit issued was not the applicant's fault, the consensus is to not penalize the applicant. Gary Currier researched the deed. Pat Ryan does own the property, but Elizabeth Pavlov signed the request for the permit. Patty Haas made the motion that the COA be approved on condition that a current survey of the property be submitted as well as a copy of the power of attorney showing Elizabeth Pavlov has the authority to sign the application. Jackie Milford-Flores seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

2. Consider, discuss, and take action on approving the payment of \$650 invoice for the Pittsburg historic marker.

Rudy Nino presented evidence that the Commission had a credit with the Texas Historical Commission of \$800. Therefore, the balance owed for the historical marker is \$650. Gail McClellan made a motion to approve the payment of \$650 to the Texas Historical Commission. Alli Franki seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.

3. Consider, discuss, and take action on approving the annual report to be submitted to the Mayor and City Council at their September regular meeting, including possibly setting goals for the commission.

The commissioners discussed the 1 and 5 year goals as well as future goals. Gary Currier compiled a report on these goals. He reported on the progress that has been accomplished with our goals. We also discussed future possibilities such as Heritage Days. Different cultures could be explored. We could possibly work with the library, have old-time craft days (maybe on 3rd Saturday), and art contests. The booklet, "The

Portrait of Blanco”, could be expanded and reprinted. Alli Franki spoke about the idea of creating a brand and/or a slogan for our commission. Jackie Milford-Flores talked about historic haunted houses and how fun tours could be. The report will be given to the Council in September.

4. Begin discussion on possible marker dedication ceremony for the Pittsburg historic marker.

The Episcopal Church in Pittsburg will be consulted when the Pittsburg Historic Marker is ready to be installed. It may take a few months for the marker to be ready. We will continue to work on these plans.

5. Consider, discuss, and take action on recommending to the City Council for the 7th commissioner position from any applicants that have submitted applications.

There is currently no applicant for this position.

ADJOURN

Gail McClellan made a motion to adjourn, and Patty Haas seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail McClellan