

CUERO HERITAGE MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEETING

12:00 – 1:30 PM, Cuero Heritage Museum

Tuesday, February 07, 2017

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wayne Adickes. Those present were members Sherre Esse, Cynthia Lawyer, Joe Reuss, Doyle Cruz, Steve Waldrop, Kay Lewis, Gerald Zengerle, Tony Allen, Jim Stokes, Candy Henderson, Jessie Mathis, Cliff Weber, Peggy Ledbetter, Museum Manager Amber Fitts and consultant Liz Heiser. The board welcomed our newest member, Joe L. Sheppard.

Tony moved that we approve the December minutes. Joe R. seconded and the motion passed. There was not a January meeting.

A cover sheet for the financial report was passed out. Wayne said details were available upon request. He reported that we have spent 35% of our budget and were 2% ahead of where we actually should be. He reported that the little “store” in PMMT sold \$3,600.00 worth of items during last fiscal year (Oct. 1 to Sept. 31).

Bylaws: The city council-approved bylaws were passed out. They require an election of officers each year. Joe R. moved to re-elect all three officers by acclamation, Gerry seconded and the motion passed. The officers are as follows: Wayne Adickes, Chairman; Steve Waldrop, Vice-Chairman; Cynthia Lawyer, Secretary.

Publicity: TV: Gerry played videos from Victoria Channel 25 News of their coverage of the Pharmacy Museum and the Naval Hero from Cuero, Leonard Harmon. It was reported that the Cuero Record and Victoria Advocate have been giving the museums some coverage. Wayne reported that he has gotten several responses to the “History’s Mysteries” spot in the Record, which is a published photo of unknown people or places and a request to contact him with any information about it.

GVEC: It was reported that there will be an article published in the March 2017 GVEC magazine about PMMT. This magazine is distributed to all its members.

Sherre reported that she has seen several places on the internet where the museums have been mentioned. Steve suggested that Wayne compile a list of reporters from the TV station whom we can contact for stories, and Wayne agreed. Sherre reported that when she goes to RV Travel shows for the Chamber, she hands out brochures about the museums. Wayne reported that he has heard from visitors that it was word-of-mouth which inspired them to come by, especially at the RV parks among Winter Texans.

Fundraising: Wayne reported that he has a volunteer, Mr. VanDeveer who has offered to help us with our fundraising. Steve mentioned it is still important to approach local wealthy individuals about being a benefactor and implored each member to contact him if he/she knows of anyone.

Volunteers: The Wall that Heals: A list of shifts from which members could choose volunteer times was passed out, as there are still shifts which remain in need. Training for volunteers will be at 5:30 tomorrow evening at The Wall. Tony mentioned that The Wall will be on route through Cuero about 10:45 a.m. tomorrow and encouraged people to come out and line the streets in welcome.

The museums are still in need of docents, volunteers and skilled workers.

Cuero Heritage Museum:

Ethernet Installation and WiFi: The building has the technology, but it has yet to be activated. Amber will continue to address this with the appropriate parties.

Genealogy Room: The contents for the Genealogy Room have been moved in. Still in need of a computer and internet connection. Peggy mentioned that The Historical Society would be volunteering in the room.

Laura May Marshall Exhibit: This exhibit of her art and designs is now on display.

World War I Exhibit: Wayne is working on this and is putting together artifacts and photos.

New Cabinet: The new cabinet is now installed under the stairs and ready for reamers.

Reamer Donation: Wayne reported that CHM has received a donation of 300 to 400 reamers from Pat and Sterling Carberry, with a book value of \$17,000. Of those received, 60 are new to our collection. The remaining duplicates can be sold.

Reamer Convention: The convention is still on tap for March 31 through April 1, 2017 at the park clubhouse and CHM is the host. Wayne reported that 50 people have signed up. The convention will be open to the public on Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Tony suggested we have some sort of meet and greet for the conventioners and everyone agreed. No details on this yet.

Coke Exhibit: A sandwich machine made by Coca Cola was donated by Rich and Linda Buettner of Trenton, IL. It will be a welcome addition to our next Coke exhibit, not yet on the schedule.

Pharmacy & Medical Museum of Texas:

Repair and Painting Upstairs: This is still on-going. Having trouble getting the construction workers to show up.

HVAC Heating Problems: The HVAC is not keeping the building warm. It is being addressed by the installers.

Relationship with Pharmacy School-Texas A&M Kingsville: Joe R. has visited this pharmacy school and was introduced to the dean. He is building a good relationship there and is hopeful about having students visit and/or act as docents or do a stint of volunteering. Several members offered their homes as accommodations for visiting students.

Iron Lung Update: Jim reported that there is no new information on obtaining one at this time. He and Joe R. decided to make a trip to Warm Springs in another attempt to get info there. In the meantime, Steve is continuing to call the Ebay contact about a donation.

Donation of Medical Equipment: Wayne reported that a friend of his from Phoenix has donated a large amount of medical equipment to PMMT.

Steve asked Joe R. if the exhibits now on display at Cuero Hospital (Joe's personal collection) could be returned and put in PMMT. There was a discussion then, about rotating exhibits at the hospital as well as rotating some at Reuss Pharmacy. Liz volunteered to contact Reuss Pharmacy about this.

Old Business: Steve reported on the Veteran's Tribute to be held in 2017. Mr. Cecil Newman, Jr. will be the honoree. The family is supplying many items and in March Steve will travel to Houston to pick up containers of letters, etc. He needs a committee to help read through all the information and asked for volunteers. Joe S., Kay, Jim, Joe R., and Peggy volunteered. Steve also reported that on the Oral History project, he has seven projects completed.

New Business: Steve requested that an updated list of board members and their contact info be distributed.

The meeting was adjourned at about 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cynthia Lawyer
Secretary