

CUERO HERITAGE MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEETING

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

Tuesday, March 07, 2017

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wayne Adickes. Those present were members Cynthia Lawyer, Joe Reuss, Doyle Cruz, Steve Waldrop, Gerald Zengerle, Jim Stokes, Candy Henderson, Jessie Mathis, Peggy Ledbetter, Joe L. Sheppard, Museum Manager Amber Fitts and consultant Liz Heiser. Wayne welcomed Mr. Guy Dolan as a guest.

Candy moved that we approve the February minutes. Doyle seconded and the motion passed.

Gerry brought an article about The Pharmacy and Medical Museum which was published in the GVEC member magazine. This was passed around.

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 have received 50% of it. We are slightly under budget at this time. Wayne reported that we also receive an average of \$600 a month from donations and the “store” in PMMT.

Coffee with the Mayor: Wayne reported that Mayor Post is enthusiastic about continuing the coffees and that they have been expanded to various businesses around town. Amber reported that the next coffee at CHM is to be June 13, and at PMMT on September 12, both from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

The Wall That Heals: It was reported by Wayne and Amber that over 7500 people visited the Wall. Many mementos were left at the wall including pictures, flowers, flags, a helmet and notes. After the event, a Navy veteran, Mr. Richard Kocaja, donated his uniform. About 2000 school children from 7 or 8 school districts visited. And Amber reported that people are still sending messages to the Facebook page concerning their visit.

Fundraising: Wayne reported that he will be meeting next week with Steve and Mr. VanDerveer about fundraising.

Museum Memberships: There was a discussion about beginning a membership drive to raise funds. Joe R suggested that a committee be appointed to explore the idea. Liz agreed to head this committee and Amber, Jessie, Candy, Doyle and Joe R agreed to serve on it.

Cuero Heritage Museum:

Ethernet Installation and WiFi: Wayne reported that neither has been installed and he and Amber are continuing to contact the city installer with requests it be done ASAP.

Down spout drainage problem: There has been a drainage problem for some time and Wayne reported that an expert has diagnosed it as being a clogged spout. It is the city’s responsibility to fix it and Amber will contact them.

Mechanical Banks Donation: Wayne reported that Doyle and he catalogued and photographed Wayne’s mechanical bank collection and now Wayne has offered the collection to CHM. Doyle motioned that we accept the donation. Joe R seconded and the motion carried. Wayne agreed to store the banks for the time being. This brought on a discussion about long-term storage for CHM collections not on exhibit. Wayne reported that he is periodically bringing this up with the city and is hopeful they will find a warehouse for us.

At this time Steve opened a discussion about the CHM mission statement and how some of our collections tied in with the heritage of Cuero. Wayne explained that the museum celebrated “the history, heritage, hospitality and people” of Cuero; therefore different kinds of collections by

Cuero residents or natives were relevant. Jim suggested publicizing our mission statement and also suggested getting sponsors for some of our rotating exhibits. It was suggested that we put our mission statement on the website as well as the Facebook page.

Genealogy Room: We still have no computer for the genealogy room. The mayor assured Wayne that the computer we receive will not come out of our budget. However we do have film and a film reader now.

Laura May Marshall Exhibit: Wayne reported that the exhibit has been well received, with some people coming in more than once. He gave kudos to Amber and the docents for putting such a nice display together.

World War I Exhibit: Wayne reported that this exhibit is coming along well. Artifacts to be displayed include posters, uniforms, pictures of local people who died and served, information on the Red Cross efforts and more. It will be on exhibit by April 13 or before.

Reamer Convention: The convention is still on tap for March 30 through April 1, 2017 at the park clubhouse and CHM is the host. Wayne reported that 50 people are confirmed coming from 20 states. The show and sale will be on the 30th and 31st from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Kudos given to Liz for the great publicity. It was mentioned that Peggy will be giving a tour of the courthouse to conventioners.

Coca-Cola Exhibit: This exhibit is going up now. Still making occasional efforts to get the old bottling company's sign remade.

Pharmacy & Medical Museum of Texas:

Repair and Painting Upstairs: Need volunteers to do painting. Workers are still not showing up.

Iron Lung Update: Jim and Joe R will travel to Luling (Warm Springs) tomorrow to obtain info. Steve mentioned that he was in contact with a Colorado company called Post-Polio Health International that dealt with polio patients. His contact mentioned that she would put a blurb in her newsletter about our quest for an iron lung.

Donations: Wayne reported that Texas A&M University has donated a veterinarian X-ray machine, although it is missing a critical part which we hope to procure from another source in the future. Wayne also reported that Dr. Dan Peavy donated dentistry items to PMMT. The Peavy Building in Cuero is named after the Peavy family who has deep roots in Cuero. Dr. Peavy has also agreed to provide photos of the Peavy ancestors which we can scan.

Old Business: Steve reported on the Veteran's Tribute to be held in November 2017. Mr. Cecil Newman, Jr. will be the honoree. Steve will travel to Houston this month to retrieve letters, etc. and will call the committee together when he returns. Steve also asked members to be on the look-out for a 1941 Cuero High School Yearbook.

New Business: Joe S. suggested we look into having an exhibit regarding the Cleveland Williams vs. Muhammed Ali heavy weight championship boxing match that took place in 1966. He reported that Mr. Williams trained for that fight in the Cuero area and it was quite the occasion of note at the time.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Cynthia Lawyer
Secretary

