

CUERO HERITAGE MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEETING

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

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wayne Adickes. Those present were members Joe Reuss, Wayne Adickes, Gerald Zengerle, Jim Stokes, Jessie Mathis, Peggy Ledbetter, Sherry Esse, Museum Manager Amber Fitts and consultant Liz Heiser. Wayne welcomed Mr. Guy Dolan as a guest.

Gerald moved that we approve the February minutes. Joe seconded and the motion passed.

The Financial Report was not available.

Mission Statements: This was talked about the last meeting. Wayne passed around a copy of the mission statements for both museums which is located within the Bylaws of the Cuero Museums Municipal Committee of the City of Cuero, Texas. Wayne read the mission statements from the Cuero Heritage Museum and the Pharmacy and Medical Museum of Texas and all agreed with the statements. Wayne said that Mayor Meyer and Raymie Zella, the city manager, both agreed, in a meeting ahead of the writing of the mission statement that was placed within the bylaws that they would like for the museum to accept collections. Also, that they are willing to make storage available. Joe expressed his concern that future mayors and councilmembers may not be so excepting of the museums. Wayne thinks that it should be fine and that the museum has already survived hard times. The Heritage Museum Building has to be used for educational purposes. The acceptance of personal collections will go through the museum board on a case by case basis.

Report on Reamer Convention: Wayne stated that 54 members of the NRCA came to the convention from all over the United States. All of them just loved Cuero, the people of Cuero, the park, Annette Rath's cooking, the BBQ, and the museums. The club donated \$100 to the park and \$100 to the Cuero Heritage Museum. The Victoria Advocate had 3 different articles on the reamer convention. The front page of the Saturday newspaper had an article on the reamer convention and the Pharmacy and Medical Museum of Texas. KAVU put it on the TV News. People from all around the area came to the convention. Wayne thought it was a great benefit for Cuero. He will present to city council a handheld, hand-blown, colorful reamer in which the colors of the reamer represent the wildflowers in our area.

Need to find a way to get more volunteers (docents, workers): A suggestion was to ask the local clubs, Wayne did not think the Lion's Club would volunteer. Maybe we could check with the Anchor Club, National Honor Society Students, AARP, and retirees from certain companies.

Fund Raising: Guy mentioned that having a historic home tours is a nice way to raise funds. He also mentioned having an ice cream social at someone's house. Wayne stated he has had ice cream socials at his house before.

Membership Drive: Need to get a membership plan in place. Things that could be listed as a membership benefit includes: special tours/reception, 20% off at the gift shop, dinners, tax deductible, and 2 for 1. It was mentioned that we cannot advertise it the wrong way or they will pull our nonprofit status.

Cuero Heritage Museum:

World War I Exhibit: Wayne praised the exhibit and commended the exhibit. Talked about having a joint WWI and Coca Cola reception at the end of April on a Thursday with TrustTexas Bank to host.

Coca-Cola Exhibit: Still needs a little more signage to be complete.

Genealogy Room: No WiFi yet. Wayne was asking about city-wide WiFi. We are waiting on Tony to give us service for guest and employee usage. The new table and chairs is now in the room.

LED lighting for interior: Discussed converting the fluorescent lighting to LED lights with the honey comb covers.

Pharmacy and Medical Museum of Texas:

Dan Peavy: Joe stated we have photos and articles on the building and we should arrange the room the same way as the photos. The rooms should be measured to fit equipment correctly. Dr. Peavy is very interested.

Iron Lung update: Steve was in contact with an organization that has an iron lung and the board said no to donating or loaning it out. The staff stated they do not know what to do with it. There are other leads on some possible iron lungs.

Develop a plan to paint the upstairs: Find out if the city has scaffolding with wheels that can be borrowed for painting the upstairs. If they do then we should be able to have a paint day and finish the walls and ceiling in the big room.

Future Window Exhibits: Planning to display windows on various drug companies.

Publicity: Wayne stated we have received a lot of publicity from the Cuero Record, Victoria Advocate and GVEC lately.

Other Old Business: Amber stated that Steve wanted her to tell the board that he would be contacting the members of the memorial committee soon to pass out the letters from Mr. Newman for them to go through.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Fitts
Museum Manager