

CUERO HERITAGE MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEETING

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

Tuesday, October 03, 2017

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

Joe R moved that the August minutes be approved. Tony seconded and the motion passed. The September meeting was cancelled due to Hurricane Harvey.

Financials: There was no financial report.

Budget Reduction: Wayne reported that the city has reduced our take of the hotel/motel tax by 18% which calls for more budget reductions. It was decided to do away with all capital spending projects for this fiscal year (which started October 1, 2017) as well as to reduce advertising expenses. Our current budget is now \$63K plus salaries of \$50K.

Hurricane Damage: Amber reported that there was minimal damage to a skylight, some downspouts, siding, caulking, and the west side door. We lost a vintage globe on one of the outside sconces which will be hard to replace. Also a large tree which provided a lot of shade to the parking lot was blown down.

Docents: Good News/Bad News: Good news: Our previous docent Josie Adams is back working for us through the Texas Workforce Commission, as well as a new TWC worker, Mike Erlich. Bad News: Unfortunately Mike was stricken with serious health issues soon after training and is still recovering. Also our long-time docent Suzette Dillon has resigned due to health issues. Since Suzette was a paid docent, the city has given permission for us to hire a replacement and the board was asked for recommendations.

Membership Drive: The membership drive committee had a prepared list of recommendations for membership levels and level benefits which was passed out to board members. Jim moved that we accept the recommendations as listed. Steve seconded the motion and it passed. It was decided that Liz would prepare a form to send out to the general public, soliciting memberships and listing these levels and benefits. It would be reviewed and approved by the committee. Guy suggested that if we were going to start a newsletter, we do a short one now to be sent with the form. Liz asked that board members email her with any lists they had access to, such as the country club, historical commission or Chisholm Trail Museum. The committee recommended that memberships should run one year from the date a fee was received. Amber and Wayne said this could be tracked either by an on-line fee-based company or an Access program which Wayne might be able to write. It was also determined that the board should be the first to become members.

Cuero Heritage Museum:

Henneke Donation: Wayne reported that Ms. Henneke was still packing and documenting her donation of Japanese porcelains. We should have it in time for a January exhibit.

Newman Video: Steve reported that a second presentation has been added due to the number of Newman family members who will attend. Peggy and Joe L added that the historical commission is hosting Dr. Richard McCaslin from the University of North Texas who will speak on World War I. This lecture will take place between the Newman presentations. The first presentation is at 9:30 a.m., the lecture at 11:00 a.m. and the second presentation at 1:30 p.m. of November 11, 2017. Steve reported that a graveside service also will be held at Mr. Newman's grave at 3:30

p.m. that day. Steve also recognized the work done by the committee with the letters and contacting Mr. Newman's family, classmates, and obtaining other artifacts for the presentation.

Turkey Trot Room: Amber has continued to update the Turkey Trot Exhibit space to replicate a Turkish palace and invited members to do a walk-through to see the progress.

Pharmacy & Medical Museum of Texas:

Iron Lung Update: Steve reported that the Turr Hermann Foundation in Houston has signed and mailed the agreement to loan us their iron lung. We now need the storage company to send us the dimensions of the crate so we can figure out the shipping. We are still hoping the Rotary Club will help with shipping expenses. Guy suggested looking at local shippers and also that his mother offered to fund some of the insurance costs.

Upstairs Reno: Joe R reported that Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smith, who have been contracted to renovate the upstairs, have been hard at work and doing an excellent job. The work should be completed within 10 days to 2 weeks. Joe also mentioned that electrical work would be the next order of business for the upstairs.

Dental Cabinet Donation: Joe R. reported that Dr. Peavy donated a dental cabinet in mint condition probably worth over \$5,000 and up to \$10,000. It's very unique with intricate drawers and cabinets.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

The meeting was adjourned at about 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cynthia Lawyer
Secretary