

CUERO HERITAGE MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEETING

12:00 – 1:20 PM, Cuero Heritage Museum

Tuesday, February 06, 2018

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wayne Adickes. Those present were members Cynthia Lawyer, Joe Reuss, Jim Stokes, Gerald Zengerle, Doyle Cruz, Candy Henderson, Joe L. Sheppard, Peggy Ledbetter and Museum Manager Amber Fitts.

Gerry moved to approve the December minutes. Peggy seconded the motion and it passed.

Financials: No report. The city has not yet provided a financial report.

Reappointment of Board Members and

Election of Officers: Those present agreed to continue as board members and those absent will be contacted individually. The Board voted that Wayne continue as Chairman and Cynthia as Secretary. Guy Dolan was elected (in absentia) as Vice-Chairman. Amber mentioned that we should have someone from one of our banks as a board member. She suggested Shay Iacaponilli at Trust Texas and agreed to contact her.

Storage: Wayne reported that the old Coca Cola building we had been looking at is now off the table because there is not enough space. Joe R suggested that we contact Wells Fargo about some of their vacant buildings and Wayne agreed to do that. Doyle suggested several other specific city buildings but they are already occupied or deemed unsuitable due to condition.

Amber mentioned that the free magazine Texas Farm and Home is running an article featuring the City of Cuero, and all the museums in town are being highlighted.

Amber reported that the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit is partnering with Chisholm Trail Museum to prepare an exhibit of Sports in Cuero which will be displayed in a room at Chisholm Trail. Amber was contacted about loaning some of our sports memorabilia to this exhibit and it was agreed that we should do so. The exhibit will be up sometime this summer.

Cuero Heritage Museum:

Geisha Girl Porcelain: The porcelain exhibit is now on display. A reception will be held for donator Dee Hennecke on Thursday February 15, from 4 to 6 p.m.

Mexican Heritage Christmas: Amber reported that the children's craft time at CHM during Christmas in Downtown was a huge success. Over 100 children participated in making Mexican-themed crafts in conjunction with the Christmas display.

Future Exhibits:

--Doyle asked if there was a display for Black History Month, which is this month. There is not one but Wayne asked Doyle to submit ideas in writing for next year because it is something we would very much like to do. It was agreed that there are many notable people from Cuero that could be honored during Black History Month.

--*Martha Sawyers and/or Polly Howerton Art:* Wayne gave a short explanation on who Martha Sawyers was (a Cuero native) and her life as a famous 1920's illustrator. Joe R suggested doing an exhibit featuring both Ms. Sawyers and Ms. Howerton.

--Guy Dolan and Carl van Dolzer have both offered their religious paintings for an exhibit.

--We have been offered the loan of a Christmas Angel collection for a Christmas exhibit.

--We have agreed to accept the donation of miniatures from Clara Prater. These are miniature scenes of many genres and could be used in conjunction with other specific displays or all on their own. There is a Turkish miniature scene now on display in The Turkey Trot room.

--Candy offered the loan of her teddy bear collection.

Pharmacy & Medical Museum of Texas:

Iron Lung Update: It's here!! The Iron Lung is now on display in PMMT. There are still some documentation (posters, etc.) to add and a reception will be held soon. Representatives from TIRR (Texas Institute for Rehabilitation and Research) Memorial Hermann (the donors) will be invited to the reception so the date and time is to be coordinated with them.

Upstairs Reno: Amber reported that the painter, Robert Smith, has completed all the walls for which he contracted. Amber also has requested quotes for doing the floors and for electrical work. She reported that we will be able to get a matching grant from CDC for the electrical work. Doyle agreed to give Amber a contact for an electrician. The beam over the stairway which will hold the large ceiling fan has been installed. The City will install the fan, which was recently received.

Peavy Donation: More donations from Dr. Peavy have been received, including books and antique tooth pullers.

Elec-Treat Donation: An acquaintance of Wayne's from Phoenix donated a vintage device which uses electricity to alleviate pain. It includes the original box and instructions and was passed around for all to see.

Joe R suggested that we set up a section in PMMT specifically to display "quack" remedies such as this.

Old Business: Wayne announced that Consultant Steve Waldrop (not present), who compiles our Veteran Programs each year, has requested a mini-board to help with this year's program. Volunteers were Doyle, Jim, and Wayne. Since the family we were going to honor has no memorabilia, it was decided to honor all those from DeWitt County who died in World War I.

New Business: Amber reported that she has received the following information from the travelling Viet Nam Memorial Wall organization: The current travelling wall is going to be replaced, and those cities which have hosted the wall (including Cuero CHM) are now able to purchase the existing wall through bids. This was discussed and, due to the fund-raising and space issues, the Board decided not to pursue it.

The meeting was adjourned at about 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cynthia Lawyer
Secretary