

CUERO HERITAGE MUSEUM BOARD MEETING

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

Tuesday, September 04, 2018

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wayne Adickes. Those present were members Jessie Mathis, the Reverend A. L. Taylor, Joe L. Sheppard, Joe Reuss, Candy Henderson, Cynthia Lawyer, Guy Dolan, Peggy Ledbetter, Eric Basaldua, Gerald Zengerle, consultants Liz Heiser and Steve Waldrop and museum manager Amber Fitts.

The members enjoyed a lunch of fried chicken provided by member Sherry Esse who was not able to attend.

Minutes: The July minutes were approved. We did not have an August meeting.

Financials: Wayne reported that as of now we have a surplus of \$3,664. However, there is a possibility we will finish the fiscal year slightly over budget. He explained that our share of the hotel/motel tax used to be a percentage of what was collected, but during the oil boom the city council decided that we were getting too much. They allocated a set amount of \$50K a year. After we opened the Pharmacy Museum they increased it to \$75K. This coming year we expect another increase.

History Book on Cuero: Wayne reported that he was contacted by Arcadia Publishing which is soliciting an author to write a small book on the history of Cuero. This has been done by neighboring towns such as Yorktown and others. Arcadia approached Wayne several years ago and the project was started, but not finished. Now they are trying again. There was a discussion on how to do it and who to approach to be the author.

Fundraising: Guy reported on a fundraising conference that he and Amber attended in Houston. One thing he learned about was the North American Reciprocal Museum Group. Small museums can pay a yearly fee of \$350 to become members, then sell local memberships to their own museum. These memberships allow local members to visit participating museums free of charge. There was considerable interest from the board and Guy will research further.

Cuero Heritage Museum:

World War I Presentation Update: Steve reported that he was ready to do voice-overs for the scripts and that a preview would be shown at the October meeting. He mentioned that now is the time to start publicity and promotional ads in the paper and brochures. Joe L brought an example of a brochure. The program will be held in the council chambers on November 11 and is about 30 minutes long. Afterward, attendees will meet across the street at the World War I memorial for a rendition of Taps by a local musician.

As an aside regarding Steve's outstanding work, Jessie mentioned that he showed a portion of the oral history of Mrs. Jamison to a reunion audience. It was extremely well-received and many people were asking to buy a copy.

Howerton Painting Raffle Update: Amber reported that over 61 tickets have sold with over \$300 being collected.

Current Exhibit: The mechanical bank exhibit is now on display.

Kleberg Family and the King Ranch: Joe R reported that former Cuero resident Scooter Cheatham of Austin is interested in spearheading an event celebrating the Kleberg family's connection to the King Ranch. His idea is to have a 3 day event with state-wide advertising. A discussion ensued and it was decided that Wayne would write up an outline and send it to the

Matriarch of the Kleberg family to gauge their interest in and possible funding for the event. If it goes forward, the event would probably be held in April 2020.

Cuero Artists for Future Exhibits: Wayne asked the board to be thinking of a list of Cuero artists that we can recognize in future exhibits. Several names came up and it became evident that Cuero can boast of many talented artists.

Pharmacy & Medical Museum of Texas:

Unplanned Tour Group: Wayne reported that a group of college students who were travelling through Cuero stopped at the PMMT and were very impressed. They asked lots of questions and many vowed to come back and bring their families.

Upstairs Reno: The city manager has reviewed all the things that need to be moved into the upstairs display rooms and said as soon as the weather cools the work will begin. Items to be moved include the dental chair, a Civil War table used for surgery and a 24 ft. bookcase. Amber reported that all the painting is complete and Wayne reported that he has begun work on the laboratory area.

Canopy Repair: This has not yet been started. A contractor is still reviewing the scope of work before submitting a bid.

Rat Infestation: After noticing obvious signs of rats (they were helping themselves to candy) the staff began trapping. The city was notified and we are awaiting an exterminator.

New Business: Eric announced that he was working with a Wells Fargo historian on the history of Wells Fargo Bank and there would be an exhibit ready for display in CHM soon.
- Since the last meeting, member Jim Stokes resigned from the board. Jim contributed to many different committees and was an asset to the board. He will be missed. This brought up the need for new board members and there was a discussion on who could be approached.

Old Business: Peggy reminded everyone about the “Lives Remembered” program put on by the Historical Commission to be held on September 29. Also that the dedication of the new Veterans Memorial in Hillside Park will be September 30.

Finally, we bid farewell to Wayne Adickes as Chairman of the Board. He served tirelessly for many years and will continue as a board member, handing over the gavel to Guy Dolan as Chair. Thank you, Wayne and welcome Guy!

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Cynthia Lawyer
Secretary