

CUERO HERITAGE MUSEUM BOARD MEETING

12:00 ~ 1:30 PM, Cuero Municipal Library

Tuesday, February 05, 2019

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Guy Dolan. Those present were members the Reverend A. L. Taylor, Joe Reuss, Cynthia Lawyer, Wayne Adickes, Eric Basaldua, Sherry Esse, Joe L. Sheppard, Gerald Zengerle, Peggy Ledbetter, Cliff Weber consultant Liz Heiser and museum manager Amber Fitts.

Minutes: Gerald moved that the January minutes be approved. Wayne seconded the motion and it passed.

Financial Report: Guy reported that we have eight months left in the current budget and we have received 52% of the budget so far. It was noted that the funds for lobby improvement were not on the report, but Amber opined that it was probably included in the wrong line item, and will check to be sure.

History Book on Cuero: No report.

Fundraising and Promotional Ideas: No progress on the UIL event. Guy called the school principal and left a message. No return call yet.

Membership –NARM: Liz reported that our museums are now officially members of the National Association of Reciprocal Museums. CHM and PMMT will be listed on the NARM web page, Facebook page and other listings. Several drafts of the individual membership sign-up sheet (to become members of CHM and PMMT) were passed out for board discussion. There were several suggestions on how it could be improved, and this will be reviewed during a future meeting.

Logo Ideas: No report.

Cuero Heritage Museum:

Current Exhibit and Next Rotating Exhibit: The current exhibit now on display (final touches still in progress) is the Trapper and Mountain Man Collection on loan from Cueroite Terry Ford, which will be up through June. Kudos were given to Amber and Docent Jeremiah for their excellent work in displaying the exhibit.

Next will be the Cuero Artist Extravaganza featuring several local artists' works.

Kleberg Family and the King Ranch: No real progress. Cuero native (presently residing in Austin) Scooter Cheatham, who is spearheading this venture, will soon make a presentation to the DeWitt County Historical Commission in which he is expected to make known his plans and ideas on how to fund and expedite the event. It was agreed that the Commission needs to be involved if the project is to be a success.

Updating Cuero Football Exhibit: Liz reported that the next phase of the football exhibit is in the works and it covers the years 1976 through 2009. She reported that in order to make space for the new phase, some of the older exhibit years will be condensed and put on video. This involves purchasing one or two touch-screens with software. Some money is in the budget, but more needs to be raised. Liz said that she would be sending letters to former Cuero Gobbler football players asking for donations, which has been done in the past with great success. Wayne suggested contacting the founder of Conoco Oil, who is a former Cuero player. Sherry said she had a contact for this person. There was a long discussion on the exhibit topic and, in the end, Cliff suggested that we wait to see how much money is raised because that will dictate the path forward.

2019 Museum Historical Event: Due to price increases, it was determined that having an historical event in connection with the 75th anniversary of D-Day was no longer within our budget. Joe L moved to rescind the previously passed motion to put on this event. Wayne seconded the motion and it was passed. There was a discussion as to what could replace it. Cliff suggested that we have an open house for our Military Room, complete with new touch-screens which would show the previous videos that highlight several Cuero veterans. Sherry moved that we go forward with this idea. Gerry seconded the motion and it was passed.

Update on Firetruck Restoration: Wayne reported progress on restoration of one of our three vintage firetrucks. The 1959 International is now in running condition, although a few more things need to be accomplished. It needs a good tune-up as well as a wash and wax job, and can again be used in parades and other demonstrations. The work is being done in the Sarah Street garage by former Fire Chief Butch Tolbert and a crew of volunteers. Other more extensive (and expensive) restorations will be needed for our 1922 and 1932 American LaFrance trucks.

Pharmacy & Medical Museum of Texas:

Upstairs Reno: Amber reported that the City has now moved some of the heavy items from downstairs to upstairs. Still to be moved is the DENTAL CHAIR from a building across the street, and a vintage heater from downstairs.

Wayne reported that he has made good progress on an exhibit about how modern drug companies began.

Canopy Repair: The original contractor who started the work seems to be incommunicado. Another contractor, Carlos Gottschalt, took a look and recommended that the entire thing be replaced instead of trying to repair the old one. His estimate was \$5000 which needs to be approved by the City Manager.

Old Business: No old business

New Business: Guy made a suggestion about selling old fashioned-like sodas in conjunction with our vintage soda machines, but just in bottles. Bottled sodas are available today that look like the vintage variety. This was briefly discussed, but no decision was made.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Cynthia Lawyer
Secretary