

# CUERO HERITAGE MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEETING

12: 00 – 1:30 P.M., Cuero Heritage Museum

Tuesday, September 1, 2015

**Call to Order:** Chairman Wayne Adickes called the meeting to order. Members present were Don Albrecht, Joe Reuss, Jim Stokes, Steve Waldrop, Cynthia Lawyer, Candy Henderson, Tony Allen, Sherry Esse, Jesse Mathis, Ronii Diaz, consultant Liz Heiser and Museum Manager Amber Fitts.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the July meeting were approved. An August meeting had not been held.

**Financial Status:** Wayne reported that we are well within budget. Our fiscal year ends on September 30 and surplus budget amounts will roll over to the new fiscal year.

**Budgeting Process:** Wayne took the opportunity to explain the budgeting process which starts in June. After proposals are submitted they are reviewed by the city council several times before approval. The mayor and city council have been very supportive of all of our initiatives. At this time we have approval of everything for which we asked, including two paid part-time docents which have yet to be hired.

**Fox News:** Liz reported on the Fox News Sports special about Cuero Gobbler football. Over 100 coaches and players were interviewed in Cuero, most of whom came from out of town. The producers will interview the mayor this month, film part of the Yoakum-Cuero game in October and possibly air the special in December. After airing, CHM will host a premier which may be in concert with Christmas On Main Street.

**Brochures:** Amber designed a very attractive brochure detailing the four museums in Cuero. The brochure will accompany utility bills sent to city utility customers. Also included with the bill will be an invitation to have coffee with the mayor on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, each time at a different museum. This is all in an effort to inform more people about the museums and increase attendance.

Wayne also reported that representatives from the Cuero High School Yearbook dropped by selling ads. It was decided to purchase a full-page ad in the yearbook for \$400, to be voted on at the next meeting in accordance with the by-laws.

**HVAC:** Wayne reported that A/C and heating for both buildings has been put in the budget and work will commence when proper funding is located. Wayne is seeking grants from grantors to museums. Jim mentioned that in the future a good company to bid on the work would be Honeywell.

**Cuero Heritage Museum: Current exhibit:** The Way We Were exhibit is now on display, consisting of many old photos of Cuero dating back to horse-and-buggy days. **Next Exhibit:** The Snowmen exhibit will be installed for Christmas and we may host a reception. **Nielsen 7-Up Collection:** Museum volunteers went to Corpus Christi to get the collection and it is now in CHM storage. The exhibit is slated for early next year. **John Elsy – War Letters:** Steve reported that Amber is scanning books and photos; the exhibit is slated for Memorial Day 2016. It was suggested that each year we try to commemorate, with a similar exhibit, a different war hero from our area. **Banking Exhibit:** Local citizen Bill Blackwell is anxious to help put together this exhibit and is actively seeking funds. Various ideas for the exhibit were discussed. **Coca Cola Building:** It has been determined that the old Coca Cola building will now be the entrance to the new city library and we will have space for an exhibit of Coke artifacts. **Ramp:** The wheelchair ramp at the back door to CHM has been completed; work done by Watson Ag. **Storage:** Two city buildings are being considered.

**Pharmacy Museum: Dental Rooms:** The dental rooms have been completed and are ready to be furnished with artifacts. Volunteers are needed to move the heavy objects up the stairs; it is possible the city will provide helpers. Joe pointed out that the area at the top of the stairs needs to be thoroughly cleaned and painted and that some of the artifacts needed restoration. **Front and Back Doors:** Bids have gone out to have doors built to original specifications and to install a tiled entrance. **Downstairs Lighting:** A purchase order has been issued. **Herb Garden:** Bids are being solicited. Wayne mentioned to be on the look-out for a source of lump-coal to demonstrate its use in early pharmaceuticals. **Iron Lung:** A possible source for an iron lung used in the treatment of polio victims is one of the Warm Springs Rehabilitation facilities. Jim is looking into this. **Rotating Exhibits:** There was a discussion of sources to be called upon to help provide rotating exhibits for PMMT.

**Fundraising:** Steve is still trying to reach Toby Summers. He is also contacting Continental Oil and Devon corporations.

**Adjourn:** It was motioned, seconded and passed that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Cynthia Lawyer, CHM Recording Secretary