

**Montgomery County Historical Commission**  
**Minutes March 5, 2013**  
**Montgomery County Central Library – Genealogical Department**

1. **The meeting of the Montgomery County Historical Commission was called to order** on Tuesday, March 5, 2013, at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Larry Foerster.
2. **The following members** were present: Larry Foerster, Gertie Spencer, Brenda Beaven, Martha Gandy, Celeste Graves, David “Jay” Hrivnatz, Nancy Jackson, Anna Sheppard, Beverly Tucker, Barbara Hamilton, Heather Kramer and Sue Ann Powell.
3. **Recognition of special guests:** Marty Harris, friend of Barbara Hamilton from East Montgomery County; Meagan McClure and Mark Franklin, Youth Advisory Board nominees from Caney Creek High School; George Lang, III, Youth Advisory Board nominee from Magnolia West High School, George Lang, Jr. and Cecilia Lang; Luther Powell; Betsy Powers, Applicant; and Jerilyn Williams, Director of Montgomery County Central Library. Jerilyn Williams welcomed the Historical Commission to the Library and stated her motto: “Preserving the past, looking to the future.”
4. **There were no comments from the public.**
5. **The motion to approve the minutes of the January meeting as written** was made by Gertie Spencer and seconded by Anna Sheppard. Minutes were approved.
6. **Betsy Powers, professor of history at Lone Star College in the Woodlands,** was nominated for membership in the Montgomery County Historical Commission. Barbara Hamilton made the motion to approve the nomination and Anna Sheppard seconded the motion. Motion carried. This will be sent to Commissioners Court for approval.
7. **Brenda Beaven introduced the nominees for the newly formed Youth Advisory Board:** George Lang, III from Magnolia West High School and Meagan McClure and Mark Franklin from Caney Creek High School. Brenda announced there will be a meeting of the Youth Advisory Board on Monday, April 1, 2013, at 5:30 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce. She has had positive responses from most of the high schools in the County and is still working on getting representation from those schools who have not responded. Possible projects for the Youth Advisory Board might include working on the website and research on historical things and cemeteries. Larry and Jay pointed out that having a Youth Advisory Board is unique to Montgomery County Historical Commission, for no other Historical Commissions have one. Brenda requested help at the meeting on April 1
8. **The following Update concerning the Historical Commission** was given by Larry Foerster:
  - Karen “Candy” Lucas has submitted her resignation due to illness. She will continue working on a marker for Danville.
  - The Texas Historical Commission approved both markers (the Courthouse and the Conroe Fire). The fee of \$1,800 has been approved by County Commissioners and Friends of Conroe is paying the \$1,800 for the marker denoting the fire that destroyed downtown Conroe. The markers will possibly be completed within six months.
  - Larry reported that the report of the Commission’s activities for the year, along with David Frame’s report regarding the website, were well received by Commissioners Court.
  - Attention was called to *The Medallion*, a magazine published by the Texas Historical Commission. Larry encouraged members to order it online.
  - Businesses, 50 years or older, can be nominated for the Texas Treasure Business Award.
  - The Texas Historical Commission is interested in Volunteer Hours and Larry will add a column on the sign in sheet for members to report volunteer hours. This will be a way to share what our members do to Chambers of Commerce and other organizations.
9. **Jay Hrivnatz presented a proposed Commission emblem** which incorporates the concept of the Courthouse as the center of the County. Motion was made by Celeste Graves and seconded by Anna Sheppard to accept the color version as the emblem for the Montgomery County Historical Commission. Motion carried. The black and white rendition will be presented at the next meeting and will be considered as a back-up. Questions arose regarding the use of the emblem:
  - Who will use it other than Larry on official letterheads and the website?
  - Will Commission have to approve a request each time others request using it?
  - Jay will use it on business cards
  - Consider having it copyrighted
  - Could other Commission members also use it on business cards? Motion was made by Barbara Hamilton and seconded by Jay Hrivnatz to allow Commission members to use the emblem on their personal business cards. Motion carried.
10. **David Frame’s report on the Montgomery County Historical Commission website** was presented. Heather Kramer, member of the website committee explained that sponsors for the dropdown pages would provide a source of revenue. SA4i has been paid half of its fee.

- 11. A Resolution supporting a walking tour brochure of downtown Conroe** was presented. Anna Sheppard made a motion to approve this Resolution and Barbara Hamilton seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 12. Butch Bateman presented a Resolution supporting an annex for the Heritage Museum.** Anna Sheppard made a motion to approve this Resolution and Brenda Beaven seconded the motion. Motion carried. Butch shared information about the need for expansion, stating that 5,000 visited the Heritage Museum last year.
- 13. Approved David “Jay” Hrivnatz’ request for reimbursement of expenses - \$257.71**
- February 20, 2013, attended “Preservation Texas” and Press Conference at the State Capitol. He met with Representative Brandon Creighton and discussed the need to preserve historical sites in Montgomery County.
    - Registration - \$30, and one night at the LaQuinta - \$127.71.
  - Saturday – Texas A&M Preservation Conference; networking.
    - Registration - \$100.00
- Barbara Hamilton made the motion to reimburse David “Jay” Hrivnatz for his expenses of \$257.71, and Beverly Tucker seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 14. Heather Kramer presented information about the County Genealogical and Family History Department** in the County Central Library. She explained it was a mini-library within the library system, and one of the top five collections of Genealogy Books in Texas. There are 100,000 items in the collection. The Texas section contains Montgomery County History books.
- 15. The next regular meeting will be Monday, May 6, 2013, at the Hodge Podge Lodge in Montgomery at 5:30 p.m.** Members are welcome to attend the meeting with the Youth Advisory Board on April 1, 2013, at 5:30 p.m. at the Conroe Chamber of Commerce. Larry Foerster reminded members that money is available to spend on Historical buildings. Has to be approved by June (original receipts and 3 bids). He also reminded members of the Texas Legacy Fest on April 12 and 13, and the Conroe Live History Village at the Conroe KIDZFEST on Saturday, April 27, and the Houston History Road Rally on May 5, 2013.
- 16. Motion made by Gertie Spencer to adjourn, seconded by Anna Sheppard. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.**

Submitted by:

Sue Ann Powell, Secretary