

**Montgomery County Historical Commission**  
**Minutes May 6, 2013**  
**Hodge Podge Lodge in Montgomery, TX**

1. **The meeting of the Montgomery County Historical Commission was called to order** on Monday, May 6, 2013, at 5:35 p.m. by Chairman Larry Foerster.
  2. **The following members** were present: Larry Foerster, Gertie Spencer, Brenda Beaven, David Frame, David "Jay" Hrivnatz, Nancy Jackson, Anna Shepeard, Beverly Tucker, Barbara Hamilton, Betsy Powers and Sue Ann Powell.
  3. **Recognition of special guests:** Nicola Weems and John Baxendale, owners of Hodge Podge Lodge, the former home of Richard Willis, built in 1854. Members of the Youth Council: George Lange, III, Sarah Darling, Hannah Handley, Madison Wisenbaker, Savannah Johnson, and Kori Joye; Erma Lewis, Johnnie Davis, George and Cecelia Lang, Ed Joye, Vicki Thornberry, Dr. Robin Montgomery, Luther Powell and Martha Foerster.
  4. **There were no comments from the public.**
  5. **The motion to approve the minutes of the March meeting as written** was made by Gertie Spencer, and seconded by Anna Shepeard. Minutes were approved.
  6. **The following nominees for membership in the Historical Commission will be presented** at the next meeting: Erma Lewis and Marlynn Harris.
  7. **The following Update concerning the Historical Commission** was given by Larry Foerster:
    - Houston Road Rally was attended by Larry and Martha, plus five students and their teacher from Willis High School. This event made history more fun. Larry explained he is looking for projects that promote the history of Montgomery County.
    - Ideas for the future. Robin Montgomery invited members to a Flag Day Program in Richards, Texas on June 14. Robin's has written a new book, Cradle of Texas Road.
  8. **The mailing address for the Historical Commission** will continue to be Larry's office address.
  9. **Brenda Beaven reported on the first meeting of the Youth Advisory Board** on April 1. Twenty students attended. There are now representatives from every high school (public and private) in Montgomery County, with membership at 26. This is the only organization of its kind. There will be a meeting of the group in June, and Gertie Spencer suggested the youth participate in *Pioneer Days* at the Heritage Museum.
  10. **The approval of the black and white emblem** designed by David "Jay" Hrivnatz will be placed on the July Agenda.
  11. **The Website Committee Report was given by David Frame.** Copy is on file with the Minutes. Youth who are interested will be given the opportunity to work on the website. The website is projected to be completed by June.
  12. **The Budget for 2013-14** was discussed and draft copy filed. Fiscal year begins October 1. The following items were listed for inclusion:
    - Regional Workshop, May 22. Texas Historical Marker Training. Montgomery County Historical Commission will host.
    - Projects:
      - Youth Advisory Board
      - Historical Timeline of Montgomery County – Larry is donating to Montgomery County. Recoverable cost - \$1,000 - \$2,000. Historical Commission will sell copies.
    - Money – first come, first served
    - Develop a new County Historical Marker Map – part of website
    - Jay Hrivnatz suggested historical projects such as County Historical Map.
    - Training \$2,000, instead of \$1,000.
- Motion was made by Barbara Hamilton and seconded by Beverly Tucker to bump Historical Marker Map to Special Projects and Increase Training to \$2,000. Motion carried.**
13. **Requests for payment of repairs:**
    - **Thomas Chapel.** (Exception made to policy for payment – *Require (501c(3); pay and seek reimbursement*). Church is 140+ years old. Grant variance for expenses for repairs to Church. Approve bid (Ruben Garcia) subject to availability. Gertie Spencer, Nancy Jackson, Anna Shepeard and Jay Hrivnatz will meet with Ruben and prioritize. May have to pay some of it out of next year's funds.  
**Motion made by Anna Shepeard and seconded by Beverly Tucker to approve \$14,260 to be paid to Ruben Garcia for services rendered to Thomas Chapel based upon availability of funds. Motion carried.**
  14. **Requests for reimbursement:**
    - **Magnolia Historical Society.** Motion was made by Anna Shepeard and seconded by Nancy Jackson to approve \$2,600 to provide roof over sawmill exhibit at Magnolia Depot. Motion carried.
    - **Heritage Museum.** Motion was made by Jay Hrivnatz and seconded by Brenda Beaven to approve \$2,283.88 for line items discussed by Gertie Spencer. Motion carried. (Note: May be some items Auditor disapproves. Administrative costs not covered.)

- 15. Confirm date and place of next meeting.** Larry will be out of State on the first Monday in July, so the next regular meeting of the Montgomery County Historical Commission will be Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, with no meeting in July. The meeting will be held at the Magnolia Community Center next to the Magnolia Depot at 5:30 p.m.
- 16. Other.** Gertie Spencer requested a volunteer to work with her on replacing three historical markers. Beverly Tucker plans to attend the workshop on May 22, and volunteered her services. Marlynn Harris also volunteered to help. Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Submitted by:

Sue Ann Powell, Secretary