

**Montgomery County Historical Commission
Minutes August 26, 2013
Conroe Chamber of Commerce**

1. **Larry Foerster called the Montgomery County Historical Commission meeting to order** at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, August 26, 2013,
2. **The following members** were present: Larry Foerster, Gertie Spencer, Brenda Beaven, Jay Hrivnatz, Nancy Jackson, Anna Sheppard, Barbara Hamilton, Heather Kramer, Betsy Powers Jim Walker and Sue Ann Powell.
3. **Recognition of special guests:** Harold Hutchison, City of Conroe Convention and Visitor Bureau; Robin Montgomery, author of Cradle of Texas Roads and other books on Montgomery County.
4. **There were no comments from the public.**
5. **Betsy Powers made the motion to accept the June 17, 2013 minutes as written and Barbara Hamilton seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
6. **The following update concerning the Historical Commission** was given by Larry Foerster: Larry introduced a representative of the upcoming Texian Heritage Festival, Bea Rouse, who presented information on the event to be held October 19th at Fernland Historical Park in Montgomery. David Martin announced that Larry would be speaking on the history of the Courthouse at the Academy of Lifelong Learning on November 14th. Harold Hutchison announced that there are 12 Geo Caching sites of historical interest in the immediate area of Conroe (playinconroe.com).
7. **Applicants for membership to the Historical Commission** were introduced: (1) Sharon Russell, Regent of Magnolia DAR, Colonial Dames, Daughters of 1812. Grand-parents received 1839 Land Grant in Decker Prairie. **Motion made by Anna Sheppard and seconded by Brenda Beaven to accept Sharon Russell as a member. Motion carried.** (2) Lonnie Clover, active member of Montgomery Historical Society who helped get Cedar Brake Park developed. **Motion by Brenda Hamilton and seconded by Jay Hrivnatz to accept Lonnie Clover as a member. Motion carried.** (3) Heather Montgomery, early resident of The Woodlands interested in growing history of that area. She was Kevin Brady's assistant for 10 years. **Motion by Anna Sheppard and seconded by Nancy Jackson to accept Heather Montgomery as a member. Motion carried.** (4) Maria Banos` Jordan is interested in finding ways to integrate Latinos in Montgomery County and connecting community history/education. **Motion by Jay Hrivnatz and seconded by Gertie Spencer to accept Maria Banos` Jordan as a member. Motion carried.** The following applicants were not present due to health issues: (5) Erma Davis Lewis, involved in African American history. **Motion by Gertie Spencer and seconded by Anna Sheppard to accept Erma Davis Lewis as a member. Motion carried.** (6) Barbara Holland who is in real estate and has roots and contacts in The Woodlands, with a special interest in the Tamina area. **Motion by Betsy Powers and seconded by Nancy Jackson to accept Barbara Holland as a member. Motion carried.**
8. **Moved to the beginning of the meeting, Shannon Reid**, Director of Historic Montgomery Business Association, presented information concerning the 175th Anniversary of the Texas Flag to be held January 25, 2014 in Montgomery. She reviewed some of the activities, including using a QR Code to get people moving. The involvement of Montgomery County Historical Commission was discussed and the Youth Advisory Board's Road Rally was endorsed. **A motion for a Resolution from the Commission for support of the celebration of the Texas Flag was made by Gertie Spencer and seconded by Anna Sheppard. Motion carried.**
9. **The endorsement of "Montgomery County, Texas Historical Timeline", compiled** by Larry Foerster, as a Commission fundraising project was discussed. This will be spiral bound and reproduced at a cost of \$1,000 - \$2,000. The Commission could sell these for \$2 - \$5 profit. This timeline captures the fabric of Montgomery County, giving a sense of what life was like during different periods. A copy of this would be placed in all the schools and libraries in Montgomery County. **Motion by Anna Sheppard and seconded by Brenda Beaven to endorse this project. Motion carried.**
10. **The Commission Website Committee report on the status of the new Commission Website** was given by Heather Kramer, who announced there were 42 "Likes" on the Website and Facebook. David Frame submitted a request for an additional stipend to pay SA41 to upgrade the county map—up to \$1,000. **Motion was made by Anna Sheppard and seconded by Barbara Hamilton to pay up to \$1,000 for additional work on the Website. Motion carried.** Jay Hrivnatz stated he may be able to do some of the work and save some of the cost.
11. **Brenda Beaven gave the following report on the Youth Advisory Board:** Copies of the Youth Advisory Board's By-Laws were distributed. Brenda stated she wants to bring in more Juniors this Fall. In the Spring, will bring in Sophomores who will be Juniors next year. **Motion to approve the By-Laws was made by Barbara Hamilton and seconded by Anna Sheppard. Motion carried.** Brenda reported that approximately \$1,000 (+/-) would be needed to purchase 20-25 Polo shirts for the youth. This money is available in this year's budget. **Motion by Anna Sheppard and seconded by Brenda Hamilton to purchase the Polo shirts. Motion carried.** At the next meeting, September 16th, they will get the sizes for the Polo shirts.
12. **The sponsorship and support of a History Road Rally by Montgomery County Historical Commission** was discussed: This project of the Youth Advisory Board will be a rain or shine event and will be held in a different location each year. **Motion to approve and support the Road Rally for Montgomery was made by Nancy Jackson and seconded by Jay Hrivnatz. Motion carried.**
13. **The item to consider applications for Texas Historical Markers in Montgomery County was not discussed.**
14. **Requests for reimbursement of expenses:** Anna Sheppard made the motion, seconded by Gertie Spencer to approve the final payment (\$5,100) for the restoration of Thomas Chapel. **Motion carried.**
15. **Prior to setting the next meeting for November 4th, Larry reminded members to keep up with their Volunteer Hours.**
16. **Motion was made by Anna Sheppard and seconded by Gertie Spencer to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.**

Submitted by:
Sue Ann Powell, Secretary