

Tehuacana Heritage Society
General Meeting
7/27/21
6pm

Members present:

Bill and Linda Ferris, Larry Price, Sylvana Padgett, David Williams, and Tom Rees
Jace Floyd III, visitor

The meeting was Called to Order with a quorum present.

The Minutes of the July 27 meeting were read and accepted with this alteration: that the words from Dr. Montoya's interviews with Bob Wright and Jace Floyd be read deleting these words: "and communicated with Jace Floyd for further interviewing".

Larry motioned, Tom 2^{ne}. All Approved.

There was further discussion of posting past minutes of meetings through link on Tehuacana with everyone's consent for approval.

Tom read the treasurers' report with a consistent balance of \$681.60 currently in the budget. Bill moved to accept the report, Larry 2nd. All approved.

Linda presented a box of 10 enclosed 3-Ring archive binders that cost \$30.00 through Ebay. Larry moved to reimburse Linda out of petty cash fund the \$30.00, Tom 2nd. All approved. The binders would later prevent damage and further deterioration of delicate archival material with an organization plan for documentation.

Linda reported that an email from Dr. Montoya indicated that his next trip to Tehuacana would wait until further approval from Trinity University primarily based on the pandemic surge in Texas. She provided the only known map drawn in the early decades of 1900's of the block properties of Mexia's Belknap and Denton and Commerce Streets. Discussion followed to try to offer any information to Texas' "Green Book Project", as Austin sought personal help in documenting the "safe haven" homes and businesses. Linda said that she knew that the new Green Book copy the Heritage Society had in their library had an

above average number of these in the state of Texas. Tom Rees suggested to contact Lonnie Hall to use as a reference for THS plan to come up with information for Austin. Linda also followed with possibly contacting City of Mexia for any interest in a Subject Marker of these areas.

Old business included the progress of Tehuacana's heritage tree project, and Tom Rees reported taking pictures of more trees in the community that would need measured to complete the documentation. He reported photographs of Hwy 171 Cottonwood and others. Another meeting to include Cedars at MacDonald and McDade properties and Doug East's two trees in front of Irma East's (now Kari's home) could take place on Saturday, August 7th in the morning. Talk of a drawn-up map including all trees in project was made.

Linda asked the members their preference for the calendar pictures. All agreed that the first year should include pictures of the old building and architecture interest. Linda reported that the calendar dates were set in place for the 12 months, leaving area for description and pictures of the buildings.

Linda also reported that a note from the Tehuacana Heritage Society offering support for action on Texas Hall was recently set.

An email was read containing involvement with accepting and archiving letters in the family of Dr. Archibald Sebron Watkins, prominent physician in the early 1900s. Wanda Watkins letter will be on file, and it was agreed that Bill would send an official letter to her indicating our strong interest to further this project.

Linda also reported that Linda Jordan would set in place a grant program, in the name of her late husband Bruce Jordan, for local cemeteries to apply for restoration projects indicated by the separate cemeteries. Linda and Bruce Jordan, members of the Limestone County Historical Commission, had an enormous influence on documenting those buried in all cemeteries in Limestone County in the 1980's. Linda reported that Arthur Brinkley (254-366-9495) worked for Dietz Monuments in Waco and was active in headstone restoration. Linda said that she might attend the next meeting of the Tehuacana Cemetery Association to report being a part of this and she would let Mike Wolfe know of any further details, application, process, criteria for involvement.

Linda presented a list of Veteran's buried in the Tehuacana Cemetery attached to found minutes of the association and asked Larry to look over this and research adding to the list to update and suggest methods of using the list in the future.

The status of the society logo was presented by Tom with further suggestions by the members and no immediate decision on final draft.

New business was included writing a note or letter to Dr. Jim Parker to send committing support if needed for the reconstruction effort of Texas Hall. Linda would do this.

Bill was asked to look into the Annual Cemetery Association dates, the Tehuacana Fire Department date. He reported on the progress and known details of the tower construction for Texas Hall. All members were curious and invited to attend the scheduled meeting for input and feedback.

Jace Floyd talked of the importance of the group having a mission statement, and Linda agreed to presenting him with the current bylaws including the mission statement of the organization. It was agreed that logo and letterhead would be valuable for all respects of the group.

The meeting was adjourned by Linda and announced the next meeting by Tuesday, August 24th.