



Gregg County Historical Commission

Norman W. Black, D.D.S.
Chairman

417 Moberly Avenue
Longview, Texas 75602

Phone 903-757-2261
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NOTICE

**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
GREGG COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
WIL BE HELD
MONDAY, MAY 5, 2003 AT 10:00 A.M.
IN THE EDUCATION BUILDING OF THE
GREGG COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM
216 NORTH FREDONIA STREET
LONGVIEW, TEXAS**

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GREGG COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

May 5, 2003

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes (mailed to members)
3. Committee Reports
4. Chairman's Report
5. 2003 – 2004 Goals and Projects
6. General Comments from the Membership
7. Adjourn

MINUTES

Gregg County Historical Commission

May 6, 2002

The Fortieth Annual Meeting of the Gregg County Historical Commission met on Monday, May 6, 2002, in accordance with Texas Open Meetings Act: Section 551, Texas Government Code, article 6252, *Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes*. The Commission met in the Education Center of the Gregg County Historical Museum.

Commission Chair, Dr. Norman Black, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., noting that for the first time in recent memory all members of the Commission were present for the annual meeting. Those in attendance were Sue Brown, Jack Buchanan, Pauline Cox, Ann Crain, Beth Dodson, Helen "Pudge" Griffin, Carol Little, Virginia Long, Anne Mackenzie, Nauty Byrd Mayer, Amanda Nobles, W. D. Northcutt, Elizabeth Osteen, Harold Wells, Joe White, and W. A. Williams. Dr. Black welcomed Nancy McWhorter, Director of the Gregg County Historical Museum, and he congratulated Pudge Griffin, who was elected Citizen of the Year in Kilgore, and Sue Brown, who was chosen First Lady of Kilgore.

Minutes of the May 1, 2001, meeting were approved as amended by the addition of Joe White's name among those attending.

Dr. Black announced the creation of a new committee suggested by the Texas Historical Commission. Members of the new Endangered Properties Committee are Carol Little (chair), Pudge Griffin, Harold Wells and Norman Black.

REPORTS

Museums

Gregg County Historical Museum: Nancy McWhorter announced that a new traveling exhibit, "George Washington: Architect," will be on display at the Museum for one month beginning June 21, 2002.

East Texas Oil Museum: Joe White reported that plans are underway for the celebration of the Museum's twenty-fifth birthday in 2005. Tourists in ten busses from Chicago recently visited East Texas and toured the Museum. A chartered bus also brought visitors from Kansas City, Missouri,

Gladewater Museum: Nauty Byrd Mayer reported that Museum supporters have raised \$20,000 of the \$30,000 needed to apply for a grant. Artifacts are being collected and a site for the museum has been secured.

Rangerette Showcase and LeTourneau Museum: The report on these two organizations is unchanged from the last meeting, according to Dr. Black.

School Awards Program

Beth Dodson said that projects currently are being collected and that Sabine Independent School District is a new participant this year.

Walter Prescott Webb Society

This group continues to maintain the old Parmer Cemetery on Ray Street.

Kilgore Historical Preservation Foundation

Sue Brown confirmed that fifty-two derricks have been erected, with 49 under the auspices of the Foundation.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Markers

Dr. Black reported that in 2001 Gregg County acquired an Official Texas Historical Marker for the Lewis-Bivins House. The owner, Peggy Bivins Reed was unable to come to Longview for an official dedication so the marker was placed on the twentieth-fifth of August without ceremony. A marker also was placed at Hunter's Cemetery. Markers awarded through the Family Farm Heritage Project are not the purview of the Commission, but the Commission keeps abreast of additions.

No markers are awaiting dedication. None is awaiting approval in Austin, none has been denied, and none has been damaged, stolen or vandalized. No marker has been replaced or refinished. A marker is pending on The Grove, an acre of land that John R. Magrill sold to the black citizens of Longview for forty dollars. A marker for the Longview Municipal Building and Central Fire Station currently is at the foundry. Ideas for future markers include the old Womack School site.

Street markers for Nugget Hill National Register District have been erected and the project is complete. The Northcutt House has been re-roofed and painted, and repairs have been made on the Dundee-Angus House.

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SIGN IN SHEET

Norman Kluck

Beth Dodson

Helene (Puz) Griffin

Harold R. Wells

Bob Northcutt III

Willie A Williams

Elizabeth Oster

Amanda Nobles

Luc Brown

Nancy Boyd Meyer

Pauline Cox

Carol Little

JACK BUCHANAN

Ann Crein



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May 5, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GREGG COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

One Official Texas Historical Marker was erected in Gregg County in the last twelve months. It is for the Longview Administration Building and Central Fire Station at 100 E. Cotton Street in Longview. The dedication was held for the 1936 structure on November 1, 2002. Also, a marker for "The Grove", where Magrill Plaza is located at N. Green, Padon, First and Grove Streets, is in the process of being cast at the foundry.

This announcement was made by Dr. Norman Black, Chairman of the Gregg County Historical Commission at the forty-first annual meeting of the Commission held in the Education Building of the Gregg County Historical Museum Monday, May 5, 2003.

Each year the commission recognizes one outstanding student from each of the middle schools in the county with an Award of Merit Certificate. Beth Dodson, chairman of this committee, said several school officials have submitted names of seventh grade students who excelled in Texas history during the school year.

The Junior Historian chapters in the county schools continue to be active in their projects. The Webb Society at LeTourneau University has as their project the maintenance of the Parmer Cemetery, a small wrought-iron fenced cemetery with the last burial date of 1885.

Black reported that all twenty-two heritage organizations in Gregg County are doing well and meeting regularly.

Joe White, director of the East Texas Oil Museum, reported that the museum continues to be the number one tourist attraction in East Texas. Ginia Northcutt, director of the Gregg County Historical Museum, reported on the activities of the museum.

The highlight of the year's activities was the acquisition of the gift of the Buddy Calvin Jones Caddo Indian Collection, formerly known as the Caddo Indian Museum. This is the largest documented collection of Nadarko Caddo Indian artifacts known to exist and was a generous gift of Mr. Faris Stanford and Mrs. Patsy Jones. The artifacts are in the long process of inventory; however, a small but beautiful exhibit of the collection is now on exhibit at the Gregg County Historical Museum

Only two members of the commission were absent with excuse of the seventeen-member commission. In addition to the membership _____ were in attendance.

The Historical Commission is appointed by the County Judge and Commissioners Court and is an arm of the county government.

Gregg County Historical Commission

The Gregg County Historical Commission met May 5 at the Education Building of the Gregg County Historical Museum.

Dr. Norman Black, chairman, said that one official Texas Historical Marker was erected in Gregg County in the last 12 months. The marker was for the Longview Administration Building and Central Fire Station, 100 E. Cotton St. in Longview.

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the 1936 structure in November.

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The Junior Historian chapters in the county schools continue to be active in their projects. The Webb Society at LeTourneau University has as their project the maintenance of the Parmer Cemetery, a small, wrought-iron fenced cemetery with the last burial date of 1885.

Black reported that all 22 heritage organizations in Gregg County are doing well and meeting regularly.

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April 16, 2003

Dear Commission Member:

The Annual Meeting of the Gregg County Historical Commission will be held at 10:00 A.M., Monday May 5th. The Gregg County Historical Foundation again has invited us to have our meeting in the Education Building of the Gregg County Historical Museum. The minutes of the 2002 meeting and the new agenda are enclosed. If possible come a few minutes early to read a proposal for a new project with may have merit.

I am still trying to keep the one annual meeting format even though the THC now requires a minimum of four or six meetings per year (I don't remember which). So far, we haven't been reprimanded for this procedure. Last year we had 100% attendance for the first time and I hope we can repeat it this year. With this kind of record I believe we may be able to justify this variance in the number of meetings. And, I **need** all of you there! In the event that it is impossible for a member to be present the member should write a letter to me in advance explaining the absence.

Very truly yours,

Enc. - 2

xc: Judge Bill Stoudt



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January 1, 2003

Dear Commission Member:

Happy New Year to each one of you. It's time to mark your new calendar for the Forty-first Annual Meeting of the Gregg County Historical Commission. (My, how time flies!) As always, it will be on the first Monday of May, **May 5th, at 10:00 A.M.** in the Education Building of the Gregg County Historical Museum.

As you know the Museum now houses the Buddy Calvin Jones Caddo Indian Collection that was donated to the museum by Mr. Faris Stanford and Buddy's widow, Patsy Jones. The Texas archeological stewards for Gregg County are working on the collection now. By meeting time I feel certain we will have some important notes on the progress of organizing and displaying the collection. You may not know that we, the GCHC, are 50 – 50 partners with the Gregg County Historical Foundation on this project.

Have a good remainder of the winter and a fine spring.

Sincerely,