

CUERO HERITAGE MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEETING

12:00 – 1:30 PM, Cuero Heritage Museum

Tuesday, January 05, 2016

Call to Order: In Chairman Adickes' absence, Steve Waldrop called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Members present were Joe Reuss, Jim Stokes, Jessie Mathis, Peggy Ledbetter, Cynthia Lawyer, Gerald Zengerle, Kay Lewis, consultant Liz Hiser and Museum Manager Amber Fitts.

Approval of the minutes: The minutes from the December meeting were approved.

Financial Report: Financial Reports were not available but Steve reported that we are still doing well financially.

Docents: We now have two paid docents and three volunteers. Steve reported that Jeremy Ford has agreed to be another volunteer and Kay mentioned that she could come more than Thursdays now that Christmas in the Park is complete.

HVAC: Steve reported that the city will be soliciting three proposals for both buildings, not to exceed \$270,000.

Brochures: Amber has prepared a brochure encompassing the four museums in Cuero (CHM, PMMT, DeWitt County Historical, and Chisholm Trail). It is expected that these can be distributed to state parks and other visitor centers throughout Texas within the next 2 months. Amber mentioned she was working with the Chamber to help with the cost. *CHM and PMMT Brochures:* There is a separate brochure for each of these museums. The CHM brochure is on hold until the Chamber moves. The PMMT is ready for distribution. Joe suggested putting them in doctors' offices and the hospital and Gerald agreed to send them with his pharmacy statements. It was also suggested to put them in the RV parks around town to entice the "winter Texans".

Attendance Report: Amber reported on the impressive attendance during Christmas Downtown for PMMT. Three hundred thirty-one visitors signed the guest book and many more didn't sign. Of signers, 183 were from out of town. After December 12, there were 65 signing guests with 50 being from out of town.

Archival Cabinets: Wayne asked Steve to propose to the board the purchase of large, expensive archival storage cabinets for photos, maps, and documents that need to be preserved from light, humidity, bugs, etc. This will be on the agenda for approval at the next meeting.

Snowman Exhibit Reception: There were 30 people at the reception, which was enjoyed by all. There were only two entries for the photo contest so there was no problem coming up with the winner and runner-up. Winner: Elizabeth Means; Runner-up: Ronii Diaz. The snowmen will be taken down in the next two weeks and Amber asked for volunteers to help. Jim suggested having a photo contest for some of our other exhibits.

7-Up Exhibit: Amber is beginning to assemble this exhibit.

Cuero Banking Exhibit: This exhibit is on hold until Mr. Blackwell is able to continue.

Motion detector switches for lighting: This has been put on hold due to the fact that the Chamber may be moving to another building. If so, the museum will be the only occupants of this building and we will have control over the lighting.

Firetruck Fund Raising: The Cuero Volunteer Fire Department has agreed to donate both antique firetrucks to CHM. They will continue to house the trucks. Cliff Weber has agreed to

host a fund-raising barbeque in order to get the funding started. We will also try for grants and corporation donations.

Oral History: Jessie and Steve are working on the Black Community histories. Mrs. Jamison of the Jamison Funeral Home family has agreed to be interviewed, probably before our next meeting. Also Mr. Joseph Lucas, who now lives in San Angelo and is 92 years young, has agreed to share his unique and valuable memories and thoughts about his life in this area. We are also hopeful to get interviews from people from Hopkinsville and Antioch Baptist Church.

John Ellzey: It was tentatively decided to hold the reading of the letters on Armed Forces Day, May 21, 2016. Amber will check with the Chamber to make sure there are no conflicts. She suggested that we have an exhibit of the Ellzey artifacts here at CHM in conjunction with that date. Steve will have a Power Point program ready by the next meeting.

Removing shelves, etc. in PMMT: This will be done on January 9, 2016. Volunteers are encouraged to attend.

PMMT Doors: Two bids have been received and we are waiting on the third.

Iron Lung Update: Jim called for the name of someone at Warm Springs Foundation who he could contact.
Left a message.

Interactions with Pharmacy Schools: It was reported that Incarnate Word in San Antonio and Texas A & M School of Pharmacy are willing to cooperate with PMMT for possible displays, student visits and donations.

There was a lengthy discussion on how to get the fixtures (which were returned to PMMT) to the second floor.

PMMT Website: Steve reported that this was in process.

Old Business: Liz reported that the Football Documentary will be the subject of a public viewing party on January 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned.