

Agenda (Revised Posting)
Bastrop County Historical Commission
2nd Quarterly Meeting 2021

June 10, 2021 - 2 p.m.

To be held in person in the meeting room of the Bastrop County Courthouse, Bastrop, Texas,
and by Zoom

Please inform the chair about whether you will meet at the courthouse or by zoom,
or will be unable to attend at all. Kkesselus@yahoo.com.

Susan Smith is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7740811666?pwd=RURFd3pFazN4aXY2RXBjSGR6UzQyZz09>

Meeting ID: 774 081 1666

Passcode: VBastrop

One tap mobile

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FILED
JUN 02 2021 8:20 AM
Rose Pietsch
Bastrop County Cler.

1. Call to order and Welcome
2. Roll call. Each member will answer present and then provide a very brief introduction and mention of particular interest(s) in the work of the commission she/he has already begun or and desires to engage in.

(Note: Kay Sapikas has resigned from her CEO position at the Bastrop County Historical Society, and therefore resigned from this Commission. John Smith, archivist for the Elgin Historical Association has joined this commission.)

3. Declaration of Quorum
4. Notification of Possible Action – All items, unless listed otherwise, are subject to action by majority vote of those present in person or by zoom.
5. Approval of minutes of the March 2021, meeting, as follows or as amended.

Bastrop County Historical Commission

1st Quarterly Meeting Minutes

The Bastrop County Historical Commission met for its 1st Quarterly Meeting on March 11, 2021, held via Zoom conference services (by authority of Governor Abbott.)

At 2:05 p.m., Chairman Kesselus called the meeting to order and the following members, constituting a quorum, answered the roll call: Judy Bergeron, Duncan Charlton, Sandra Chipley, Geoff Connor, Faith Franklin, Rebecca Gleason, Ashley Guerrero, David Herrington, Marilyn Jones, Ken Kesselus, Theresa McShan, Amy Miller, Dianne Mills, David Robinson, Kaye Sapikas, Susan Smith, Carol Snyder and Debbie Wahrmund. County staff member Fran Hunter attended the meeting, as did visitor Robbie Sanders. (Commissioners were asked to share biographical information and interests related to their involvement in the commission during roll call.)

County Judge Paul Pape welcomed the commissioners to their first meeting of 2021 by video, urged the commission to tell the stories of Bastrop's history well for generations to come, and committed the County's resources to aid the commission in its duties.

As an orientation for returning and new members, Chairman Kesselus referenced handouts previously emailed to the members which govern the commission (Local Government Code, BCHC Bylaws, and the Open Meetings Act). Kesselus also pointed out the BCHC Website link sent by emails to the members. A portion of the Texas Historical Commission video on the recommendations packet for County Historical Commissions and their 3 Levels of Framework along with the role of appointees was viewed by the members.

Duncan Charlton moved that the Commission accept the minutes of its December meeting as included on the agenda. Judy Bergeron seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

The Executive Board nominated the following officers for the 2021-2022 term who were each in approved with unanimous consent to their election. The Chair was appointed by the County Judge.

- a. Vice Chair – Carol Snyder
- b. Treasurer – Duncan Charlton
- c. Secretary – Sandy Chipley

The Commission next considered a resolution required by Roscoe State Bank to allow the Treasurer and other commissioners to access and use the Commission's account. Amy Miller made a motion that the Commission adopt the following Resolution:

“Resolved that the names of Duncan Charlton, Judy Bergeron and Adena Lewis are to be added as signatories to the Bastrop County Historical Commission's Roscoe Bank commercial account # 541311 and Cindye Ginsel's name is to be removed.”

Chair Kesselus led a discussion on considering a change in meeting times regarding expanding the diversity of membership and inquired whether current members would consider Saturday meetings. Sandra Chipley remarked that she has to take off 2 hours from work to attend now, but that it is only for 4 meetings a year. A number of members seemed open to considering Saturday meetings. Evening meetings sometimes have issues with members driving at night. Kesselus hopes to eventually return to the courthouse for meetings with the possibility of a hybrid meeting (with a Zoom virtual meeting).

David Herrington led a discussion on a suggestion from Bruce Blalock to consider ideas or possible actions regarding Smithville's historic Fawcett Store. Herrington presented the following background from Blalock: “The year after the Civil War John Fawcett owned and operated a store, but sold it in 1867 to Dr. Taylor, the first doctor to arrive here, who later took Murray Burleson, into partnership. Three years later Dr. Taylor sold his interest to William Smith and that left Burleson and Smith handling the local trade. The home at 903 Short is where this store stood and the building is now behind the house at 803 Colorado. Ann Fulcher owns the building and will be willing to donate it to any reasonable organization that will preserve and protect it.” Ms. Fulcher's offer would require the buyer to move the building from its current location to a location where it can be restored. Blalock, Kaye Sapikas and Kesselus talked about the idea when they were in Smithville and all are open to ideas.

The commission then moved on to discussing suggestions for topics for future meetings for the Executive Committee to consider. Chipley suggested the Cemetery Committee do a full presentation on the work that they have performed and their plans. Warhund suggested that Audrey Rother and the committee could make it a “show and tell” presentation. Kesselus hopes the commission can meet in person by June. Fran Hunter and Adena Lewis will be testing a hybrid meeting next week. The commission might consider doing a survey to determine whether Saturday meetings would be viable. Chair Kesselus remarked at the strong representation from Elgin at today's meeting. Warhund stated that all members of the Cemetery Committee will be included on future meeting invitations. Charlton remarked that all are welcome to add friends and encourage followers to the commission's Facebook Page.

Faith Franklin moved to adjourn the meeting. Amy Miller seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 3:56 pm.

6. Reports and possible action in response.
 - A. Historical Markers and Research Committee - Vice Chair Snyder
 - B. Cemetery Survey Committee, Audrey Rother
This report will be delayed until a later section of the agenda.
 - C. Historic Tourism Task Force, Susan Smith
 - D. Executive Committee, Ken Kesselus
 - a. Website redevelopment – Fran Hunter
 - E. Heritage Awareness Committee (combining Archives and Records Survey Committee, Historical Photo Survey Committee, and Oral History Committee) – Ken Kesselus
 - a. Reports and discussion about oral history projects in the county
 - b. Report and discussion of archival records held in the county office of Adena Lewis
 - c. Report and discussion of past, present, and future preservation of Bastrop County Newspapers
 - F. Grants and Finance Committee, Duncan Charlton
 - a. Report about expenditures since last meeting
 - b. Consideration of items for possible inclusion in a proposed budget and request for inclusion in the county budget
 - G. Opportunity for reports and/ or announcements by organizations in the county (not an action item)
7. The Major focus for the June meeting - Bastrop County Cemeteries
Debbie Wahrmund, on behalf of Audrey Rother and others
8. Suggestions for topics for future meetings
9. Adjournment