

The February meeting of the Burton Heritage Society was called to order on Monday, February 7, 2022 at 6:05pm at the Burton Railroad Depot. There were 16 members present.

Wendy Bethany, Brian Chenault, Charlene Free, Mary Grace Hearnberger, Steph & Steven Jarvis, Susan Kiel, Paul McLaughlin, Christine Muehlbrad, Kristina & Den Newton, Barbara Schoenemann, Bill Whitener, Tom Whitesides, Brenda & Lindy Varner.

The minutes were approved as read. Barbara S. presented the Treasurer's report. General account \$6,821.36, Chapel restoration \$13,069.47, Depot pavilion \$2,100.66. The report was accepted (BVarner, motion; LVarner 2nd).

**Depot Committee Report:** Lindy/Brenda reported on the recent meeting and work. Plans are being made for prep to the Depot before Texas Ranger Day. Thanks to the great recent donation lumber/screws by McCoys, Lindy and Paul M were able to rebuild the ramp. A handrail was discussed and everyone agreed to have one completed (BWhitener, motion; CFree 2nd). There was a recent break to the plumbing at the mens/womens restrooms due to the freeze and it will be looked into. New lighting options are being explored and after discussion everyone agreed to go with LED bulbs. The TV/DVD is up and working to display railroad related discs. BrandIt printed stickers for the Depot and the Varners donated the payment for them. We will plan to sell them. A gentleman stopped by recently and donated a 100th anniversary Lionel Railroad clock, Nelson Bynan. Steph submitted a last minute grant application to LCRA for their Jan. 31 grant deadline. We requested \$8,000 for the new roof at the Depot.

**Mt Zion Committee Report:** At the recent meeting, the committee discussed where we left off with the plans for Mt Zion. Mary Grace is helping (and her son Brandon) with the reworking of our short video from Texas Ranger Day. Ladco Construction will be giving us an updated estimate on the siding and window reframing for Mt. Zion to update our work for grant requests.

**New Business:** The possible revisions to the Bylaws were discussed. Steph Jarvis reviewed the last few versions and made recommendations for possible updates. It was suggested that the purpose be returned to a statement more in line with the original purpose. Updates for the current membership dues of \$20 for individuals and \$30 for a family. Other changes includes removing the two directors at large position, change to meeting day to Wednesdays with possibility to be changed as the officers see is needed. After discussion it was agreed to approve the changes. (BVarner, motion; KNewton, 2nd).

**Election of Officers.** The following were nominated for officers, Susan Kiel, President, Kristina Newton, Vice President, Barbara Schoenemann, Treasurer and Brenda Varner, Secretary. There were no nominations from the floor. The officers were accepted as nominated. (BWhitner, motion; TWhitesides, 2nd).

**Texas Ranger Day:** The event coming up March 12 was discussed. A sign up for volunteers has been posted to Facebook and emailed to membership and we have had a good response.

Members are encouraged to look at the sign up if they have not done so. Steph reported that a short video was made of Paul M and Tom W as Leander McNelly and the judge. This will be used to promote Ranger Day and will also be shown at an upcoming program on March 1st for the Sons of the Confederate Veterans in Brenham. Tom discussed plans for the Legends of the

Rangers. The whole group can attend now as the other event has been rescheduled. Tom also reported that next year will be the 200th anniversary of the Texas Rangers and that the Legends will be doing all the living history for this. As part of this relationship, Texas Ranger Day will be promoted since they are involved with the celebration. The group then discussed the need to incorporate more content honoring McNelly and the importance of his history into the event. Live interactions are what the guests want to see that day. Tom W, Paul M and Susan K will get together to discuss some possible offerings to work into the schedule for the day. Possibly a monologue by McNelly or a way to act out his muster of troops? Maybe we can get other volunteers to dress the part and help with this? We must also incorporate Betsy Zeiss into the area for the ranger history as she will be there to talk about her ancestor, another local Texas Ranger from the Stanley family. Brenda has done a count of all the t-shirts and we believe we are good for those this year. Steph will arrange another planning meeting for Ranger Day to review what is left to discuss.

**New Business:**

The next meeting falls on Ash Wednesday. A change of the date was discussed and it was agreed to hold the meeting on Thursday, March 3rd. We will also have a workday for Ranger Day on Sunday, March 6 starting at 2pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16pm (KNewton, motion; LVarner, 2nd).

Respectfully submitted,  
Steph Jarvis, secretary outgoing