

The September 8, 2021 meeting of the Burton Heritage Society was called to order at 6:05pm at the Burton Railroad Depot by Susan Kiel, president. There were 16 members present

Wendy Bethany, Charlene Free, Manny Gonzales, Gene Hackemack, Denis Huebner, Steph Jarvis, Susan Kiel, Marilyn McLaughlin, Paul McLaughlin, Barbara Schoenemann, Brenda Varner, Lindy Varner, Bill Whitener, Alene Whitesides, Tom Whitesides, Joseph Winston

The minutes were approved as read. Barbara S. gave the treasurer's report with balances as follows: General checking \$7,419.73, Chapel restoration \$12,965.10, Depot pavilion \$2,099.96, Stagecoach savings \$648.16. Susan and Barbara will meet to clean up the member list and send follow up emails to some members.

Old business: Discussion started about the stagecoach and the status of talks with UT on the gift of the item. Steph has had no response from her contact but will continue to follow up. Unfortunately due to the size of UT, our request is not as critical, but Steph will try to encourage a response by asking if UT would be willing to restore it for us? Paul reported on flagpole options and said he got a bid for \$375 to move it and set it back into the ground. He will follow up on this bid for more information. The group discussed moving the pole or mounting it elsewhere and agreed that the best option included putting it into the flower bed. This will free up space that is needed for Texas Ranger Day. A motion was made to move forward with the bid received by Paul (motion, BVarner, 2nd BWhitener). Susan reported that Acme Pest Control treated the depot two days ago. Craig said that no beams showed significant damage and the only place that showed the most swas the 2x12 transition between the upper and lower floors (waiting room to freight room). He will also spray outside the agent's office for carpenter ants. He says we are good for termites for 8-10 years after this treatment. Everyone agreed to wait rather than schedule upcoming treatments based on his advice. Discussion began about past questions of museum considerations (mannequins, DVD player etc). Susan will follow up with Kristina on the DVD player/TV we discussed. Steph mentioned that this is a great time to talk about committees meeting outside of the monthly meeting in groups for 1) Depot and 2) Mt Zion Chapel. The committees will discuss current topics and then bring information back to larger group for approval. Lindy reported on options to address the semaphore. Ronnie S and Lindy have ideas but he said they might not look the best. Best option would be to lay it down with a crane, unhook control arms, clean/paint, do whatever needed to best support the item and remount it. Question was asked if someone in the oilfield realm might help with this as community giving? Susan asked about possible funding options through Union Pacific and Brenda agreed to look into ways to apply for funds. Another note for the depot committee will include future plans to re-level the cabooses and Lindy has ideas for that. Steph reported that Andy Lamson's roofers will give a bid on repairs to the depot roof.

New Business: Heritage society will again participate in the Trick or Treat Trail Sat. Oct 30th from 5:30-7:30pm. Last year we estimated at least 500 kids/families came.

Volunteers and donations of candy/treats are needed so follow up with Steph or Susan if you can help. Bill W agreed to help Barbara S pass out candy again. The group discussed possible dates for Texas Ranger Day 2022 and a motion was made to go with Saturday, March 12 for the event. (BVarner, motion; BWhitener, 2nd). Steph will reach out to Sterling Merryman for carriage rides and our new friend Jimmy Detro, chuckwagon cooker. Next topic was the Burton Christmas Market. Due to upcoming updates to the pavilion at the Texas Cotton Gin Museum, we are unsure of the location. The group discussed dates and decided to continue with the 2nd Saturday since it works best with neighboring events, so the market is set for Sat. December 11th. Barbara S will call Melissa Russell to discuss the possibility of using the Burton Roadhouse. Once we know the location, we can move forward with plans and ways that heritage society will be involved.

Other: As of the meeting the following have signed up for committees. Depot - Brenda/Lindy V, Bill Whitener, Paul & Marilyn McLaughlin. Mt Zion - Barbara S, Wendy, Charlene. All were reminded that everyone is welcome to be part of one or both committees.

Steph discussed other ways to help with current needs: 1) Sort heritage society records/pics into categories for scanning 2) Scan sorted heritage records so we have digital copies 3) Work on Burton through time map of different buildings/businesses through time 4) Write up short history articles taken from History of Burton volumes to post to heritage FB page bi-monthly (and possibly for website also). All members should reach out to Steph with projects that they would like to work on. Tom Whitesides asked about the possibility of having a marker placed beside the road for McNelly since his monument is so far back inside Mt Zion Cemetery. Due to the fact that there is already a marker, the Texas State Historic Cemetery medallion and the monument, Susan noted that the best option would include directional signage at the road drawing better attention to the monument and its location.

Tom then announced another event coming up, the Toast & Smoke, to benefit the Burton City Park which will be Sat. October 9th. After discussion of various other topics and historical trivia on the area, the meeting adjourned. Next meeting will be held Wed. October 6th.

Respectfully submitted,
Steph Jarvis, secretary