

Old Velasco/Surfside Beach Historical Committee

February 2, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Those in attendance:

Ronnie Grant, Dortha Pekar, Robert Bradley, Hugh Forkel, Marilyn Davison, Peggy and Norman Llewellyn

Call Meeting to Order:

Chairman, Ronnie Grant called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes: February minutes were approved.

Financial Report: \$40 raffle tickets \$282.79 expenses turned in from Dinner. Balance in account on Feb.2, 2017: \$101,155.76

Items Not on Agenda

Old Business

Aubrey was unable to attend. He has done a great deal of research on possible structures for the **Fort Velasco Restoration Association**. He collected names of interested individuals who would like to help with the organization at the **Brazosport Historical Association** presentation. He also attended the last meeting of the **Cradle of Texas Conservancy** and was assured that they are interested in working with the new group.

Peggy reported that TXDoT has released the funds for the grant that includes the **FORT VELASCO TRAIL** and that the village has started clearing for the trail. The grant has an 85% to 15% match (extremely good terms). Volunteer hours count toward our 15% match at \$10 per hour. Peggy also suggested that the barracks should be moved into place before it is restored. Everyone agreed.

The areas that need further investigation will be fenced off. Peggy and Dortha suggested that driftwood be used instead of modern fencing.

We discussed having an event to celebrate **THE BATTLE OF VELASCO** around June 26. We would like for the event to include some kind of ribbon cutting or groundbreaking for the **FORT VELASCO TRAIL** and for the barracks. Dortha suggested that we play the audio tape and slideshow that accompanied George Kramig's diorama. The diorama has not been located.

New Business

Aubrey, Peggy, and Dortha presented a program to the **Brazosport Historical Association**. Peggy gave a report on the progress of the trail, Aubrey on the progress of the new 501(C)3 organization, and Dortha on general history. The program was well received, and Aubrey collected names, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses from several BHA members who would like to help with the project.

We discussed asking the City Council for permission to have an ad paid from the hotel/motel tax put into **IMAGE MAGAZINE** to thank last year's major donors and advertise the 2017 event.

We discussed electing new officers. Peggy checked our bylaws and found that officers are generally elected in August. We decided that November (after the dinner) would be a better time for our elections. Peggy will suggest the change to City Council.

Henry and Dortha Pekar and three **SOBA** members will attend **BRAZORIA COUNTY DAYS** (March 5-8) in Austin. They would like materials advertising **FORT VELASCO** to distribute.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.