

**OV/SBHC Meeting Minutes**  
5:00 PM, Wednesday, March 4, 2026  
1304 Monument Drive, Surfside Beach

**\*Be advised that a quorum of council members may be in attendance.**

Robert Bradley, Tom Hines and Michael Bailey attended the meeting; Dortha Pekar and Jennie Green-Pratts participated through electronic video equipment. A quorum was established with 4 of six members participating. Marsha Hines and David Calhoun arrived later. Marsha Hines later left for another meeting. Jon Gerber was ill and did not participate. Merry Porter was away dealing with an emergency issue.

**1. Call meeting to order**

Robert called meeting order at 5:10 PM

**2. Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer**

Robert led the US pledge, Michael Bailey led the Texas pledge and Ms. Dortha led the prayer.

**3. Approve minutes**

Tabled: February's minutes are on Marsha's phone waiting to be accessed.

**4. Treasurer's report:**

**a. Historical and Museum Fund**

Tom reported that Marsha had No report

**5. Chairman's Report**

Robert reported that the City's Alleyways in Block 568 have been mowed, and signs are being prepared to be placed identifying archaeological discoveries.

**6. Social Media Report**

Michael addressed the Facebook page and the value of R Codes on our presentation media. He discussed that we had a great deal of new traffic but repeat traffic or followers was low. He provided information on traffic counts. He addressed a question over the spike in traffic on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

## 7. Old Business

### a. Update on downstairs exhibits (Michael)

Michael has acquired three new ships for our collection, one of which is the Titanic, and he will try to trade for an appropriate sailing ship of the 1830's timeframe. The cost of the wall mounting apparatus will be \$400 each which we had budgeted for.

Robert reported that Michael and himself had met with City Secretary Shirley Sharrock-Archuleta and agreed upon an east wall location for the wall mounts; there would be three horizontal rows of two ships on the north end of the east wall between the two doors with the desk being moved to the south area between the two doors.

### b. Report on [fortvelasco.org](http://fortvelasco.org) (Bart)

Bart provided a traffic accounting for everyone's review.

### c. Report on repairs for museum and Trail

Robert reported that Josh Hart had received two bids for the Museum Building Structural Repair. Josh had reviewed the bids, selected an award option and was preparing to present that choice to City Council for approval on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

### d. Report on Monument Landscaping (Tom)

Tom reported that new landscaping was being installed at the Monument on March 7<sup>th</sup>.

### e. Turning Treaties of Velasco into a City Celebration with Band like a watermelon festival (Michael)

Michael & David reported that vendors and bands were being coordinated. David stated that some finishing touches had occurred with the stage. Robert stated that a dance floor was needed for the Spanish dancers participating September's event. David was receptive.

### f. Old Fort Site Survey & Archeological Exploration (Robert)

- Install sign designating Fort, old homestead foundation

Robert reported that a final design for the foundation sign had been circulated with suggested changes and no one objected electronically. He asked if a motion to proceed was necessary,

but Ms. Dortha responded no as the signs had been previously approved. Ms. Dortha voiced concern about the Conservancy's reaction.

**g. Giesecke Estate Lot Acquisition (Tom)**

Tom reported that the attorney was distributing a form to the nine descendants of the Estate.

**8. New Business**

**a. March 21, 2026, Texas Independence Celebration (City led Event) (David/Michael)**

Michael & David reported that vendors and bands are coordinated. David stated that this is our first go around and please be understanding of shortcomings.

**b. Acquire a recording and transcribing device for efficient recording of meeting minutes. (Robert)**

Robert stated that he again brought this item up as we must comply with Meeting Minute reporting requirements as our recent history has been difficult. He requested a transcribing device, but everyone believes a cheaper way can be found. David said that he will explore utilizing the City's Zoom system. The Item was tabled until next month.

**c. Report from Old Fort Velasco Historical Association (Tom or Dortha)**

Michael reported that the Group had met and explored ways to support OV/SBHC effort to promote Surfside Beach history.

**9. Next Meeting**

Next meeting was scheduled for first Wednesday in April, April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**10. Adjourn**

Robert requested a Motion to adjourn, Tom Hines made the motion, a second was voiced, a vote called and no member opposed.