

Minutes

OV/SBHC AGENDA

5:00 PM, Wednesday, April 1, 2026

1304 Monument Drive, Surfside Beach

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

Robert Bradley, Dortha Pekar, Tom Hines, Michael Bailey, Marsha Hines, David Calhoun, Candy Rabb and Merry Porter attended the meeting. John Gerber arrived later.

1. Call meeting to order

Robert Bradley called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer

Robert led the U.S. pledge, Tom led the Texas pledge and Dortha led the prayer.

3. Approve minutes

Dortha moved to approve minutes. Tom seconded the motion.
Approval passed.

4. Treasurer's Report:

a. Historical and Museum Fund.

Marsha – no report this month

5. Chairman's Report

Robert says 2 signs are installed on both sides of Fort Velasco.
Robert and Michael reported on Saturday, April 25, 2026, Sunset & Sound event in Surfside. Approximately 500 people attended the early event and around 200 people attended the reenactment cannon being shot. Shooting the cannon does attract people.
David reports the cannon is approved for 3 events. Overall, it was a successful event. Two days are nice but not as many people on Friday.

6. Social Media Report

Michael reported over 1000% improvement from last years' event.
There is a necessity to continuously post, over 75% of views are

not our followers. Robert said there were 2,000 views for March. Michael distributed an extensive media analysis report on facebook, twitter, newspapers, etc.

7. Old Business

- a. Update on downstairs exhibits (Michael)
Council has given approval to rearrange 6 ships in meeting room area. One of the ships is typical of the galley Carrack.
- b. Report on fortvelasco.org (Bart)
Bart – no report
- c. Report on repairs for museum and Trail
Dortha says 3 people have been in the hospital and there is no report.
- d. Report on Monument Landscaping (Tom)
Tom needs someone to water and David says he will have someone to take care of that.
- e. Old Fort Site Survey & Archeological Exploration (Robert)
- Install sign designating Fort, old homestead foundation talks under progress
- f. Giesecke Estate Lot Acquisition (Tom)
Lawyer working on contacting heirs

8. New Business

- a. May 2, 2026, Treaty of Velasco Celebration (Partnership Event) (David/Michael)

Fire department BBQ is 11:00AM to 2:00 PM. They may sell out of BBQ early. David wishes to tie history and tourism together. Museum content is a good background for cultural environment. Robert directed Michael and David to setup a program and timeline for the Treaties of Velasco event. Signing will be on stage this year, After the Treaties of Velasco are signed people like to do pictures with Sana Anna. Michael suggested we need a master naturalist to do a guided tour for the Sunday after.

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

Tom suggested an app that records meeting by phone and produces minutes. Suggestion had general approval.

c. Historic District

David & Michael are interested in doing podcasting. Better equipment than just a cell phone is recommended. Michael said June 13th Battle of Fort Velasco Remembrance is in Freeport. They want us to set up a booth. Robert & Michael pointed out that sites are better protected by historic designations.

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

Jenny Green-Pratt, Tom and Dortha have been ill. No meeting. Robert worked on Sons of Confederate Veterans with Frank Dietz.

9. Next Meeting

Talked about moving meeting to

10. Adjourn

Tom moved to adjourn, Merry 2nd, motion passed.

Prepared by: Merry Porter, 4/7/2026