

**Minutes of Meeting
Coppell Historical Society
November 12, 2016**

Present: Pete Wilson, Phil LaBerge, Lloyd A. Webb, Joyce Webb, Barbara Lee, Betsy Wilcox, Ron L. Chapman, Sue Miller, Pat Quinlan, Don Carter, Jan M. Lorrain, Patti Carpenter, Cliff Long, Chris Long, Jim Sturdivant

The meeting in the Kirkland House was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Vice-President Patti Carpenter. President Don Carter arrived and took over presiding at the meeting.

On behalf of Jean Murph, chairperson of the Education Committee, Pete Wilson introduced the pre-meeting program. Members were asked to recount their memories of November 22, 1963. Sue Miller read from notes she made about being in downtown Dallas when President Kennedy was assassinated. Others who contributed were: Jim Studivant, Betsy Wilcox, and Phil LaBerge.

Business Meeting:

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. Moved by Jan Lorrain; seconded by Sue Miller.

The treasurer's report by Jan Lorrain showed no activity in the City Grant Fund and income from dues of \$30 in the General Fund, making the balance of the General Fund \$6,506.73. The treasurer's report was accepted. Moved by Sue Miller; seconded by Barbara Lee. Jan reminded everyone that dues are currently due.

Committee Reports:

Education Committee:

No bids have been received yet on printing copies of our Fourth Grade History Curriculum, which is being used by Coppell Schools online.

In keeping with tradition, it was decided that the monthly meeting of the Society on December 10 will be a party for members and guests. Moved by Lloyd Webb; seconded by Betsy Wilcox. Patti Carpenter will help decorate. Jean Murph will probably contact members about providing refreshments. Pete Wilson reported that at the December party, there will be a book-signing for Jean Murph's and Lou Duggan's new book on the history of Coppell.

Heritage Park Committee:

Pete Wilson reported on behalf of Jean Murph that, although the Society has already approved \$3,000 to rewire the Ihnfeldt House, an additional \$1200 is needed to install new breaker boxes that meet current safety requirements. Since there are funds enough in the General Fund, Betsy Wilcox moved that the expenditure be approved, and the motion was seconded by Sue Miller. The motion carried unanimously.

Pete Wilson reported on actions involving the Wilson house and the rest of Heritage Park. The Wilson family and the city have agreed to complete an early agreement that requires the city to assume legal ownership of the entire property that already comprises Heritage Park, with the exception of the small plot of land and the house on the southwest side of the property currently occupied by Janis Arthur. By mutual agreement between both parties, this means that the city will immediately assume responsibility for maintenance (such as mowing), and ownership of all the buildings on the land will be the city's. It is assumed that eventually the Wilson house will be closed up, pending future use (provisions of the agreement state that the Wilson house must be maintained for historical purposes). The city has agreed that further action involving the Wilson house can be delayed until the Wilson family has had time to vacate. The city has assured the Society that any remodeling or use of the Wilson house will be undertaken with careful consultation with the Society.

Pete Wilson, who is President of the Coppel Arts Council, also reported that the Council did not respond favorably to including any outdoor art inside Heritage Park at this time. The kind of art that has been approved by the city in its public art initiative is more modern and will be located in the Main Street development and along the trail leading to Grapevine Springs Park. However, future art installations may include Heritage Park. Historical Society members have suggested that Heritage Park might benefit from such an installation. Pete Wilson suggested that the kind of sculpture for Heritage Park might be less "modern" than what is being installed right now.

Docents:

Betsy Wilcox reported on the members who are scheduled for the next open house.

Open Forum:

Phil LaBerge reported that he is writing a paper on the town in Ontario, Canada, that is also named Coppel.

Lloyd Webb reported that a Denton County judge has dissolved most of the Denton County Historical Society, for which he had been elected its next chairman.

Sue Miller asked if there are projects that will help the Society raise money. Cliff Long suggested naming rooms of the Ihnfeldt House for contributors. Phil LaBerge suggested that members can name the Society as beneficiaries in their wills. Sue Miller suggested that the Society can sell small items such as miniature windmills.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:31 p.m.