

**STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF TARRANT
CITY OF GRAPEVINE**

The Grapevine Heritage Foundation (GHF) Advisory Board met at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 in the Grapevine Convention & Visitors Bureau 2nd Floor Boardroom, 636 South Main Street, Grapevine, Texas 76051 for their regular scheduled monthly meeting.

Curtis Ratliff	Chairman
Melva Stanfield	Vice Chairman
Balla Wright	Treasurer
Janet Perkins	Secretary
Sue Franks	Member
Becky Hummer	Member
Frances Jensen	Member
Patricia Stinson	Member
Mike Lease	City Council Liaison

The above constituting a quorum with member(s) all members present.

With the following city staff present:

Paul W. McCallum	Executive Director, Grapevine Convention & Visitors Bureau
David Klempin	Heritage Preservation Programs Manager
Cody Jolliff	Nash Farm Manager
Mary Bush	Administrative

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Curtis Ratliff called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. and thanked all for attending.

II. CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments.

Any person who is not scheduled on the agenda may address the Historic Preservation Commission under Citizen Comments by completing a Citizen Appearance Request form. In accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Advisory Board is restricted in discussing or taking action during Citizen Comments.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Becky Hummer made the motion to accept the minutes as written from the November 09, 2017 meeting. Frances Jensen seconded the motion, which prevailed in the following vote:

Ayes: All (Ratliff, Stanfield, Wright, Perkins, Franks, Hummer, Jensen and Stinson)
Nays: None
Absent: None

OLD BUSINESS

Secretary Janet Perkins reported 212 active members in December; membership renewal notices were mailed out; and they received \$7,700.63 in donations.

Vice Chairman Melva Stanfield said all December programs were well attended with 293 guests for the *First Friday* program; 153 attending the *Annual Victorian Christmas*; and 65 attending the *Farmstead* program. Visitor numbers and Farm Store sales were great through December.

Farm Manager Cody Jolliff announced a new crew member, Kristen Etiene, a young woman attending college, saying she was good help around the Farm and very strong. He presented the board with the January 2018 Farm Manager's Report stating for the January *First Friday* program of "Making Noodle Soup", they had a huge turnout of 75 attending and the *Annual Hog Butchering & Curing* was a successful two day workshop with 30 attending each day. Chairman Ratliff complimented both events saying the *Butchering & Curing* workshop was one of the best with a great group of attendees; and a successful *First Friday* making noodles for soup.

Treasurer Balla Wright said they were working on recognizing their mission partners in all events; she asked all to promote sponsorships for the Farm.

David Klempin reported for Paula Newman saying it was a successful Christmas at the Palace Arts Center with many visitors and they were moving forward at full throttle.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Ratliff asked all to sign up for their 2018 Quarterly Liaison shifts to observe at the Historic Preservation Commission, Convention & Visitors Bureau and Historical Society's monthly meetings. Board members are to attend three meetings in a row for continuity and report the meetings content at the Foundation's monthly meeting.

Janet Perkins reported on the GHF Calendar for 2018, noting the theme this year was the Train Station. Woven through the calendar in each month was the theme of the railroad, heritage, volunteers and activities. Their goal was to have every month's photo be attractive and appealing to be seen every day of the month. Chairman Ratliff said

the calendar was "Excellent". Janet thanked Cody Jolliff for all the new activities he had brought to Nash Farm, saying it had really beefed up the calendar.

DISTRIBUTION OF LIAISON REPORTS

Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) - David Klempin reported on the Township and the December 10, 2017 move across the Grape Vine Prairie of the 1903 George Blevins House, saying he would be meeting with a great-great granddaughter of the Blevins family with photographs of the house inside and outside. The Historic Preservation Commission will meet for their regular scheduled meeting.

Grapevine Historical Society (GHS) - Chairman Ratliff announced the Grapevine Historical Society (GHS) will meet jointly with The Grapevine Heritage Foundation (GHF) board on Monday, January 29, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Bessie Mitchell House on Ball Street. The meeting will be to brainstorm for new ideas; members were asked to volunteer to bring three pots of chili and a dessert.

Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) - P.W. McCallum reported on the Grapevine Convention & Visitors Bureau; he welcomed all to the first meeting of the new year. He reported the 2017 *Christmas Capital of Texas* was the strongest year in transactions. The Mills had record sales, merchants were happy with their November – December sales. Last November was the second strongest ever, December was the strongest ever.

Mr. McCallum said it would be another month before the actual sales tax numbers were confirmed, but with the same hoteliers, events of ICE, Snow Land and Aquanaut Santa-ALL best year ever. The same results for the Palace Arts Center, North Pole Express and restaurateurs all having strong monetized business.

The City's Chief Financial Officer had shown a graph of the last five years growing. Sales tax keeps taxes low with fire, police and parks paid out of sales tax is very supportive. It was unbelievable Grapevine was first to tax themselves for TXRail, a huge opportunity for Grapevine with the commuter rail in this area to be named one of the Top Twenty considered for Amazon headquarters, HQ2; our one penny tax made the difference.

The plaza train station and tower will be incredible with the \$20 million Vin Hotel's 121 rooms and a 552 car parking garage. The hike and bike trails will go to surrounding cities; bikers can ride in, then get on the commuter rails with bike racks and ride back to Fort Worth.

Consider the railroad's coming in the 1880's, and we are experiencing again 100 years later. It is a very, very exciting time for Grapevine. The groundbreaking is scheduled for March 7, 2018; the board will receive an invite to the media event.

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DISCUSSION

Vice-Chairman Stanfield reflected on the North Pole Express, she visited three times, with staff smiling and greeting; she also commended Farm Manager Cody Jolliff for Christmas heritage, well-rounded activities. Council Liaison Mike Lease agreed saying the Farm had come a long way. Member Sue Franks agreed and complimented the Tree Lighting too.

ADJOURNMENT

Janet Perkins, seconded by Balla Wright, made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6 p.m. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: All (Ratliff, Stanfield, Wright, Perkins Franks, Hummer, Jensen and Stinson)
Nays: None
Absent:

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE GRAPEVINE HERITAGE FOUNDATION,
THE JANUARY 17, 2018 MINUTES, ON THIS THE 21ST DAY OF FEBRUARY 2018.

APPROVED:


CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:


SECRETARY