

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

The Grapevine Heritage Foundation (GHF) held their regular scheduled monthly meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 20, 2025 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Grand Hall of the Grapevine Convention & Visitors Bureau, 636 South Main Street, Grapevine, Texas 76051. Present were:

Melva Stanfield	Chairman
Frances Jensen	Vice-Chairman
Wendy Nelson	Secretary
Stephanie Wright	Treasurer
Balla Wright	Board Member
Courtney Fray	Board Member
Austin Kellerman	Board Member
David Stine	Board Member
Kim Hale	Board Member

The above constitutes a quorum:

Duff O'Dell	City Council Liaison
-------------	----------------------

With the following Convention & Visitors Bureau staff present:

Paul W. McCallum	Executive Director CVB
Paula Newman	Managing Director of Operations
David Klempin	Heritage Preservation Programs Manager
Hugo Gardea	Assistant Heritage Preservation Programs Manager
Shadi McOsker	Nash Farm Manager
Kayce Vanderpool	Heritage Preservation Programs Admin. Assistant

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Chairman Melva Stanfield called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

Citizen Comments

*Any person who is not scheduled on the agenda may address the Grapevine Heritage Foundation 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 any action during Citizen Comments.*

No citizen comments.

**2. WELCOME**

Chairman Stanfield welcomed and introduced our guest Sean Shope, the newly appointed Grapevine City Council Member. He is the former Chairman of the Historic Preservation Commission and served on the Commission over 20 years. Sean Shope thanked the Heritage Foundation Board for doing so much for Grapevine.

Hugo Gardea introduced our new Nash Farm Manager, Shadelyn McOsker. Shadi shared that she is from Northwest Oklahoma, where she grew up on a multi-generational cattle and crop ranch. She was highly active in FFA and served as a state FFA officer. She went to

Oklahoma State University where she majored in Agricultural Communications and minored in Agriculture Leadership. For the last few years, she has been employed at University of North Texas working with the Visitor Experience Department, leading tours and hosting events. She is excited to combine her past experiences for this position at Nash Farm. She is looking forward to becoming a part of this small community, along with being outside working with the land and animals.

### **3. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

Balla Wright moved to accept the minutes from the July 16, 2025 regular meeting. Courtney Fray seconded the motion.

Minutes approved with a vote of:

Ayes: 8 (Stanfield, Jensen, Nelson, S. Wright, B. Wright, Fray, Stine, Hale)

Nays: 0 None

Absent: 1 (Kellerman)

### **4. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **A. Membership Report – David Klempin**

David Klempin presented the membership report for August. The active memberships total is 173. There were no donations received in August.

#### **B. Sponsorship Report – Stephanie Wright**

Treasurer Stephanie Wright reported the Nash Farm Sponsorship total has not changed we are at \$29,250. We are waiting for final payments from a few sponsors who pay in the fall.

#### **C. Palace Theatre Report – Frances Jensen**

Frances Jensen reported that the Palace Theatre is wrapping up the Summer Programs with a Sing-along that had 180 people in attendance. Last Friday we had *Back to the Future* with over 200 people. There were issues with the ticket machine and the popcorn machine went haywire, the Fire Department had to come out, one of the speakers went out. There are little things that are priority items to discuss in the future. We have had a great turnout with families and new people at the Theatre.

She gave props to Nadien Roriguez and Logan Easley with the Palace and Convention Center Team who handled the issues very well. This Friday is *Breakfast at Tiffany's* and the First Friday movie for September will be *The Lady Eve*.

Melva Stanfield thanked Frances for volunteering to give the introductions at the Palace before each show and relayed she is doing a great job.

#### **D. Nash Farm Report – Melva Stanfield**

Chairman Stanfield reported for July, the Ice Cream Social on July 12, 2025 had 331 attendees and there was 45 Soda Jerk Experiences purchased.

There were two groups that brought in a total of 993 guests, one was a Dallas YMCA summer camp with 6 different groups of kids in 4 days. Casual visitation for July was 1,438 with a total of 2,431 who visited the farm. No volunteer hours to report this month. The Dino Dig had 227 participants in July.

So far in August we have had two groups with 116, casual visitation totaled 1029, total visitation for August so far is 1,145. The total sold for Dino Dig was 227. Dino dig closed on August 10 at the farm, but Dino activities are still ongoing until the end of the month at the CVB and on Main Street.

Courtney Fray requested a report with numbers on Nash Farm's social media and Facebook.

### **E. Update on the GHF Strategic Planning assignments and committees- Melva Stanfield and David Klempin**

Chairman Stanfield said everyone is moving forward and on their assigned projects.

Courtney Fray reported on Why be a protector?

- 1 - **Differentiating Traits:** What makes you stand out?
  - a. We protect Grapevine's historic buildings (no other org. does this).
- 2 - **Clear Goals:** What do you want to achieve with your communication?
  - a. Inspire people to become protectors of Grapevine's heritage
  - b. Increase membership
  - c. Increase awareness
- 3 - **Audience Understanding:** What resonates with your target audience?
  - a. Community
  - b. Creating a new shared history
- 4 - **A Compelling Story:** What's your brand's story and why is it important?
  - a. GHF protected the Nash Farm property and the Nash Farmhouse from disrepair.
  - b. GHF protected the Palace Theatre from demolition.
  - c. GHF is the reason these historic properties are still in existence for the public to enjoy.

GHF Protects Grapevine's rich history to make this city a unique place to live and visit. We protect Grapevine's heritage by preserving historically significant buildings, homes, businesses and farms.

She also presented a School Field Trip Guide she is implementing. Offering school tours that could include Nash Farm, Settlement to City, Train Depot, Observation Tower and the Palace Theatre. The schools can choose a custom tour of the locations on the list.

We protect, to better understand the past.

We protect, to secure our city's future.

We protect, to honor those who came before us – giving us a city to enjoy today.

We preserve our historic buildings, so our city's history lives on for future generations.

Duff O'Dell said the GHF Board stands on the shoulders of those who raised money and restored the Palace Theatre and Nash Farm over 20 years ago. We are preserving the history right now. It's important and it will resonate years from now.

Stephanie Wright reported on Increasing Attendance to Sell Out. She has been updating numbers for 2025 and making plans for 2026.

Stephanie Wright and Wendy Nelson shared a plan for the Porch Party October 19, 2025 a Sunday. There is a Cowboys game that starts at 3 p.m. and we could have a projector to show the game.

Kim Hale on Endowment Funding. She is still researching with different groups.

David Stine on Expanding Exhibits is doing research all the way back to 1861 when the Nash brothers came to Grapevine to establish their family and farm. He is also learning about famous people from Grapevine (Nora Jones, Post Malone, Demi Lavato) and working on leads for some other upcoming programs in Grapevine.

Wendy Nelson on the Board and Volunteer Guidelines she said she and Frances Jensen have discussed and have created a document to first be reviewed with Mr. McCallum and Melva Stanfield before sharing with the board.

Kim Hale gave a quick Funding update, she has more research to do before they can present any plans.

Wendy Nelson reported on Tie the Why to Festivals, she is working with the Outreach Committee and is planning to have a table at the Volunteer orientation and at Grapefest Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and they want to do it better, have more brochures and possibly an activity to help with engagement to meet community members who care about Grapevine.

Balla Wright reported on the Speakers Bureau, she is working on a plan to have a video and it is moving forward.

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Update on the Nash Farm Wagon Shed and take any necessary action – David Klempin and Hugo Gardea.**

Hugo Gardea gave an update on the farm Pole Barn's craft room and tool room locks are now in working order. Snow House Movers have worked on the foundation, and now the house is settling and they will be back in 3 weeks to finalize the foundation. In the garden the cornstalks are being bundled. The part time staff have collected the red corn and husks for décor and cornhusk doll activities.

The equipment shed sketch was shared. We have half a dozen museum quality wagons that need to be preserved. We need to get them out of the weather and provide climate controlled conditions to reduce deterioration. We plan on fully enclosing the three north end bays of the existing structure and store two wagons per bay. We would keep the existing bays open on the south side of the shed. We will fully enclose four walls, provide insulation around the perimeter walls and roof and have double doors. We have installed a concrete floor. Next we plan to install electric to the shed. We will have siding that matches the existing wood siding.

Melva Stanfield shared that the CVB Board previously approved plans for an extension to the shed.

P. W. McCallum shared that we originally planned to extend the barn. After reviewing those plans, we found that the extension would extend too close to the cemetery and would block the view of the historic barn from College Street. With these new plans, we would close in the existing shed and provide a controlled environment to protect the wagons. The CVB Board approved up to \$60,000 to build this structure. We will be able to construct and complete this project with this budget. The doors will be like a double Dutch door that could be opened in sections. This will house what we currently own and could have room for future items and a tack room on the end. Later we plan to have a display on Main Street where we could rotate some of the wagons.

Melva Stanfield asked for a motion to amend the previously approved plans for the Wagon Shed. Wendy Nelson made a motion to accept the amended plans for the Wagon Shed. Courtney Fray seconded the motion.

Approved with a vote of:

Ayes: 8 (Stanfield, Jensen, Nelson, S. Wright, B. Wright, Fray, Stine, Hale)

Nays: 0 None

Absent: 1 (Kellerman)

Chairman Stanfield announced that the National Trust PastForward Conference is Sept 15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> and some of the board and staff will be attending leaving the September Board meeting short for quorum. She suggested changing the date of the September meeting from the 17<sup>th</sup> to 4 p.m. on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting date change approved with a show of hands:

Ayes: 8 (Stanfield, Jensen, Nelson, S. Wright, B. Wright, Fray, Stine, Hale)

Nays: 0 None

Absent: 1 (Kellerman)

## **6. LIAISON REPORTS**

### **A. City Council Liaison Update – Duff O’Dell**

Duff O’Dell announced that the Council has been very busy. They have approved the new Vin Reserve Hotel an expansion to the Vin Hotel, it will provide an even larger and higher end event space. Wineburger Deli was approved to extend and expand into the adjacent space. Orange Fish shop will move down to the next suite, this change will happen in January 2026. They have approved Dig World near Grapevine Mills Mall with large stationary equipment with buckets, lifts and forks to dig dirt. A new Burger Sizzle, an upscale Burger King on Northwest Highway was approved and will back up to Wall Street.

Three Council Members Leon Leal, Duff O’Dell and Sean Shope went on a Sister City Mission to Parras, Mexico. Next year will be the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that Sister City relationship.

The Grapevine Historical Society (GHS) will have their next meeting Monday, Aug 25<sup>th</sup> at the Vine, as the Grapevine Opry turns 50 they will be presenting the history of the Palace Theater building. Add to your calendar Monday, November 3, 2025 is the GHS Annual Banquet.

**B. Grapevine Convention and Visitors Bureau Liaison Report – Paul W. McCallum**

P. W. McCallum reported that Grapevine Mills Mall was rated in the Top 10 Best Malls in the Country. Grapefest was rated in the top 10 best Wine Festivals in USA Today, it came in at number 7. Across the state of Texas there is a softening of attractions and hotels. But Grapevine is up, our occupancy rate was at 77.2%. It's up 5% from last July.

In July our Sister City program took a mission to West Lothian, Scotland it was led by Mayor Pro Tem Paul Slecta, in attendance City Councilman Leon Leal, Director of Parks & Rec. Chris Smith along with Sister Committee Members and CVB Executive Director P. W. McCallum. We spent a lot of time on Economic Development and Tourism Development. One of the activities was to go to Allmond Valley (similar to Nash Farm) it has 47 acres, with woodlands and walking trails and many things have been added and changed in the past 15 years. They brought in homesteading where families get involved in growing backyard kitchen gardens, canning and pickling along with raising chickens. They have some soft play areas for small children, dairy barns, and many ways to bring in revenue and bring more people out.

This was a trade mission to encourage best practices and find new options to strengthen our community, this is not a trip.

Paula Newman made an announcement that the Palace Theatre is being maintained, she is working on the HVAC and the lighting at the Palace. There was an issue with the new popcorn machine, it was turned on early and set an alarm off and it caused a chain reaction. Logan Easley and Nadene Rodriguez got it all back in working order in no time.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

David Stine moved to adjourn the meeting, Balla Wright seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m. with the following vote:

Adjournment approved with a vote of:

Ayes: 8 (Stanfield, Jensen, Nelson, S. Wright, B. Wright, Fray, Stine, Hale)

Nays: 0 None

Absent: 1 (Kellerman)

The next regular meeting will be held October 15, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED AUGUST 20, 2025 MINUTES BY THE GRAPEVINE HERITAGE FOUNDATION, ON THIS THE 24TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2025.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ SECRETARY