



**AGENDA
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING
CITY OF LEANDER, TEXAS**



Development Services - San Gabriel Conference Room
201 North Brushy Street - Leander, Texas
Wednesday, November 19, 2025
Regular Meeting at 5:30 PM

**Place 1 - Benjamin Geiger
Place 2 - Anna Yelaun
Place 3 - Kathy Howell
Place 4 - Esmeralda Gonzalez
Place 5 - Carlos Gormaz**

**Place 6 - Christina Twing
Place 7 - Triste Freeburg
Council Liaison - Na'Cole Thompson
Staff Liaison - Karina Castillo**

REGULAR MEETING

1. Open Meeting.
2. Roll Call.
3. Public comments on items not listed in the agenda.

Public comments on items listed in the agenda will be heard at the time each item is discussed.

[All comments are limited to no more than 3 minutes (6 minutes if translation is needed) per individual.]

4. Election of Chair.
 - a. Nomination for position of Chair.
 - b. Discussion of Nominees.
 - c. Election of Chair.
5. Election of Vice Chair.
 - a. Nomination for position of Vice Chair.
 - b. Discussion of Nominees.
 - c. Election of Vice Chair.
6. Review Board and Commission Reference Book.
7. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Public Education - updates on community engagements, presentations, and other educational opportunities.
2. Website and Social Media - discuss the upcoming posts on the Commission's Facebook page.
3. Special Events - debrief the Spirits at Bagdad event held on October 18 and discuss the upcoming Holidays at the Homestead event to be held on November 22.

4. Historic Locations - review the photos provided by McKenzie Media that recreated the Old Town photos, discuss updates on historic locations throughout the City, and discuss the creation of a marker program for historical properties within the City of Leander limits.

8. STAFF BRIEFINGS

1. Bryson Farmstead - updates on the status of the rehabilitation of the Bryson Farmstead.
2. Mason Homestead - updates on the maintenance of the Mason Homestead.
3. FY 25/26 Budget - status of the current fiscal year budget.

CONSENT AGENDA: ACTION

9. Approval of the minutes for meeting held on October 15, 2025.

REGULAR AGENDA

10. Discuss and consider action on the Commission's sub-committees.
11. Discuss and consider action on creating procedures for oral history.
12. Discussion of the volunteer process for events with the Historical Preservation Commission.
13. Discuss and consider action on the schedule of events for 2026.
14. Discuss and consider action on topics to submit for the Central Texas Learning Festival held in March 2026.
15. Adjournment

CERTIFICATION

The City of Leander is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Please call the City Secretary at (512) 528-2743 for information. Hearing impaired or speech disabled persons equipped with telecommunication devices for the deaf may call (512) 528-2800. I certify that the above agenda for this meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Leander, Texas, was posted on the bulletin board at City Hall in Leander, Texas, on the 13 day of November, 2025 by 5:00 p.m. pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.



Karina Castillo, Planning Manager



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
11/19/2025

AGENDA SUBJECT:

Approval of the minutes for meeting held on October 15, 2025.

BACKGROUND:

HISTORY/TIMELINE:

APPLICANT/AGENT:

PRESENTER:

Attachments:

1. 10.15.2025 HPC Draft Minutes



**MINUTES
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING
CITY OF LEANDER, TEXAS**



Development Services - San Gabriel Conference Room
201 North Brushy Street - Leander, Texas
Wednesday, October 15, 2025
Regular Meeting at 5:30 PM

Place 1 - Benjamin Geiger
Place 2 – Anna Yelaun
Place 3 – Kathy Howell
Place 4 – Esmeralda Gonzalez
Place 5 - Carlos Gormaz

Place 6 – Christina Twing
Place 7 – Triste Freeburg
Council Liaison - Na'Cole Thompson
Staff Liaison – Karina Castillo

REGULAR MEETING - REVISED

1. Open Meeting.

Opened meeting at 5:37 p.m.

2. Roll Call.

Roll call reflected all Commissioners present except for Commissioner Geiger and Commissioner Gormaz.

3. Public comments on items not listed in the agenda.

Public comments on items listed in the agenda will be heard at the time each item is discussed.

[All comments are limited to no more than 3 minutes (6 minutes if translation is needed) per individual.]

No one spoke.

4. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Public Education - updates on community engagements, presentations, and other educational opportunities.
2. Website and Social Media - discuss the upcoming posts on the Commission's Facebook page.
3. Special Events - discuss upcoming events including Holidays at the Homestead and Spirits of Bagdad.
4. Historic Locations - recognize McKee media for their help in recreating the Old Town photos and discuss any updates on the historic locations throughout the City.

1. The public education update included photos from the Bobby Bryson collection that will be presented to the City Council along with an update on the Spirits at Bagdad event and the upcoming presentation of the Holidays at the Homestead event.

2. The Website and Social Media update included discussion of photos available to the Commission to share on Facebook and sharing a post on Facebook regarding the upcoming presentation at the City Council.
3. The Special Events update discussed the set up for the Spirits at Bagdad event and Holidays at the Homestead.
4. The Historic Locations update included sharing the recreated Old Town photos on Facebook and adding them to the Council presentation.

5. STAFF BRIEFINGS

1. Bryson Farmstead - updates on the status of the rehabilitation of the Bryson Farmstead.
2. Mason Homestead - updates on the maintenance of the Mason Homestead.
3. FY25/26 Budget - status of the current budget.

1. The Bryson Farmstead update included the 90% drawings of the repairs and refurbishment pending.
2. The Mason Homestead updates included construction documents being 95% completed for the site renovations. An on-site meeting was scheduled to finalize the documents and move into the bid solicitation process. The timeline estimates the bid being finalized at the end of the year and work beginning in 2026. The revised cost estimate for the remaining fill material for the wells/cisterns has been received and is being reviewed for approval.

CONSENT AGENDA: ACTION

6. Approval of the minutes for meeting held on September 17, 2025

Motion: Approve the consent agenda.

By: Board Member Gonzalez

Seconded: Board Member Freeburg

Vote: 5 - 0

REGULAR AGENDA

7. Review and consider the approval of a contract with Gus Bernal: Film + Photo + Education for the videography services of the Spirits at Bagdad event held on October 18, 2025 not to exceed \$1,737.41.

Motion: Deny and reconsider next year in partnership with the Leander Chamber of Commerce.

By: Board Member Twing

Seconded: Board Member Yelaun

Vote: 5 - 0

8. Discuss and consider volunteer schedule and responsibilities for Spirits at Bagdad being held on October 18, 2025.

The Commission discussed the volunteer schedule, meet up times, set up, and duties for the Spirits at Bagdad event being held on October 18, 2025.

9. Discussion of the volunteer process for events with the Historical Preservation Commission.

The Commission discussed establishing a sub-committee for specific events that they will need volunteers with and placing an item on the agenda for November 19, 2025 to discuss the needs and processes for volunteers.

10. Discussion of the procedures for oral history.

Item delayed to the November 19, 2025 meeting due to Commission Geiger, who taking the lead on this item, not being present.

11. Discussion of a marker program for historical properties within the City of Leander limits.

Item delayed to the November 19, 2025 meeting due to Commission Geiger, who taking the lead on this item, not being present.

12. Discuss and consider topics to submit for the Central Texas Learning Festival held in March 2026.

The Commission discussed participating in the event with a focus on high school students and educators whether in a lecture set up or interactive activities and considered the topic of cemeteries.

13. Future Agenda Items [Any deliberation of or decision about the subject of the inquiry shall be limited to a proposal to place the subject on the agenda for a subsequent meeting.]

Future agenda items include:

1. Schedule of events for 2026; and
2. Establishing the Commission's sub-committees.

14. Adjournment

Adjourned at 6:45 pm

APPROVED

CHAIR

ATTEST:

STAFF LIAISON



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
11/19/2025

AGENDA SUBJECT:

Discuss and consider action on the Commission's sub-committees.

BACKGROUND:

Section 1.04.121 of the Code of Ordinance allows the Commission to create committees from among its membership and delegate to these committees' responsibilities to carry out the purposes of the historical preservation ordinance. The Commission has previously approved the following sub-committees:

- Public Education - leads community engagements, presentations, and other educational opportunities.
- Website and Social Media - leads the Commission's Facebook page and website.
- Special Events - leads the organization of upcoming events the Commission participates in.
- Historic Locations - leads updates on historic locations through the City and will organize the future marker program.

The Commission may consider approval of a new sub-committees that may include Oral History to lead the collection of history from residents on a regular basis or at events.

HISTORY/TIMELINE:

APPLICANT/AGENT:

PRESENTER:

Karina Castillo, AICP

Attachments:



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
11/19/2025

AGENDA SUBJECT:

Discuss and consider action on creating procedures for oral history.

BACKGROUND:

The Commission has participated in events where the public was invited to share their history. In addition, the Commission had previously appointed a Commissioner to host oral history sessions in a reserved conference room from 10 am - 12 pm every first Monday of the month. During the meeting of September 18, 2025, Commissioner Grieger was appointed to as coordinator to host the sessions. This item will discuss the standard process of the oral history to include ongoing collection of history on a regular basis or at events, the record keeping, and use of recordings.

HISTORY/TIMELINE:

APPLICANT/AGENT:

PRESENTER:

Karina Castillo, AICP

Attachments:



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
11/19/2025

AGENDA SUBJECT:

Discussion of the volunteer process for events with the Historical Preservation Commission.

BACKGROUND:

The Commission regularly participates at events throughout the year and often accepts requests for volunteers. This item will coordinate the Commission's need for volunteers for specific events or sub-committees, clarify the timing, and establish a process for accepting volunteers.

HISTORY/TIMELINE:

APPLICANT/AGENT:

PRESENTER:

Karina Castillo, AICP

Attachments:



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
11/19/2025

AGENDA SUBJECT:

Discuss and consider action on the schedule of events for 2026.

BACKGROUND:

The Commission and previously participated in the following events:

- Mason Heritage Day (April)
- Old Town Street Festival (June)
- Spirits at Bagdad (October)
- Holidays at the Homestead (November)

Other events that the Commission may consider participating in include the following:

- MLK Day March and Celebration (January)
- Central Texas Learning Festival (March)
- Juneteenth Block Party (June)
- Old Town Christmas Festival (December)

HISTORY/TIMELINE:

APPLICANT/AGENT:

PRESENTER:

Karina Castillo, AICP

Attachments:



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
11/19/2025

AGENDA SUBJECT:

Discuss and consider action on topics to submit for the Central Texas Learning Festival held in March 2026.

BACKGROUND:

The Commission voted during the January 17, 2025 meeting to participate in the festival for the upcoming year. The Central Texas Learning Festival is organized by Austin Community College and takes place throughout the Austin metro, both in person and virtually. Hosts have options to offer a location for a session in person or be matched with an available location. Sessions are open to the public and include a wide range of interactive workshops, engaging exhibits, resource fairs and many other great learning experiences. The festival was held on March 5, 2025 through March 9, 2025 this year.

<https://ctxlearningfestival.com/>

HISTORY/TIMELINE:

APPLICANT/AGENT:

PRESENTER:

Attachments: