



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



Development Services - San Gabriel Conference Room  
201 North Brushy Street - Leander, Texas  
Wednesday, January 21, 2026  
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. 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 volunteer's efforts at the Holidays at the Homestead event held on November 22 and discuss participation at the upcoming Mason Heritage Day event being held in March.

4. Historic Locations - 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.

7. 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**

8. Approval of the minutes for meeting held on November 21, 2025.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

9. Discuss and consider action on confirming the Commission's existing and proposed sub-committees.
10. Discuss and consider action on creating procedures for oral history.
11. Discussion of the volunteer process for events with the Historical Preservation Commission.
12. Discuss and consider action on the schedule of events for 2026.
13. Discuss and consider action on topics to submit for the Central Texas Learning Festival held in March 2026.
14. 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 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026 by 5:00 p.m. pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.



Karina Castillo, Planning Manager



**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
1/21/2026**

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**AGENDA SUBJECT:**

Approval of the minutes for meeting held on November 21, 2025.

**BACKGROUND:**

**HISTORY/TIMELINE:**

**APPLICANT/AGENT:**

**PRESENTER:**

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**Attachments:**

1. 11.21.2025 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, 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.

Opened meeting at 5:41 p.m.

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.

Item postponed to the January 21, 2026 meeting.

5. Election of Vice Chair.
  - a. Nomination for position of Vice Chair.
  - b. Discussion of Nominees.
  - c. Election of Vice Chair.

Item postponed to the January 21, 2026 meeting.

6. Review Board and Commission Reference Book.

Presentation received by City Secretary, Dara Crabtree.

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.

1. The Public Education update included Commission Howell presenting at the 11/20 City Council meeting.
2. The Website and Social Media update included no posts being shared and no updated coming. The Commission discussed a new profile photo due to the low quality of the new photo that was added.
3. The Special Events update inclined a debrief of the Spirits at Bagdad event. There was an incident at the event and more discussions will be had to determine if the event will continue in 2026. Otherwise, there was good feedback on the event. The upcoming Holidays at Homestead event was featured on Community Impact. The event will be held from 10 am - 5 pm with set up at 9 am. The Commission coordinate attendance, activities, and supplies needed.
4. The Historic Locations update included discussing the images to share on the Commission's website with some text.

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.

1. The Brson Farmstead update included the 90% design drawings for the rehabilitation being finalized for review to be submitted in December.
2. The Mason Homestead update included the construction documents being completed and the samples being selected. The documents have been sent to continue in the solicitation process. The City's goal is to begin work in early 2026.
3. The Budget update include a discussion of considering the purchase of trains for prizes, reprinting the posters, purchasing custom reels for events, ordering new t-shirts, and ordering a sign with a QR Code or NRC.

**CONSENT AGENDA: ACTION**

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

Motion: Approve

By: Board Member Twing

Seconded: Board Member Freeburg

**Vote:** 4 - 0 None

<b>REGULAR AGENDA</b>
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10. Discuss and consider action on the Commission's sub-committees.

Motion: Postpone the item to the January 21, 2026 meeting.

By: Board Member Twing

Seconded: Board Member Gonzalez

**Vote:** 4 - 0 None

11. Discuss and consider action on creating procedures for oral history.

Motion: Postpone the item to the January 21, 2026 meeting.

By: Board Member Twing

Seconded: Board Member Gonzalez

**Vote:** 4 - 0 None

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

Motion: Postpone the item to the January 21, 2026 meeting.

By: Board Member Twing

Seconded: Board Member Gonzalez

**Vote:** 4 - 0 None

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

Motion: Postpone the item to the January 21, 2026 meeting.

By: Board Member Freeburg

Seconded: Board Member Twing

**Vote:** 4 - 0 None

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

Motion: Postpone the item to the January 21, 2026 meeting.

By: Board Member Freeburg

Seconded: Board Member Twing

**Vote:** 4 - 0 None

15. Adjournment

Adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

APPROVED

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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STAFF LIAISON



**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**1/21/2026**

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**AGENDA SUBJECT:**

Discuss and consider action on confirming the Commission's existing and proposed 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-committee 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

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**Attachments:**



**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**1/21/2026**

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**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. Commissioner Grieger has since resigned from the Commission and a new Commissioner will need to be appointed. This item will appoint a new coordinator and 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

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**Attachments:**



**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**1/21/2026**

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**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

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**Attachments:**



**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**1/21/2026**

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**AGENDA SUBJECT:**

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

**BACKGROUND:**

The Commission has previously participated in the following events:

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

The Commission may consider participating in 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

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**Attachments:**



**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**1/21/2026**

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**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 will be held on March 11, 2025 through March 15, 2026 this year.

<https://ctxlearningfestival.com/>

**HISTORY/TIMELINE:**

**APPLICANT/AGENT:**

**PRESENTER:**

Karina Castillo, AICP

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**Attachments:**