

**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

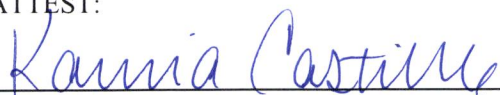
Adjourned at 6:45 pm

APPROVED



CHAIR

ATTEST:


STAFF LIAISON