



HLC - Preservation Education Sub-Committee - Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2025 - 4:15 PM
Final

Planning Department Conference Room
1200 E. Broad St., Mansfield, TX 76063

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Leach called the meeting to order at 4:20 p.m. in the Planning Department Conference Room of City Hall, 1200 East Broad Street, with the meeting being open to the public and notice of said meeting, giving the date, place, and subject thereof, having been posted as prescribed by Chapter 551, Texas Government Code.

Staff Present:

*Art Wright, Historic Preservation Officer
Amanda Brown, Museum Education and Engagement Specialist
Theresa Cohagen, Director of Community Engagement
Rosalie Gilbert, Arts and Event Services Manager
Angie Henley, Special Events Supervisor
Ann Beck, Marketing and Communications Manager*

Preservation Volunteer:

Carolyn Wright

Commissioners:

Present: Jennifer Johnston, Thomas Leach, Mark Walker

Absent: None

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

25-1120 Discussion on the proposed Decade Days festival

Ms. Cohagen, Ms. Gilbert, Ms. Henley, and Ms. Beck were available at the meeting to provide advice and answer questions regarding the creation of a new heritage tourism event called Decade Days. The Sub-Committee discussed the following items:

- *The tentative date of the main event will be Saturday, September 18, 2027, with lead-in events held during the prior week.*
- *If the attendance at the event is greater than 200 visitors, it may be too large for Geyer Commons. The Sub-Committee discussed splitting the event between Geyer Commons and Walnut Street.*
- *For the main event on Saturday, a shorter schedule is preferred, perhaps four to five hours. Some of the activities can be held during the prior week.*
- *The Farr Best Theater can be booked to show 1940s movies.*

- *It was proposed to move the Historic Downtown Mansfield Car Show to September as a related event. As Music Alley is being moved to May in 2026, it was determined that it was best to leave the Preservation Month events in May as well, and to coordinate them with Music Alley.*

25-1121 Discussion regarding educational events and other programs

The Sub-Committee discussed the following events:

- *A History Talks event is scheduled for September 26, 2025, at the Mansfield Historical Museum.*
- *Several Haunt the Block events are scheduled for October, including the Museum Escapes! escape room at the Mansfield Historical Museum on October 16 and 17, 2025, ghost tours, the Victorian Picnic at the Man House Museum, and the Wallace-Howl Art House exhibit.*

25-1122 Discussion regarding the educational videos for the Mansfield Independent School District

Ms. Brown reported that she had contacted the animation instructor at Ben Barber Innovation Academy to request assistance with the video from the animation students. She was informed that the school has an internship program to help students gain experience in animation projects. Ms. Brown also presented the first draft of the Lantern Jack cartoon character that will be featured in the video.

3. ADJOURN

With no further business, Chairman Leach adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Thomas Leach, Chair

ATTEST:

Art Wright, Historic Preservation Officer