

EASTLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD
May 20, 2020
Minutes

On the 20th day of May, 2020, the Eastland Historic Preservation Board (the “Board”) for the City of Eastland, Texas, convened in Open Session at Eastland City Hall, as scheduled, and notice was posted 72 hours in advance and prior to the meeting.

Members Present:	Kelly Skinner	Place 2
	Debbie Wharton	Place 3
	Terry Slavens	Place 1
	Rhyne Hobbs	Place 4
	Julie Elrod	Place 5
Staff Present:	Terry Simmons	Code Enforcement Officer
	Roma Holley	City Secretary

Guests: _____

I. Meeting Called to Order

Terry Slavens called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Terry Slavens offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IV. Approve Minutes of the February 19th, 2020 Meeting

Rhyne Hobbs made a motion, seconded by Debbie Wharton, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 19th, 2020 as presented. Motion carried by a vote of three (4) in favor and none (0) opposed.

V. The Historic Preservation Board May Discuss and Take Action on the Following Agenda Items:

1. Discuss and Consider Use of Remaining 2020 Historic Grant Funds

Terry Simmons presented the board with an accounting of the Grant funds. After everything is reimbursed, there will be \$8329.00 left of the grant funds. In the past, an idea was mentioned of returning these unused funds to the city as a way of helping with the repair of the sidewalk in front of the old Salvatore's building.

Terry Slavens stated that in light of the current COVID-19 situation, he knows that the city's revenues are stretched thin. Slavens said that since we do not have a clear-cut need at this time, he thinks it would be prudent to return the funds to the city.

Rhyne Hobbs made a motion, seconded by Julie Elrod, to return the remaining grant funds of \$8329.00 to the City of Eastland for the sidewalk project. Motion carried by a vote of four (4) in favor and none (0) opposed.

2. Discuss and Consider 2021 Historic Preservation Grant Program

Terry Simmons stated the COVID-19 situation has caused some major practical issues regarding the viability of the 2021 Historic Preservation Grant Program: the fact that the opening of the grant process was supposed to be April 1, 2020 and that has been delayed; the possible inability of grant requestors to obtain proper bids in the shortened timeframe; and the possibility of the City cutting the grant funding by several thousand dollars because of loss of revenue from Hotel/Motel taxes, which is where the grant funds are secured. Terry suggested that the board not open the Grant process but rather keep whatever grant funds that are given, for anything that might come up during the year.

Terry Slavens asked when the budget will be set, in order for the board to know how much grant funds will be available. Terry Simmons answered probably July/August.

Kelly Skinner stated that she thinks the board should still open the grant process to members of the historic district, with a later deadline.

Terry Slavens suggested that notifications be sent to the members of the Historic District telling them that due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the issues associated with it, it is unknown the amount of 2021 Grant funds that will be available to the Eastland Historic Board. Also, the timeframe that is usually available to members to submit requests for funds has been adjusted. Any requests must be submitted by September 1, 2020.

Rhyne Hobbs made a motion, seconded by Kelly Skinner to adjust the deadline for submission of grant requests from July 1, 2020 to September 1, 2020. Motion carried by a vote of four (4) in favor and none (0) opposed.

VI. Staff Update

1. 2020 Grant Quarterly Reports

Terry Simmons advised the work on the Majestic Theatre has been completed. There are no other projects.

There was no action needed on this item.

VII. Adjournment

Debbie Wharton made a motion, seconded by Rhyne Hobbs, to adjourn at 12:25 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Terry Slavens
Eastland Historic Board

Attest

Roma Holley, City Secretary