



Minutes for Chapter Meeting
October 21, 2023
Major K. M. Van Zandt Chapter #6, Texas SAR

9:30 a.m.

President Bobby Gresham called the meeting to order.

- **Chaplain Ralph Smith** offered the invocation.
- **President Gresham** led the pledge to the flag of the United States, the pledge to the flag of the State of Texas, and the pledge to the SAR.
- **President Gresham** welcomed the members and guests which included Jan Smith and prospective member Scott Stoddard.
- **President Gresham** turned the podium over to Vice President Kevin Shellman who introduced Charles L. Cox, Jr, Ph.D Student in History at Texas Christian University. His presentation was “Distance Does Not Change a Frenchman’s Heart” The 1768 French Creole Revolt in Spanish Louisiana and Redefining the Age of Revolutions. The new Spanish Governor Antonio De Ulloa of newly acquired Louisiana was famous for discovering platinum in Peru. He was expelled from the colony by the French citizens who did not want to be ruled by Spain. He had arrived in Louisiana in 1766 and implemented a 4% duty on goods. Because he had very few soldiers for security, he lived downriver from New Orleans in the port Balize. On Oct 29, 1768, some of the French citizens declared no allegiance to Spain and on August 18, 1769 a Spanish force of 2,000 soldiers led by the new Spanish Governor Don Alejandro O’Reilly arrived. The new governor was an Irish mercenary who established the Illustrious Cabildo to govern Louisiana. O’Reilly tried and convicted 13 men for treason. Six Frenchmen were shot and the others were sent to prison. A street in New Orleans is named Frenchmen Street in memory of the executed citizens.

OLD BUSINESS

- **President Gresham** called for the Vice President’s Report which was presented by **Kevin Shellman**. The new chapter constitution and by-laws are complete. The Chapter voted to approve the documents. Kevin reported on new projects for the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution by the State Monument Committee. One project may add markers along the Opelousas Trail from Goliad, TX to New Orleans, LA to commemorate the support provided during the Galvez Expedition against the British.
- **President Gresham** called for the Treasurer’s Report which was presented by **Past President Mike Connelly**. Operation fund balance is \$13,078.46. Pray TCU Award balance is \$2,699.66. Goodman Youth Fund balance is \$1,077.95. Report was approved by the chapter. Discussion was held about balances of the Pray TCU award and Goodman Youth Fund being increased from the operation fund.

- **President Gresham** called for the Secretary's Report which was presented by **Secretary Mark Parkison**. Meeting minutes for September were approved by the chapter.
- **Registrar Gerry Gieger** provided the Registrar's Report.
- **President Gresham** called for the Color Guard Commander's Report which was presented by **Color Guard Commander Vann Cunningham**. There are opportunities for the Color Guard: State Fair recruiting support, Nov 4 or 11 - Capt. Molly Corbin Chapter DAR, Luncheon. Nov 5 - Massing of the Colors, Birchman Baptist Church, Fort Worth. Nov 11 - Fort Worth Veterans Day Parade, muster @ 9:00am. Steven Hole and Vann Cunningham supported the Veterans Fundraiser in Aledo, TX. Vann attended the Kings Mountain ceremony that was attended by 200 in uniform. The 240th Yorktown was held with a parade and laying of a wreath. Dec 16 is Wreaths Across America.

NEW BUSINESS

- **President Gresham and Gerry Geiger** inducted Wayne Wheat into the chapter for his lineage to John Henry "Cherokee" Brown.
- **Gerry Gieger** made a motion for the chapter to sponsor ten wreaths for Wreaths Across America for \$170 which was approved.
- **James Alderman** discussed fundraising for the TCU scholarship fund by holding a raffle for a .22 caliber Henry rifle which is celebrating the 250th of the American Revolution.
- **President Gresham** asked for a motion to adjourn which was made and approved.
- **President Gresham** led the closing.
- **Chaplain Ralph Smith** offered the benediction.
- The meeting was concluded at 10:30 a.m.
- In attendance, per the sign-in sheet and observation, were 15 members and 2 guests for a total of 17 attendees.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Parkison, Chapter Secretary.