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## Sidney Sherman Chapter #2

### Minutes

March 21, 2023

The members of the Sidney Sherman Chapter #2, Sons of the Republic of Texas (SRT) gathered at Kelley's Family Restaurant in Texas City before 6 PM on March 21 in the banquet room behind the cashier. At 6:32 PM President Carl Hill called the meeting to order. Robert Schnuriger gave the opening prayer. President Hill led us in the pledges to the United States and Texas Flags. Charles McBee moved to accept the Minutes as posted on the website, Ron Schoolcraft seconded and the motion was approved by acclamation. Treasurer Mayo announced that the chapter has over \$4500 in our bank account and that we have no outstanding bills to report.

**Attending:** Edwin Cannon\*, Robyn Davis (District Vice-President)@, Christy Erickson!, Harry Elmendorf\* and guest, Hugh Ferguson\*, Robert Gindratt\* (Second Vice-President), Carl Hill\* (President), Ivan Langford III, Steve Manis\* (Treasurer General of the SRT and Knight of San Jacinto), Billy Mayo\* (Treasurer), Charles McBee\*, Mike Mitchell\*, Steve Nicol\* (Historian), Cody\* and Robert Schnuriger\* (Chaplain), Ron Schoolcraft\* (Past President), Eron Tyne! and Clark Wright\* (Secretary) We had 15 Chapter members attended this meeting with a total of 18 in attendance.

**Business:** President Hill indicated that the Chapter Board met on March 12. Due to the absence of Secretary Wright, he had the officers draw beans, and Robert Schnuriger drew the black bean and recorded the meeting minutes. President Hill indicated that the Chapter was well represented in the recent activities and ceremonies of the SRT including the Anson Jones remembrance, Independence Day activities in Houston and Washington on the Brazos. The Chapter was also represented at the "Gold Star" Ceremony in LaPorte. Robyn Davis also attended this event. We also were represented well at the "Dawn Over the Alamo" event in San Antonio, and two of our number attended the Annual Meeting at the Menger Hotel in the same city. President Hill issued a thanks to Christy Erickson who donated the tickets to the Houston Rodeo awarded at the last meeting.

**Program:** We were honored to hear Ed Cotham discuss the "Battle of the Bay: The Civil War Struggle for Galveston", his book on the subject. He has also written a number books and several news articles on the subject of the American Civil War. At the onset, the populous of Galveston chose Sidney Sherman to lead the defense of the island. Union forces took the island and fortified T-heads of several piers even removing planks to prevent being attacked. The Confederates wanted Galveston back in their own hands and sent General John Bankhead Magruder from Virginia to retake the island. Edward described the assault in interesting terms, resulting with the retaking Galveston in a pincer of bombardment from the streets of the town and a naval attack using two "Cotton clad" vessels which had been fitted in Harrisburg. The facts are that the Confederacy held Galveston until the conclusion

of the War itself and the famous "Juneteenth" declaration in 1865. President Hill then discussed the effort to produce a Chapter Logo. He passed a draft which had been discussed in the Board Meeting for members review.

**Up-coming:**

**April 8:** Members discussed the Galveston County Fair. A parade will be held on April 8 and we decided to participate, Charles McBee moved to participate, Robert Schnuriger seconded the motion which was accepted with no dissent. Registration for the parade must be in by April 6.

The next Chapter meeting will be at Kelley's on **April 18** with speaker Randy Pollard, President General, SRT reporting on the SRT Annual Meeting. We will also have an update by Chester Barnes, Texas Navy on the Battleship Texas.

**April 21: San Jacinto Day** Commemorative Ceremony: program begins at 2:00 p.m. where Carolyn Crimm will delivery the keynote speech.

**April 22:** San Jacinto Festival from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. designated a major activity of this chapter. Please attend and assist us with our booth and refreshments. Contact President Hill for further information.

**April 29:** San Jacinto Symposium at San Jacinto College

**May 14:** Commemorate the **Treaty of Velasco"**

**May 16:** Chapter Meeting with speaker Carolina Castillo Crimm, Ph.D.

**June 20:** Chapter Meeting with speaker Mike Bailey, Curator Brazos County Historical Museum

**NOTE: CHANGE OF MEETING DATE** for the July chapter meeting, which will be moved forward from July 18 to July 22 to remember July 23, 1805 (218 years ago), Sidney Sherman's birthday. Please attend the May meeting to find out where we will host the dinner, perhaps somewhere on Galveston Island. Paul Spellman, Ph.D., Texas History Professor, Wharton Junior College will be the speaker.

Billy Mayo moved to adjourn at 7:53 PM, Hugh Ferguson seconded the motion which passed without dissent. Members gathered around our speaker who had a large number of books to sell.

**Note:** Chapter Members are denoted by a star (\*), Honorary Members are denoted with an exclamation point (!) and other SRT members are denoted by a at-sign (@) in the list of attendees.

Prepared by Clark P. Wright, Secretary