

HCCSAAA Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, September 17, 2024 Minutes

Attendees: Amber Allen, Judy Allen, James Bryant, Jr., Travis Cox, Ruth Diamond, Bert Estrada, Aracely Helle, Dan Helle, Pat Hiam, Dawn Manger, Maureen Mele, Derek Parker, Mary Ann Parker, Cecile Sanders, Jim Sanders, Ric Seale, Dick Snitkin, Janice Snitkin, Gary Tatem, Rhonda White, and HCSO liaison, Alyssa Davenport

Call to Order: Ruth Diamond called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm.

Introduction of Guest Speaker: Deputy Alyssa Davenport introduced Laura Ledezma, Marketing Outreach Specialist, and Marissa Lopez, Residential Program Director, of Greater San Marcos Youth Council who presented the services they provide, including shelter for maltreated children and support services to families. The presentation was well-received by those attending and there were many inquiries about volunteer and donation opportunities.

Birthdays: Starlene Varnell (9/1), Greg Roach (9/8), James Bryant, Jr. (9/11), Sam Espinoza (9/14), Amber Allen (9/24), and Cathy Gieselman (9/26)

Approval of August minutes: Cecile Sanders moved to accept the August minutes as presented. Jim Sanders seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Gary Anderson presented the financials through August. There was \$500.00 in expenses related to seed money for the 501(c)3 startup of the Hays County Community Engagement, Inc. This new non-profit is for donations to Community Outreach needs. No income was recorded. As of August 31, 2024 there was \$45,387.84 in our account, which broke down to \$45,173.82 in the bank, \$204.02 in petty cash and \$10.00 in HEB gift cards. We have \$12,533.28 designated for Brown Santa and \$3,480.77 designated for Sunshine Kids.

Membership Report: Effective this meeting we have 72 paid members.

Old Business: The quarterly meeting of the Texas Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association (TCPAAA) Region III was held at Kyle Police Department this past Saturday, September 14 from 11 am to 1 pm. Ric Seale, Gary Anderson, Jack Diamond, and Ruth Diamond from HCCSAAA, a liaison and president of the Buda alumni association and one Buda alumni member, a liaison and president of the Kyle alumni association and 5 alumni members, and the Kyle PIO and media were in attendance. Officer James Plant of the Kyle PD wants to revive these meetings which were held fairly regularly before the pandemic, but have never been planned since then. It was decided the next meeting will be Saturday, January 11, 2025 at a time and place to be determined. The State TCPAAA convention will be held next July in Waco.

New Business:

- Bryan Wahlert with CID Auto Theft has requested \$2,000 to purchase VIN etching equipment. CID Auto Theft would budget for continuing operating supplies, if the

HCCSAAA approved this equipment request. This equipment will be used to etch a VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) into the windows of Hays County residents' vehicles to help protect possible vehicle theft, or if stolen, could aid in recovery of the vehicle. This would be a free service offered by HCSO at different events within the county, which would be promoted through Community Outreach and coordinated with county HOAs. Ruth has contacted the INSTAetch company in Chandler, Arizona and received a quote of \$1,574.15. Rick Seale moved that we purchase this equipment, Jim Sanders seconded the motion, and it was passed by the majority of those in attendance with one dissenting vote.

- Community Outreach has scheduled the first "Battle of the Badges" softball game between HCSO and Wimberley Fire Department on Saturday, October 5 at the Wimberley ISD Sports Fields, 290 Ballpark Road, Wimberley. Proceeds will go to the Wimberley Youth Sports Association and the American Cancer Society for breast cancer month. Entry fee is \$7 for those 13 and up, \$3 for 12 and under, and free for 2 and under. The gates open at 4:00 pm and the first pitch is at 5:00 pm. Our Association will host the concession, which will offer hot dogs, nachos, chips, and drinks. Since this is the first time this event is being held, we have no idea how many might attend or what the concession might sell, so we are limiting the variety of items available. Some leftovers might be used for future fundraisers, such as our upcoming Government Center cheeseburger event on October 21. Volunteers to work the concession were requested for two different shifts: 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm and 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. In addition, help was requested for that morning at 10:00 am to load the supplies into the concession, allowing the drinks to cool in the refrigerator for the gate opening at 4:00 pm. There may still be a couple of positions available to volunteer at the concession, so if interested in working during the game or even in the morning to get the concession ready, please text or call Ruth at 404-626-5390 or email president@hccsaaa.org If not volunteering, come cheer on our HCSO and watch a fun game of softball!
- We will host another cheeseburger event in the lobby of the Government Center on Monday, October 21, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. No deliveries to local businesses will be offered for this fundraiser like in the past, but as of now there are three juries scheduled to be impaneled that day, so there should be some walk-up traffic, in addition to the employees of the GC and PSB. Volunteers are needed for set ups, serving, and clean up. A sign-up sheet was passed around for volunteers to assist that day and there are still some volunteer openings that need to be filled. This will all be finalized at the October 8 meeting. Again, if interested in being a volunteer for this event, text or call Ruth at 404-626-5390 or email president@hccsaaa.org

- Some tentative Brown Santa dates were announced: The Government Center LockUp fundraiser is to be held on Friday, November 22. The alumni typically serves the Italian luncheon that day and a signup will be passed around at the October meeting for the requested number of volunteers. Gift Wrapping Day will be Saturday, December 7, from 9:00 am to noon and Distribution/Delivery day will be Saturday, December 14, from 7:00 am to noon. The warehouse location for Brown Santa this year is still to be determined.
- The Annual Holiday Social will be held either December 3 or December 10. The majority of the members present tended to favor Tuesday, December 10 and that would be our normal monthly meeting date so will most probably be on the 10th. Suggestions for a restaurant venue are being solicited. It was held at Ivar's River Pub last December, but there was some concern that it is too small for our gathering. Jorge's on Hunter Road was mentioned as a possibility. We prefer to have a private room or at least a separate area from the general public for our gathering.
- A discussion about whether to organize gifts for all HCSO workers for Christmas was held. It was decided that Ruth will talk with the existing Adopt-A-Cop group to see if we can help them in some way, rather than trying to do something on our own, since the employees number over 400.
- Ruth reminded all about using the volunteer hours log sheet. Volunteer hours are recorded by Gary, so turn completed log sheets in to him.
- The next HCCSAAA meeting will be held Tuesday, October 8.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Gary Tatem and seconded by Jim Sanders. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.