



City of Corpus Christi

1201 Leopard Street
Corpus Christi, TX 78401
corpuschristitx.gov

Meeting Minutes - Final

Landmark Commission

Thursday, January 22, 2026

4:30 PM

City Hall, Council Chambers.

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chairman Pruitt called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm and a quorum was established to conduct the meeting with Vice Chairman Landreth and Commissioner Wilson being absent.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Sondra Meyer spoke about her interest in joining the Landmark Commission. She stated has a background in photo/video/social media and has a love for historic homes & buildings. Mrs. Meyer stated she applied for the current commission vacancy and wanted to introduce herself to the members.

Javier Colmenero introduced himself to the commission regarding his publication Southside Living. He stated he is interested in assisting the commission with articles focusing on historic preservation and history of certain buildings, landmarks, and other historical areas. He provided the commission with copies of the publication and left his contact information to be shared.

III. Approval of Absences: Commissioners Espinoza, Riggle, Becquet, & Underwood. (11.20.2025 meeting)

Commissioner McLaughlin made a motion to approve the absence of Commissioners Espinoza, Riggle, Becquet, & Underwood from the November 20, 2025, meeting. Commissioner Moreno seconded. Vote: All Aye. Motion passes.

IV. Approval of Minutes: November 20, 2025 DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Commissioner McLaughlin made a motion to accept the November 20, 2025, meeting minutes as amended. Commissioner Espinoza seconded. The Vote: All Aye. Motion passed.

1. [25-1971](#) Landmark Commission Meeting Minutes DRAFT 11.20.2025

V. Discussion and Possible Action:

2. [26-0036](#) National Register Nomination for Cayo del Oso

Fred L. McGhee, Ph.D appeared to speak about the below.

The Cayo del Oso site (41NU2) is a prehistoric cemetery and campsite with Archaic, Late Prehistoric and, probably, Historic period components (Jackson et al. 2004:67, 69).i. It is located within the city limits of Corpus Christi in eastern Nueces County, Texas and is bounded by Corpus Christi Bay to the north and False Oso Bay to the east (False Oso Bay drains into Corpus Christi Bay from the south; Figure 1). Cultural remains associated with the site are distributed over approximately 30 acres along a 1 mile southward stretch down the False Oso Bay shoreline (Figure 2; Jackson et al. 2004:1, 63). The site is situated on a clay dune whose maximum elevation is 15 feet (4.57 meters) above mean sea level. This area, which extends inland about 100 yards (109 meters), contained all of the 111 published burials excavated at the site and is described as the “principal part” of the camp (Jackson et al. 2004:74; Ricklis 1997:1, 42-46).ii When the site was discovered in 1898, this area was covered with extensive deposits of shells (oyster, clam and whelk) and scattered potsherds. While A.T. Jackson postulated an approximately 800 meter extension of the site along Corpus Christi Bay in the early 1930’s based upon deposits of shell as well as other residential refuse (see Figure 3), no burials have been reported there (Jackson et al. 2004:1) likely due to subsequent residential construction and resultant looting. While that portion of the site may still contain important information, it is likely to emerge from disturbed and decontextualized deposits. It was reported in 1929 that shortly after the hurricane that devastated the Texas coast—presumably the great hurricane of 1919—that flooding exposed over 5,000 skeletons across the site (Jackson et al. 2004: 7). If correct, this would make the Cayo del Oso site one of the largest Native American cemetery sites in the United States.

Fred L. McGhee, Ph.D., stated that THC has updated the site boundaries, which now include a lot of public properties. Previous owners that were in opposition are no longer there also.

Peter Moore appeared in support of the nomination for the Cayo del Oso burial grounds. After he spoke, he asked for the commission to be in support of the nomination as the process proceeds.

Sheelah Bearfoot spoke on behalf of the indigenous people of the coastal bend. Stated the Cayo del Oso holds national significance. She is in support of the nomination on a both local to international scale.

Commissioner Riggle is concerned with what will be next after the nomination is processed.

Chairman Pruitt stated this is not an official request it is more of an informational process. Fred L. McGhee, Ph.D., states the body will be notified officially by the THC for possible endorsement as following the historical preservation guidelines within the City.

3. [26-0039](#) 2025 Annual Board Report

Chairman Pruitt stated the commissioner had copies of the draft 2025 report to review

and asked if there were any questions or concerns. Being none, a motion was made by Commissioner Becquet to approve the 2025 annual board report. Commissioner McLaughlin seconded. The Vote: All Aye. Motion passed.

4. [26-0040](#) Updates on Subcommittees

Commissioner Mumme stated two well-known local artists are interested in submitting projects for historic preservation month. Chairman Pruitt asked about the timeline that would be submitted. He stated the announcements should go out in March, submissions to be in April, and the contest be in May.

Commissioner Riggle stated that there are art pieces in the Sacred Heart Church that can be added to the scope of historical preservation month.

Walking tours could be done on by the specific entity to be toured and placed on a calendar so the public is in the know about when the event will take place. The alternative could be media in the form of a video to be posted on the City's social media website.

VI. Historic Preservation Officer Report

5. [26-0041](#) Update on Saxet Survey

Andrew Dimas, Development Services, stated we have the complete survey via PDF or can be seen in person with the binders he has brought to today's meeting. Chairman Pruitt stated the research that has been done is the helpful resource to move forward to possibly historically designate areas in the Saxet area.

VII. Future Agenda Items

In February, the commission will need to begin discussion about the historical designation awards for the month of May. This way enough time is given to order plaques.

VIII. Adjournment

Being no other business to discuss, Chairman Pruitt entertained for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Riggle made motion for the meeting to be adjourned. Commission Espinoza seconded. The Vote: All Ayes. Meeting adjourned at 5:51 pm