

**City of Hempstead
Commerce and Civic Association
Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, January 20th, 2026**

Call to Order:

The HCCA January meeting was called to order by President Cheryl Hardwick at 6:06 P.M.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:

Board Member James Garfield gave the invocation, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Cheryl Hardwick.

Roll Call of HCCA Board Members:

HCCA Board Members present were President Cheryl Hardwick, Board Members James Garfield and Brian Trafton, and Vicki LeBlanc was via phone. Vice President Melissa Hegemeyer, Secretary Katherine Ward, Treasurer Raul Villarreal, and Board Member Kenneth Pilcher were absent.

Welcome Members and Visitor's:

President Cheryl Hardwick welcomed all members and visitors.

Sign In Sheet for Attendance and Door Prizes:

President Cheryl Hardwick asked everyone to please sign in so we would have a record of their attendance and to sign up for the door prizes.

Approval of the December 2025 Monthly HCCA Monthly Minutes:

Board Member James Garfield made a motion to accept the December 2025 monthly minutes and a second was made by Board Member Brian Trafton. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Approval of the January 2026 HCCA Treasurers Reports:

Board Member Brian Trafton made a motion to accept the January 2026 Treasurers Report and a second was made by Board Member James Garfield. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Approval of paying the Waller County Express invoice in the amount of \$112.00 for HCCA advertising for the Christmas Business and Home Decorating Contest and the Tree Decorating Contest:

Board Member James Garfield made a motion to pay the invoice to Waller County Express in the amount of \$112.00 and a second motion was made by Board Member Brian Trafton. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Present Watermelon Festival Scholarship to Ellie Collette the 2024 Watermelon Festival Queen:

The HCCA Board presented the 2024 Watermelon Queen Ellie Collette with half of her 2024 Watermelon Festival Scholarship in the amount of \$750.00. She will receive the other half of the next semester. Her scholarship amount was a total of \$1,500.00. Ellie is attending Blinn College in Brenham, Texas.

Recognize and honor the Hempstead High School Girls Volleyball Team for being the first team ever to be 100 Percent of all the players to receive Academic All District Honors:

The HCCA Board recognized and honored the Hempstead High School Girls Volleyball Team for being the first team ever to be 100 percent of all players to receive Academic All District Honors. Each girl and their coach were given gift baskets, and a picture was taken with the HCCA Board.

Recognize Nancy Stoorza with her business called "Fix My Pet.":

President Cheryl Hardwick introduced Nancy Stoorza with "Fix My Pet." She talked about Maggie's foundation. In April of 2025 they were able to take care of 120 animals and were able to vaccinate over two hundred animals. They operate on grants and local funding to be able to provide affordable service to the community.

Upcoming HCCA Events for 2026:

President Cheryl Hardwick talked about the upcoming HCCA Events. Easter in the Park is Saturday, March 28th, 2026, at the Gazebo Park. Cinco de Mayo Celebration is Saturday, May 2nd, 2026, with the St Katharine Drexel Catholic Church and the Memorial Day Parade and Program is Monday, May 25th, 2026.

Volunteering for HCCA and their upcoming events:

President Cheryl Hardwick encouraged everyone to get involved and to volunteer. She talked about the Beta Club, Hempstead Theatre Club, and the Hempstead High school Cheerleaders volunteering for HCCA Events and donations that had been made to them.

HCCA Membership - \$100.00 for businesses, \$50.00 for non-profit organizations, and \$25.00 for an individual:

President Cheryl Hardwick encouraged everyone to join the HCCA. For a business to join it is \$100.00, for non-profit organizations it is \$50.00, and \$25.00 for individuals.

Old Business:

No old business.

New Business:

No new business.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 17th, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. at the St Bartholomew's Episcopal Church at 811 14th Street, Hempstead, Texas.

Upcoming Events:

- The Hempstead ISD Boys and Girls basketball games are on Tuesday and Friday nights at High School Gym.
- Hempstead American Legion Post 459 located at 31667 FM 1736, Hempstead and next to the fire station. The meetings are held the 2nd Monday of the month at 6:00 P.M.
- Local Barrel Racer Gracen Harman will be competing at the Denver, Colorado Livestock Show and Rodeo on the night performance on Tuesday, December 18th, and on Wednesday, December 19th,

2026, she will be performing in the morning and the evening performances, and you can watch it live on the Cowboy Channel.

- Prairie View A & M University will be having a training class on Will and Estate Planning Tools for individuals and small business owners on Saturday, January 24th, 2026, at the Waller County Community Center in Prairie View. For more information, please contact Erika Jones at edjones@pvamu.edu.
- Waller County 4-H Horse Clubs 18th Annual Fundraiser for a CINCH RSNC Ranch Sorting on Saturday, January 24th and Sunday, January 25th, 2026, at the Waller County Fairgrounds.
- Master Gardeners Orchard Seminar on Saturday, January 31st, 2026, at the Episcopal Church in Hempstead.
- Waller County Crime Stoppers “A Night at the Hideout” on Saturday, January 31st, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. at 1172 Wilpitz Road, Brookshire, Texas 77423. For more information, please contact Jackie Craver at jackiehopkinscraver@gmail.com.
- Master Gardeners Tree Giveaway on Friday, February 20th, 2026, at the Waller County Extension Office.
- Hempstead Little Leagues 10th Annual Crawfish Boil on Saturday, February 21st, 2026, at the KC Hall at 22892 Mack Washington in Hempstead. Doors open at 3:00 P.M.
- Focusing Families “Casino Night” Saturday, February 27th, 2026, at 7:00P.M. at the Austin County Fair Convention & Expo Center located at 1076 East Hill in Bellville.
- Hempstead Little League 2026 Scholarship Deadline is Friday, March 6th, 2026. For more information about the scholarship please contact Hempsteadlittleleagueinfo@gmail.com.
- Master Gardners Annual Spring Plant Sale on Saturday, March 7th, 2026, at the Waller County Extension Office from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.
- Waller County Sports Association 21st Annual Auction, Dinner and Concert on Saturday, March 21st, 2026, at the Waller County Fairgrounds.
- Texas Association of First Responders 17th Annual Wild Game Cook-Off and Rodeo on Friday, April 10th and Saturday, April 11, 2026, at the Waller County Fairgrounds.

Door prizes:

The door prize winners were Ellie Collette, Mary Ann Drawl, Domini Opfur, Nancy Stooze, and Kumina Thomas. The door prizes were donated by Julian Alvarez with Texas Premier and Residential Services.

Adjourn:

Board Member Brian Trafton made a motion to adjourn the HCCA monthly meeting and a second was made by Board Member Vicki LeBlanc. A vote was taken and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 P.M. Refreshments were served after the meeting.

Submitted by Secretary Katherine Ward _____

Approved and signed by President Cheryl Hardwick _____

