

Hempstead Commerce and Civic Association
Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, February 20, 2024

Board Members: Cheryl Hardwick: Present	Melissa Hegemeyer: Present
Katherine Ward: Present	Kenneth Pilcher: Absent
Vicki LeBlanc: Absent	Thomas Payne: Absent
James Garfield: Present	Raul Villarreal: Present

Call to Order: President Cheryl Hardwick called to order the monthly meeting of the Hempstead Commerce and Civic Association at 6:07 P.M. on Tuesday, February 20th, 2024, at the St Bartholomew's Episcopal Church.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: President Cheryl Hardwick gave the innovation, and the Pledge of Allegiance was lead, by Treasurer Raul Villarreal.

Welcome Visitors: President Cheryl Hardwick welcomed all the HCCA Members and visitors present.

Sign in Sheet: President Cheryl Hardwick asked everyone to please be sure and sign in on the attendance sheet and to sign up for the door prizes.

Introduction of the New HCCA Board Members:

President Cheryl Hardwick introduced new HCCA Board Members James Garfield and Raul Villarreal.

Approval of the December 2023 Minutes: A motion was made by Treasurer Raul Villarreal and a second motion by Secretary Katherine Ward to accept the December 2023 minutes. A vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Approval of the January 2024 and February 2024 Treasurers Report: A motion was made by Board Member James Garfield and a second motion was made by Vice President Melissa Hegemeyer that we accept the January 2024 and February 2024 Treasurer's Report. A vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Honor and Recognize the HISD Superintendent Mr. Herbert O'Neil, Jr.:

President Cheryl Hardwick introduced Mr. Herbert O'Neil, Jr. the Superintendent of Hempstead ISD. The HCCA recognized him for all that he has done for our school district, and he was presented with a gift basket.

Honor and Recognize the HISD School Board Members:

President Cheryl Hardwick talked about January being National School Board Month. The HISD School Board Members are Connie Wawarofsky, Tressy Wilson, Julian Alvarez, Albert Garfield, James Glover, Ricky Pearce, and Hoveta Godines. The HCCA recognized and honored the HISD School Board Members present Connie Wawarofsky, Julian Alvarez, Albert Glover, and Hoveta Godines. Each board member present were given a gift basket from HCCA, and a picture was taken with HCCA Board Members.

Honor and Recognize the Hempstead ISD Staff for December 2023 for the Early Childhood Center Campus:

The HCCA Board recognized and honored Sheila Hill for being the Teacher of the Month for December 2023 from the Early Childhood Center Campus and a gift basket was presented to her from HCCA. Susanna Ramirez was honored for being the Support Staff of the Month for December 2023. Ms. Ramirez was not present at the meeting.

Honor and Recognize the Hempstead ISD Staff for December 2023 for the Elementary Campus: The HCCA Board recognized Abraham Ahumada for being the Teacher of the Month for December 2023. Mr. Ahumada was not present at the meeting. Vanessa Carrizalez was honored and recognized for being the Support Staff of the Month for December 2023, and was presented with a gift basket from HCCA.

Honor and Recognize the Hempstead ISD Staff for December 2023 for the Middle School Campus:

The HCCA Board honored Michelle Jendral for being the Teacher of the Month for December 2023. Ms. Jendral was not present at the meeting. Devon Jones was honored and recognized for being the Support Staff for the Month of December 2023, and was given a gift basket was given by HCCA.

Honor and Recognize the Hempstead ISD Staff for December 2023 for the High School Campus:

The HCCA Board honored Eric Eady for being the Teacher of the Month for December 2023, and Zobeye Williams was honored for being the Support Staff of the Month. Eric Eady or Zobeye Williams were not present at the meeting.

Honor and Recognize the Hempstead ISD Staff for January 2024 for the Early Childhood Center Campus:

The HCCA Board honored Rebecca Lopez for being the Teacher of the Month for January 2024, and Kathy Ivery for honored for being the Support Staff of the Month for January 2024. Rebecca Lopez or Kathy Ivery were not present at the meeting.

Honor and Recognize the Hempstead ISD Staff for January 2024 for the Elementary School Campus:

The HCCA Board honored and recognized Lalthia Stubblefield for being the Teacher of the Month for January 2024, and was given a gift basket from HCCA. Kimberly Lucherk was honored for being the Support Staff of the Month for January 2024. Kimberly Lucherk was not present at the meeting.

Honor and Recognize the Hempstead ISD Staff for January 2024 for the Middle School Campus:

The HCCA Board honored and recognized Karen Toliver for being the Teacher of the Month for January 2024 and Diana Ortiz was honored and recognized for being the Support Staff of the Month for January 2024, and both were given gift baskets from HCCA.

Honor and Recognize the Hempstead ISD Staff for January for the High School Campus:

The HCCA Board honored Carla Foster for being the Teacher of the Month for January 2024, and Rosalyn Hunter was honored for being the Support Staff of the Month for January 2024. Carla Foster or Rosalyn Hunter were not present at the meeting.

Honor and Recognize the Hempstead Theatre Company Winners from the Brazos Speech Tournament – Champion Anayazeth Salinas Vargas, 1st Runner Up Jesus Montero Oliva Competed in Prose – Maeli Smith placed 5th in Poetry, and Maeli Smith placed 4th in Informative Speaking:

This was tabled to the March meeting since the Theatre Company had another event they needed to attend.

Recognize and Honor Brianna Padilla for Winning the Title of Miss South Texas Universal Teen Contest:

The HCCA Board recognized and honored Brianna Padilla for her accomplishments in winning the title of Miss South Texas Universal Teen Contest and was given a gift basket from HCCA and a picture was taken with HCCA Board members.

Recognize and Honor Harrell Williams, Jr. “JuneBug” for Winning the 2023 Jr. World Breakaway and the 2023 Jr. World Double Mugging in Las Vegas in December 2023:

The HCCA Board recognized and honored Harrell Williams, Jr. “JuneBug” for his accomplishments for winning the titles of the 2023 Jr. World Breakaway and the 2023 Jr. World Double Mugging at the Junior Finals in Las Vegas in December 2023. He talked about his experience at the Junior Finals and becoming in the future a World Champion Roper. He was given a gift basket from HCCA and a picture was taken with board members.

Present a Donation to the Master Gardeners to President Mary Ann Drawl:

The HCCA presented a \$500.00 donation to the Master Gardeners President Mary Ann Drawl to help pay for their upcoming event. Mary Ann Drawl talked about the upcoming Horticultural Event featuring Felder Rushing, a nationally known horticulturist author, and NPR radio host. The date is Saturday, April 6, 2024, at 10:00 A.M. at the First Baptist Church Hempstead, at 445 Main Street, Hempstead. A check was presented, and a picture was taken with HCCA Board members.

Recognize the 2023 Watermelon Queen Hailey Anhorn and her Court for the Book Drive:

The 2023 Watermelon Queen Hailey Anhorn talked about the civic project for the Watermelon Royalty Court with a book drive for the Hempstead Early Childhood Center. They have already collected over 500 books and their goal is to collect 1000 books to help set up a library for the Early Childhood Center. Books will still be collected until Friday, February 23rd. 2024, and they can be dropped off at the Hegemeyer Realty and Associates office. The books will be presented to the Early Childhood Center at the next school board meeting.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

President Cheryl Hardwick told the crowd that early voting had started today, Tuesday, February 20, 2024, and she encouraged everyone to get out and exercise their right to vote.

President Cheryl Hardwick introduced and honored Aubree Alvarez for helping make the HCCA baskets and for being the January Kindergarten Student of the Month and she was presented a gift basket from HCCA.

Upcoming Local Events:

****Hempstead 2023 Watermelon Court Book Drive – Book drop off dates are till Monday, February 26, 2024, Books are needed for ages 3 to 5 years old, and the book drop off is at Hegemeyer Realty & Associates located at 820 13th Street, Hempstead, Texas.**

****Hempstead High Baseball Games on every Tuesday and Friday and you can go to the Hempstead ISD for time and locations.**

****Knights of Columbus Famous Friday Night Fish Fry – Friday Nights beginning February 16th and runs to Friday, March 22, 2024, beginning at 5:00 P.M. at 22892 Mack Washington Lane, Hempstead, Texas.**

****Hempstead 2024 FFA Project Show – February 29th and March 1st, 2024, at the Waller County Fairgrounds, Hempstead, Texas.**

****Washington on the Brazos Independence Eve on Friday, March 1, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. with Nashville Recording Artist Glenn Templeton with the Drifter and Critfers – Texas Independence Day Celebration on Saturday, March 2, and Sunday March 3, 2024, at the Washington on the Brazos State Park in Washington, Texas and admission is free.**

****Waller County Master Gardeners – Annual Vegetables, Herbs, and Ornamentals Plant Sale on Saturday, March 9th, 2024, from 9:00 to 11:00 A.M. at the Waller County Extension office at 846 6th Street, Hempstead, Texas.**

****HCCA Easter in Park – Saturday, March 23rd, 2024, at the Downtown Gazebo from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. We need volunteers for this event.**

****Easter Story Time – Saturday, March 23rd, from 1:00 to 3:00 P.M. at Hegemeyer Realty & Associates Office at 820 13th Street, Hempstead, Texas. There will be book readings every 30 minutes, Easter family photos, crafts, book drawings, and snacks.**

****Monahville Volunteer Fire Departments 6th Annual Crawfish Boil on Saturday, March 23rd, 2024, and doors open at 11:30 A.M. located at 13527 Cochran Road, Waller, Texas**

****Waller County Master Gardeners Presents a Horticultural Event with Felder Rushing National know Horticulturist, Author, and NPR Radio Host on Saturday, April 6th, 2024, at the Hempstead First Baptist Church at 445 Main Street, Hempstead, Texas at 10:00 A.M.**

****Chappell Bluebonnet Festival on Saturday, April 13th and Sunday, April 14th, 2024, in downtown Chappell Hill, Texas and Admission is Free**

****Burton Cotton Gin Festival on Saturday, April 20th, 2024, in downtown Burton, Texas and Admission is free**

The Next HCCA Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 19th, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. at the St Bartholomew's Episcopal Church located at 811 14th Street, Hempstead.

Drawing for Door Prizes:

The winners of the door prizes were Carla Carfora, Aniyah Jones, Diana Ortiz, Tinsley Stanley, and Jimmie Toliver. Congratulations to the winners and a picture was taken with the HCCA Board.

Adjourn: A motion was made by Treasurer Raul Villarreal and a second by Board Member James Garfield that we adjourn the meeting. A vote was taken, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 P.M. and refreshments were served.