

Thursday, July 23, 2009

Parks and Recreation RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 48

Subject: Approve an ordinance accepting up to \$4,000 in grant funds from Humanities Texas; and amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Parks and Recreation Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20080908-002 to appropriate up to \$4,000 to support the costs of an independent contractor who will serve as the guest curator for the opening exhibits of the Susanna Dickinson Hannig Museum.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from Humanities Texas under their NEH We the People major grant program. No City match is required.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Laura Esparza, 974-4001

The City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department has been awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities "We the People" grant through Humanities Texas. This grant will support up to \$4,000 of the cost to contract with a guest curator. The curator must be approved by Humanities Texas as a condition of the award. After approval, the curator will plan and prepare the opening exhibits for the Susanna Dickinson Hannig Museum.

Built in 1869 by Joseph Hannig for his new wife, Susanna Dickinson, the home was saved and deeded to the City of Austin in October 2003. Susanna Dickinson Hannig is one of the survivors of the Battle of the Alamo and later became known as the "Messenger of the Alamo." The home is currently under restoration and is scheduled to open as a museum on March 2, 2010 - Texas Independence Day.

All Department grant application requests are reviewed by the Budget Office prior to submission to ensure that the grant minimizes the financial impact to the City.