

Hays County Historical Commission

Calaboose/OldHays County Jail

January 28, 2010 minutes



Emily Little (far right, red jacket) of Clayton, Levi & Little Architects explains to HCHC members stabilization and restoration procedures for the old jail.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Linda Coker, Jim Cullen, Bonnie Eissler, Robert Frizzell, Richard Gachot, Mary Giberson, Betty Harrison, Lu Hickey, Kate Johnson, Linda Keese, Roger Kidd, Marianne Moore, LaMarr Petersen, Ofelia Vasquez-Philo, Gary Rush

GUESTS: Will Conley, John Foreman, Ed Gumbert, Jack Harrison, Margie Kidd, Paul Keese, Emily Little, Jean Peterson

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Kate Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:20 p.m. at the Calaboose Museum on MLK Dr. in San Marcos.

- She is seeking an antique display case to display DVD materials in the rotunda of the Hays County Courthouse.
- LaMarr Petersen will be out next six weeks on health leave. Direct any \$\$ questions to Kate.
- The Jack Hays Chapter of the El Camino Real: having trouble with TxDOT. Too many people in the mix.

MINUTES: Minutes from 11/12/09 meeting approved. Jim Cullen moved, Linda Coker seconded.

TOPICS: Emily Little of Clayton, Levi and Little Architects spoke about restoration of the Old Hays County Jail next door. She has perused a box of info from years of effort to "save the jail." Complete restoration will come in two parts: 1) stabilization and 2) restoration. Foundation is in good shape. Damage to structure from ground moisture and climbing vegetation. Plans include drainage system around building, stabilize framework, new metal roof, plywood floor to facilitate walk-thru, doors and windows, heating and AC system. This phase to cost approx. \$120,000. Completing paperwork, then job will go to bid. Final cost of restoration might be \$1,000,000. Showed drawing of site plan incorporating Calaboose and Jail into one area with simple covered party pavilion and restroom building. This would provide location for events/fund-raising opportunities. Linda Keese suggested selling the old pavilion roof (if it's copper), then replace with metal. Kate's goal is to raise \$\$ in two years. LaMarr stated that we needed a logo and slogan for shirts and gift bags. Sample logos were shared. Will Conley suggested using probationers to do clean-up work. Hill Rylander should be contacted about his previous efforts towards restoration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Marianne Moore invited all to Cottage Kitchen every Friday. This week the Heritage Association Board is serving chicken and sausage creole with red beans and rice. Reminder to attend Gwen Smith Oral History premiere Thursday, February 6th, 5:30 pm at the Price Center. Need volunteers around 3:00 to help set up.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm. Group proceeded next door to tour jail, then on to Newton Gang's Hideaway for dinner.

Submitted by Marianne Moore