

Minutes

Hays County Historical Commission

Thursday, June 25, 2009, 7:00 PM

Inn Above Onion Creek- 4444 West FM 150 Kyle, Texas

Kate Johnson	Gary Rush	Jim Cullen	Lamarr Peterson
Robert Frizzell	Betty Harrison	Ofelia Vasquez	Jean Peterson
Shelley Henry	Mary Ann Mattis	Linda Coker	Luanne Cullen
Richard Kidd	Dorothy Gumbert	Mary Thorne	SarahAnn Lowther
Helena Goodson-Hauk	Mary Giberson		Plus approximately 5 guests

1. Meeting called to order at 7:11pm
 - a. Guests were announced
2. Announcements
 - a. Kate:
 - i. Documentary filming this weekend
 1. No Meeting in July the meeting from May will take place in October
 2. Vote on accepting minutes from last meeting on April 23, 2009
 - a. Linda Coker moved, Maryann Mattis seconded, Unanimously accepted
 - ii. Parades- July 3, 2009 Wimberley
 1. Johnson Stagecoach will be on the Wimberley parade on July 3rd
 2. 4 horses will be coming from Kerrville
 3. Expect a wonderful parade – Kate has Historical Commission sign
3. Historical Marker Committee Report
 - a. Betty Harrison– submitted application for under told markers (Bob Brinkman) Antioch Colony – subsidized by the state historical commission so there is no charge for the marker. Due on Tuesday (6/30)– already submitted this week – Antioch Colony, located between CR 142 and 148 on FM 1626. (Betty read from her application)
 - i. “Founded in 1859 by Joseph F. Rowley, who immigrated to Texas from California, the Antioch Colony was the home to several African American families in Hays County from 1870 until the 1950’s. Rowley purchased 490 acres of land on onion creek for \$2.50 per acre. He sold the land to of freedmen for five dollars an acre, setting aside one acre of land to be used as a cemetery. He included a clause in most of the deeds that specified that the purchaser ‘shall not have the right to sell or cause to tbe sold the tract of land...without the consent of said Rowley or his heirs’ and any sale would void the deed and the land would revert to Rowley. The colony’s citizens built a two-story school building on land donated by Elias and Clara Bunton in 1874. At one time, fifty-seven students attended the Antioch School District 5, which also served as the meeting place for the Masonic Lodge and the Eastern Star. An African Methodist Church and a Baptist church were also part of the colony. Antioch Colony farmers raised grain, sugarcane and cotton, and some residents worked in the community or ran businesses of their own. By the 1950’s most of the original Antioch families have moved away in search of better jobs. In recent years, however, descendants of the original families have returned to live in the area and have re-established the Antioch Community Church. The Antioch Community Cemetery Association maintains the Antioch Cemetery.”
4. Oral History Committee Report
 - a. Richard Kidd
 - i. Shot another oral history report recently.
 1. Jim Cullen handled the interview for Cecil Clark.
 2. Did get it shot at his home in old Buda.
 - ii. Two weeks earlier Jim set up a screening held at Jack C Hays School – notes were in the paper – “Mo and Bob show”
 1. Jim served popcorn/drinks
 2. folks brought their family (about 60 ppl in attendance).
 - iii. Been discussion to have a public showing for Ofelia’s video – want to set up in SM for public relations.

1. There is a librarian (Stephanie- spoke with Jim Cullen) who showed interest –
 2. Jack Harrison suggested having it at Freeman Ranch.
 3. Potential for co-sponsoring opportunities to debut the videos.
 4. Waiting to distribute to libraries until there is a package of several with a goal of the end of summer.
- iv. Additional discussion on future topics – Kate has some more names to add to the list.
5. Publicity Committee Report
 - a. Shelley Henry–
 - i. Provided nametags
 1. Several name tags had the wrong title – will have corrected for the next meeting
 2. LaMarr suggested if everyone takes their nametags home that if you forget them in the future members get fined \$5.00 to go toward the jail fundraising
 3. Members please be responsible with your nametags
 - ii. Parade- 10am Wimberley July 3rd
 - iii. Business Cards – for committee chairman – asked to confirm contact information
 - iv. American Statesman and other papers were called to cover the documentary.
6. Cemetery Committee Report
 - a. Committee member Linda Coker recently attended a two-day cemetery workshop in San Angelo and has brought back much needed information on cemetery preservation. Linda also represented HCHC at the annual Hector Family Cemetery Association meeting in San Marcos recently. Additionally, Linda brought back a certificate for Jim Cullen as an Honorary member of the Hector Family Cemetery Association.
 - b. The Historical Texas Cemetery designation application was (at long last) submitted to THC this month for Kyle Family Pioneer Cemetery. Now that the learning curve has been turned on the process, expect more of these applications this summer, including for Cementerio del Rio, Coronado, and Cocke Cemeteries.
 - c. Cementerio del Rio is sporting some new fenceline which is (finally) keeping cattle out. And we have contracted with Texas Parks & Wildlife stone conservator Don Hudson to level and re-mount the four large Woodmen of the World tombstones there (to be completed within 90 days). Funding help will come from Hays County Commissioner Debbie Ingalsbe.
 - d. HCHC groundskeeping continues at Cocke, Coronado, Byrd Owen-Payne, and—most recently—Gatlin-Garrett (Storm Ranch) Cemeteries. More large tombstones will soon be righted at Byrd Owen-Payne.
7. Web Site Committee Report
 - a. Richard Kidd
 - i. nothing new to report – up to 15,000 views
8. Scenic and Historic Roads Committee Report
 - a. Linda Keese– could not be here –
 - i. told Kate there are a lot more historic roads than she thought – in progress
9. Old County Jail
 - a. Kate Johnson – took down the old tree from beside the building and another tree by the garage – trumpet vines have been killed. There will be test pits done next to the building – Sparks engineering seemed in pretty good shape but the roof concerned him. He will come out again and test the foundation and look at a roof. The contract is in progress – waiting to hear back from a consultant then it will go back through the commissioners court – lamarr asked Sherri to write up something to get some publicity – ask for people to bring photos to help with restoration. Coming along – Kate has not spoken with bob barton – but daughter-in-law will be in town and is close to Rober Redford (helping to design his house)... Kate expects to talk to Robert Redford – born in Austin – great grandfather was a Bugg as a sheriff of hays county... street on the east side of SM – Kate understands that at the original talks of the restoration that he was interested.

12 Jack Hays Documentary

Richard Kidd – did not have a report last month –project really got started with the trip to California – Kate made the comment that the life story of Jack Hayes is missing. Producing Captain Jack – The Story of John Coffee Hays – from arrival to meeting with Sam Houston to election and onto California. Richard found a book to that title written by Gene Shelton living in Sulphur Springs and has done a lot

of research – Richard asked to use the title – Mr. Shelton asked to write the script and submitted two weeks ago. The crew went to Round Top to begin filming the documentary. Several homes that matched the time period were located in a park in Round Top and the commission was granted access to the buildings. The crew basically took over Round top for 2 days. Several shots were achieved like the shot of the office of Sam Houston meeting with Jack and a meeting with Colonel Taylor. They also were able to shoot the engagement with Susan, and running for office in San Francisco. Richard tracked down a man who works for TX Parks and Wildlife who is a historical presenter on the side he rounded up the re-enactors with all period appropriate clothes/etc. His name is Scott Mclellan. Now moving to this coming weekend – Sat- Monday: Objectives: Complete the rest of principal photography – attack on Monterrey , wagon trains heading west , running along buggy with Susan, walker creek Indian fight. The shooting Sat/Sun – at Halofax Ranch – Monday at Rutherford Ranch – all Indian battle there. Richard recruited high school age boys from Wimberley in Rodeo association. They will be riding bareback in full Indian attire. All Texas Rangers will be firing Patterson colts, etc. last scene to be shot found the full size print from the photo that was given to San Francisco – taken by Matthew Brady – dated 1857 – shot at Brady studio in Washington. Harvard University now has the photo. The last scene will be taken walking into Brady's studio. The documentary will last about 30 minutes and will be distributed to schools in Hays County, Ranger Museum, or basically anyone who wants to use it. County commissioners have put support and money behind the project. There is a process of raising funds... compensating re-enactors... paying for most of the crew (crew of 8 people), special effects stunt coordinator to do all the fight the sequences. The belief is it will have a lot of interest. We are hopeful for more sponsor like HEB or someone like that. Kate has been working for weeks to pull all the pieces to get this done. All footage looks great. The goal is to get edited and finished by early fall (1st of October) and show at fundraisers for county jail project and possibly shown in jail if turned into a museum. 1830 – 1840

Shelli has been contacting folks for PR. The Austin American Statesman, etc.

Samual Walker credited for the Walker Colt – famous handgun – Battle of Walker Creek engraved on handle. If you google Walker Creek – all of what you see in the website - is what you would see in the documentary.

Kate contacted an antique store in San Francisco and found a map of California signed by the Surveyor General of California Jack Hays dated 1854. They offered a discount of \$1275 purchased for the museum. The land office has signed documents from Jack Hays – 1846 mapped – Jack Taylor/Jack Hayes.

Richard to forward pictures from the original shoot to the committee.

13. Historical News from towns in Hays County

Reprinted brochures of Hays County

Wimberley Institute of Cultures is doing an evening tour of the Alamo – bus tour from Wimberley – July 16th must make RSVN by the 5th

Inn Above Onion Creek – owned by John and Janie Orr – bout 500 acres about 15 years ago – looked at Kuykendahl house but was in too poor of condition – looked everywhere. So they built the inn... Emily Lou designed two main buildings

14. Adjourn - LaMarr Peterson moved Jim Cullen seconded – unanimously approved 7:59