

Hays County Historical Commission  
Thursday September 23, 2010  
Home of Ed & Bonnie Longcope  
833 Belvin St., San Marcos

Chairman Kate Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:23 pm with (members) Linda Coker, Jim Cullen, Bonnie Eissler, Mary Giberson, Dorothy Gumbert, Betty Harrison, Shelley Henry, Linda Keese, LaMarr Petersen, Ofelia Vasquez-Philo and eleven quests present. Our next meeting will be October 28 at the John O'Quinn Ranch in Wimberley.

Special recognition was given to Patrick McAfee for his Eagle Scout project work completed on the Burn's son grave in the Phillips cemetery. There is a link at our HCHC website. His parents, Scott & Pam McAfee were present to accept the award.



Jim Cullen moved to accept August 28, 2010 minutes. Dorothy Gumbert seconded. Motion passed.

Richard Kidd was out of town so Chairman Johnson announced the Buck Winn video was finished up 38 minutes - to 1950 and was full of life...funny at times - a wonderful film. At our next meeting we might be able to see the finished product. Buck Winn's sculpture at Aquarena Springs in peril. It declared unsafe at this time. The whirling fountain constructed by Winn has been destroyed. Texas

State wants the sculpture moved or it will take it down as they clear the peninsula.

Betty Harrison reported she is in finale stages of getting Jacob's Well marker approved. It is down to an apostrophe. Window for markers is open now - from September 1 to November 15. One person from Wimberley has expressed an interest in applying for a marker. Ofelia would like to apply for one for the old Southside School. HCHC has funding for one marker and it might qualify for other funding.



Bonnie Eissler reported that Oral History did not have their meeting with Dr. McCormick of Buda as planned because he had to have surgery on his neck. It is on hold until he recovers. He delivered all the babies in Buda. They received a Thanks you from the Cochran family expressing their appreciation for the event held in June...his oral history video for family and friends attending Mr. Cochran's memorial service in Dripping Springs. World War II project: Linda Coker contacted San Marcos VFW. Bonnie contacted Dripping Springs VFW. We are compiling a list of people to interview and hope to begin soon.

Scenic-By-Ways committee has been caught up with scenic Aquarena Springs for Linda Keese. Ran into James Harkins, Outreach Manager of Archives & Records at Texas General Land Office in Corpus Christi at the Texas Coastal Expo on July 24. He offered to help with anything he could and also directed us to Texas State Geology Dept. Research and writing the article to publicize the fate of Winn's sculpture that remains at Aquarena has taken recent spare time. With the article due to be published in Sunday's San Marcos Daily Record there may be time to devote to By-Ways. Peninsula is to be cleared out, but there might be some wiggle room in the plan to leave the floral sculpture in place at the boardwalk trail head if we bring some publicity to its plight. The name to call is Mike Abbott 245-6652 or Andy Samson at the Rivercenter 245-9200.

Web Site problems with photos on web site had no release forms. Photos now up have been officially released by the photographers or owners.

Old Hays County Jail Bids were received with \$169,311 the lowest followed by \$320,000. The lowest was chosen and the company went with a letter of credit for their bond. They will hopefully start November 1 after getting a permit from the San Marcos Preservation Commission. Mark Kennedy will try to get the item on their agenda quickly. Kids are coming into the jail and drinking at night. We need to start soon to help board it up. It has been started and stopped for years by many organizations. Chairman Johnson would like to kick off the start of construction with a champagne toast.

Jim Cullen reported the Cementerio del Rio designation as a Historic Texas Cemetery has been filed at the Hays County Clerk's office in deed records and the filing information returned to THC. The final step in that process will be a THC issued certificate of designation, expected soon. We will try to have a marker application on this cemetery this year.

The Hays County Road Dept. did spend time at Antioch Cemetery this past week, removing all dead trees as requested and approved by county commissioners. We will honor a commitment to the cemetery association to mow and trim on a one-time basis.

Historic Texas Cemetery designations for both Cocke Cemetery, now Carpenter-Cocke, and Antioch Cemetery will be sent to THC soon.

We are buying 100 feet of old-fashioned double-loop fencing for restoration work from a Montopolis fence company who makes it. We will have another Buda-area Eagle Scout working on restoration at Coronado Cemetery this Saturday.

Ed and Bonnie Longcope were introduced. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 6:52 pm.

The Longcopes said Civilia (a Cock twin) and Joseph Earnest built the home in 1892. The couple never had any children so their willied the home to their niece Mary, who married Irvin Rylander in their house and who cared for Civilia after Joe died. The Longcopes are only the third family to own the home. They lived across the street and purchased the home when Mrs. Rylander died. Ed went over to the house to make sure there was room for a tennis court before he agreed to buy it in 1957. The back yard was a total jungle at the time, but once cleared, there was plenty of room for both a pool and a tennis court! The room where we gathered was originally a screened porch, which they made sun room and eventually fully enclosed.. The Longcopes rebuilt the Mansard roof and front porch, which was removed by the Rylanders. They also restored the two bedrooms on the second floor, which had been converted to a ballroom by the Rylanders. An upstairs master suite was added over the kitchen and enclosed back porch. All this restoration was begun in 1977. Our gracious hosts invited us to wander around the house and enjoy the antiques before dinner.



Submitted for corrections and/or omissions,  
Linda Keese, Recording Secretary