

HAYS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION



Wednesday, October 26, 2016
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Umphrey
720 Bluffview Drive
Wimberley, Texas 78676

The October 26, 2016, meeting of the Hays County Historical Commission (HCHC) was called to order at 6:15 pm by Chairman Kate Johnson. A quorum was met as the following members were present: Eric Beckers, Linda Coker, Luanne Cullen, Cathy Dillon, Robert Frizzell, Eddie Gumbert, Dorothy Gumbert, Shelley Henry, Carmen Imel, Kate Johnson, Richard Kidd, Jo Landon, SarahAnn Lowther, Jerry Moore, Trisha Randow, Ralph Randow, and Ofelia Vásquez-Philo. Five guests also attended.

1. **Announcements**—Kate Johnson thanked the hosts Mr. and Mrs. Walter Umphrey for allowing the HCHC to meet at their Wimberley home. She presented the book, *Clear Springs and Limestone Ledges*, as well as all of our documentaries that showcase the history of Hays County to the Umphrey's foreman, Emil DuBois.
2. **Vote on accepting minutes from August 25, 2016**—Carmen Imel moved to accept the minutes; Jo Landon seconded the motion. The motion passed.
3. **Kyle Depot Committee**—Trisha Randow reported that the opening of the Depot on September 24 and 25 was a huge success with about 150 people attending on the VIP Opening and the Grand Opening. The depot is open every Sunday afternoon from 1:00-5:00 pm and the second Saturday of each month during Kyle Market Days. She complimented the Hays County Master Gardeners and Kyle Garden Club for planting and maintaining plants in the flower beds. Two restored railway baggage carts and two more benches had been received. She mentioned upcoming events, such as the Center Street Trick or Treat; the 100th Anniversary of the Depot on February 11, 2017. Projects included the repair of the concrete indentions, fencing between the tracks and the depot, and the preparation for a Historical Marker.
4. **Flowers, Shrubs, & Trees Report**—No report was available.

5. **Cemetery Committee Report**—Jo Landon said that Jerry Borcharding (Head of the Hays County Road Department) had been in touch with Perry Settemeyer and was continuing to determine if the county can help with maintenance of the Pitts Cemetery. The application fee and marker fees for the medallion with name and date had been received by the State Historical Commission for the Coronado Cemetery.
6. **Hispanic Committee Report**—Ofelia Vásquez-Philo reported that various classes would be offered at the Centro Cultural Hispano de San Marcos, including fine art and conversational Spanish. A workshop had also been offered on constructing altars for Día de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead). She also shared information about interview sessions for employment at the new Amazon distribution center in San Marcos. The annual social for the Amigas de Centro would be held on Saturday, December 10. She and other members discussed access to the Cementerio del Rio and concerns about the homes that were built near it.
7. **Historical Marker Committee Report**—Luanne Cullen read the report provided by Marie Bassett. The Miss Lillie Dobie’s House RTHL (Recorded Texas Historical Landmark) ceremony in Wimberley on August 29 was successful due to the participation of Judge Bert Cobb, the attendance of Sarah McCleskey of the THC, participation of HCHC members, and the organization of activities by Cookie Hagemeyer of the Wimberley Village Store. The Wimberley-Hughes House RTHL ceremony would take place on November 5 at 2:00 pm. A large turnout of Hughes’ descendants was expected. The house would be on view as would several family artifacts. The 2017 marker-application-submission window would be open until November 15 but submissions needed to be approved by Marie as HCHC Marker Chairman. The Kyle Family Pioneer Cemetery application was resubmitted as was the one for the Coronado Cemetery name plaque which should be going to Jo Landon. Work was underway on a marker for Stringtown.
8. **Courthouse Committee Report**—Linda Coker reported that tours had been provided to the Georgetown Main Street Board and a tour group from San Antonio that the Convention and Visitors’ Bureau had arranged. The “Texas State Family Weekend Wine Walk” was a big hit as all 400 tickets had been sold. The “San Marcos Main Street Wine and Wassail Walk” would be on Friday, November 11th from 5:30-8:30 and would also include 400 tickets. “Leader San Marcos” started and ended their History and Heritage Day at the Courthouse, and HCHC sponsored breakfast. They were then given the tour, inside by Linda Coker and the outside by Rodney Van Ouderkerke. On November 19, the HCHC is co-sponsoring a program at the San Marcos Library, “Courthouses of Central Texas” on Saturday, November 19 at 3:00 p.m. Architect and author Brantley Hightower would talk about the development of the Texas county courthouses including the role our own Hays County Courthouse played in that story. This year Santa would be in the Courthouse again on the four Saturdays between Thanksgiving and Christmas from 10:00-2:00. Flyers would be going out to SMCISD and Hays CISD Pre-K, K, 1st and 2nd graders. The Courthouse and San Marcos Lighting

Ceremony would be on Saturday, November 26 starting at 5:30. Also, she said that the windows at the courthouse were to be restored.

9. **History of Ranching Report**—Richard Kidd said that the documentary would follow the mural from the time that Buck Winn created it until now. Many interviews have taken place and plans were made to interview the restorers of the mural sections that have been purchased by HCHC.
10. **Adjourn**—Carmen Imel moved that the meeting adjourn; Jim Cullen seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. Supper followed.

Respectfully submitted,
Luanne P. Cullen, HCHC Secretary
(photos courtesy of Jim Cullen)



