

HAYS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION



**Thursday, August 25, 2016
The Old Mill
101 Uhland Road
San Marcos, Texas 78666**

The August 25, 2016, meeting of the Hays County Historical Commission (HCHC) was called to order by Chairman Kate Johnson at 6:14 p.m. A quorum was met as the following members were present: Delbert Bassett, Marie Bassett, Luanne Cullen, Robert Frizzell, Irma Gaitan, Eddie Gumbert, Dorothy Gumbert, Shelley Henry, Carmen Imel, Mark Jackson, Kate Johnson, Jo Landon, SarahAnn Lowther, Jerry Moore, Trisha Randow, and Ralph Randow. Three guests also attended.

Announcements—Kate Johnson introduced her husband, Bill Johnson, and thanked him for his support of the HCHC. She asked Luanne Cullen to remind the members about the various upcoming conferences and workshops that they could attend—the National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference in Houston, the National Preservation Institute’s *Cemetery Preservation* and *Cemetery Landscapes* seminars in Austin, and the Texas Association of Museums *Blueprint for Success* in Waco. Kate also said that the next meeting of HCHC would be held in Wimberley on September 22.

1. **Vote on accepting minutes from June 23, 2016**—Dorothy Gumbert moved to accept the minutes; Jerry Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed.
2. **History of Ranching Documentary**—Kate said that Larry Boettigheimer of Dallas (previous owner of our Winn murals) might be interviewed for the documentary as well as another mural section owner in Florida.
3. **Kyle RR Depot & Heritage Center Report**—Trisha Randow said that she had attended the Preservation Texas *On the Right Track* session in Marshall, Texas with several other HCHC members and complimented Kate on her presentation about the Kyle Depot. Plans for the Depot include having the grand opening on September 25 with a VIP reception on September 24; being open each Sunday from 1:00-5:00 and on Kyle Market Days from 9:00-12:00; having the Hays County Master Gardeners plant flowers in the beds on September 12; finalizing the logo created by Henry Blas; and beginning the application process for a historical marker.
4. **Hays County Arts Committee**—Kate said that the deadline for the RFP (request for proposal) for the Buck Winn Murals project had arrived and that a total of

- three bids had been received (from California, Pennsylvania, and Dallas). A selection will be made in September and the restoration should begin this fall.
5. **Cemetery Committee Report**—Jo Landon said that the Duran Cemetery had been cleaned and its description on the website had been updated. The Antioch Cemetery and the Cocke Cemetery had each received the HTC (Historic Texas Cemetery) designation and had been registered at the courthouse. An HTC application had been submitted for the Cheatham Cemetery, and the Byrd Owen Payne Cemetery had been mowed. The request for county maintenance for the Pitt Cemetery had been sent but a reply had not been received.
 6. **Flowers, Shrubs & Trees Report**—Delbert Bassett said that a Heritage Oak in Buda is in a location where the new city hall is to be built. Buda City Council is considering a proposal to move the tree to another location rather than cutting it down. A sign to recognize the Hays County Master Gardeners and Kyle Garden Club for their work in planting and maintaining the flower beds around the Kyle Depot will be placed in one of the flower beds. The Committee is in the process of writing a description for the Burleson Oak marker application and also an application to the Texas Forest Service seeking its designation as a Famous Tree of Texas. Marie and Delbert are working with the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center to compile a more in-depth history of the Famous Trees of Texas which is part of the Center's Arboretum. Jerry Moore mentioned that the Young Camp Judea in Wimberley has a building with native plants growing on its roof.
 7. **Historical Marker Committee Report**—Marie Bassett reported that the unveiling of the Miss Lillie Dobie's House marker would be held at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, August 29 at 450 River Road in Wimberley. Plans are being made for the Wimberley-Hughes (Zach) House marker unveiling in conjunction with the WIC meeting on September 19. The marker committee was also working on the application for a Stringtown marker and possibly for a Kyle Depot marker. Bob Brinkman of the THC called to say he had received a call from the DA's office concerning a historical marker that had been reported as damaged on January 20 and asked if she could check out the marker and let him know if a replacement was needed. She did not see any damage when she found the three possible markers in the vicinity of the Old Bastrop Highway and RR 80.
 8. **Hispanic Committee Report**—Luanne Cullen reported for Ofelia Vásquez-Philo who was ill. The 6th anniversary celebration of the Centro Cultural Hispano de San Marcos would be held on Saturday, September 24. The Centro's summer programs were successful, and they were especially pleased that the Little Engineer's Program had more than 80 children participate. Fall classes are beginning which include piano, art, folklorico, and more.
 9. **Courthouse Committee Report**—no report was available.
- Adjourn**—Eddie Gumbert moved that the meeting adjourn; Carmen Imel seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m. After the meeting, Kate introduced Henry J. Oles, owner of the Old Mill who described the history of the mill and the railroad cars. HCHC members were invited to tour the railroad cars which included two sleeping cars, a dining car, a caboose, and boxcars used for storage. Supper followed the tour.

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

