

HAYS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION



Friday, October 17, 2014
Paula and Jim Sacks
9385 North I -35
New Braunfels, Texas 78130-7202

The October 17, 2014, meeting of the Hays County Historical Commission was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Chairman Kate Johnson. A quorum was met as the following commission members were present: Delbert Bassett, Marie Bassett, Sue Cohen, Linda Coker, Jim Cullen, Luanne Cullen, Bonnie Eissler, Betty Harrison, Shelley Henry, Carmen Imel, Kate Johnson, Jo Landon, SarahAnn Lowther, Jerry Moore, Clemmie New, Joe New, and Ralph Randow. Seven guests also attended.

Announcements—Kate Johnson announced that the next HCHC meeting would be held on December 11, 2014, at the home of Diana Baker in San Marcos. No meeting would be held in November. Kate also presented copies of the six HCHC documentaries as well as the book *Clear Springs and Limestone Ledges* to the hostess, Paula Sacks.

1. **Vote on accepting minutes from September 25, 2014**—Jerry Moore moved to accept the minutes from the September meeting; Delbert Bassett seconded the motion. Motion passed.
2. **Kyle Depot**—Kate Johnson reported that the Kyle Depot Board was discussing the last phase of the restoration. Construction would begin in the second week of November and would finish in late January. She asked for additional oral histories to be recorded and names could be given to Bonnie Eissler. Kate also said that volunteers would be needed to assist with the museum.
3. **Oral History Committee Report**—Bonnie Eissler reported that a meeting had been held at Sue Cohen's home the previous day to add photos to the essay on Ofelia Vásquez-Philo and to work on the completion of Bill Pennington's essay. These essays will be added to the website for others to access.
4. **Cemetery Committee Report**—Jim Cullen reported that the Eagle Scout project had begun for Antioch Cemetery and that proposals would be presented to Minnie Harper and Winnie Harper Moyer. On Saturday, October 18, the cemetery committee was scheduled to visit various cemeteries in southern Hays County including Pitt, Holmes, Nichols, Bading, York Creek, Hernandez, Hector, Long Branch, and Cementerio del Rio.
5. **Ecology Committee Report**—Delbert Bassett reported that the large trees on FM 967 west of Buda would be saved from cutting by the road widening project.

- Mostly hackberry trees were removed. The crack in the Auction Oak in Kyle was getting larger so further help would be needed to stabilize it. He also gave a quick recap of the sessions he had attended at the General Land Office's *Save Texas History* symposium in September. He noted that the term "Native Americans" was changed to "American Indians."
6. **Historical Marker Committee Report**—Betty Harrison reported that we had received the text for the Barbee House and that it had been sent back to THC. She had also received a request for a subject marker for the Calhoun Ranch.
 7. **Hispanic Committee Report**—Luanne Cullen reported for Ofelia Vásquez-Philo that a fundraiser would be held on Sunday, October 19 at 2:00 to benefit the Centro Cultural Hispano Hispano. Zumba activities would be offered at the gym of the Centro at \$10 per person. Also, on November 2, festivities would be held at the Centro to highlight Día de los Muertos. Luanne mentioned that the reason Ofelia was not present at the HCHC meeting was because she was being recognized at the new San Marcos High School stadium as a voting campaign director who helped to get the bond passed to build the stadium. She was honored by sitting in the press box with the school board members and by being recognized on the field.
 8. **Courthouse Committee Report**—Linda Coker said that on Saturday, Oct. 18, another Foodstock event would be held to support the Hays County Food Bank. Also on the same day, the San Marcos Heritage Association would be having their Cemetery Walk in the San Marcos Cemetery from 3:00-5:00 p.m. and that tickets were available for HCHC members. She also asked for volunteers at the November 14 *Wine and Wassail Walk* that would include the Courthouse Museum. HCHC members who assisted would receive tickets to participate in the *Walk*. On the previous Tuesday, Leadership San Marcos had their heritage day which included tours of the courthouse and museum.
 9. **Cultural Arts Committee for Government Center**—Kate Johnson reported that over 100 people had attended the opening and that the artwork would be on display for up to four months. She thanked Linda Coker for creating the brochure for the evening and for printing and installing the information labels that were beside each work of art. She also thanked Linda Allen for catering the event. A fundraiser to help with the purchase of the Buck Winn murals was in planning stages and could possibly be held at Kevin Fowler's ranch. About \$20,000 is needed to complete the purchase of the murals.
- Adjourn**—Delbert Bassett moved that the meeting adjourn; Jo Landon seconded the motion. Motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

After the meeting, Paula Sacks described her house as the former Buda depot which was moved in sections to the current location. HCHC members were invited to tour the depot home and its four cabooses that are used as guest houses and the Baby Sacks business showroom. Supper followed the tours.

Respectfully submitted,
Luanne P. Cullen, HCHC Secretary

[Please see the following photo collage. Photos courtesy of Jim Cullen]

