

## HAYS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION



**Thursday, March 24, 2016**  
**The Meadows Center for Water & the Environment**  
**Conference Room #107**  
**201 San Marcos Springs Drive**  
**San Marcos, Texas 78666**

Prior to the March 24, 2016, meeting of the Hays County Historical Commission (HCHC), members and guests were provided the opportunity to ride on the glass-bottomed boats and hear about the history of the springs and lake. After the boat ride, the meeting was called to order at 6:49 p.m. by Chairman Kate Johnson. A quorum was met as the following members were present: Delbert Bassett, Marie Bassett, Eric Beckers, Linda Coker, Jim Cullen, Luanne Cullen, Cathy Dillon, Robert Frizzell, Mimi Gaitan, Eddie Gumbert, Dorothy Gumbert, Shelley Henry, Carmen Imel, Mark Jackson, Melody Jaramio, Kate Johnson, Richard Kidd, Jo Landon, SarahAnn Lowther, Jerry Moore, Karen Moore, Trisha Randow, Ralph Randow, Ofelia Vásquez-Philo, and Charlie Willis. One guest also attended.

**Announcements**—Kate Johnson announced that the next HCHC meeting would be held on April 28, 2016, outside of Wimberley. Because only one person had registered to attend the County Historical Commission orientation in April, she asked any others who were interested in attending the workshop in Rockport at the Fulton Mansion to see her after the meeting.

1. **Vote on accepting minutes from February 25, 2016**—Jerry Moore moved to accept the minutes; SarahAnn Lowther seconded the motion. Motion passed.
2. **Historic Kyle RR Depot**—Kate said that after the City of Kyle signs the user agreement and our architects (Clayton and Little) and our contractor (Spawglass) sign off the project, our new Kyle Depot committee will begin having meetings to plan for the future of the Depot and for the restoration of the caboose. She had met with two senior officials from the City of Kyle and believed they had agreed on several points and was waiting for approval from the City of Kyle.
3. **History of Ranching Documentary**—Richard Kidd said that the History of Ranching Documentary had a slow start due to people not being available for interviews, etc. He planned to have a schedule for interviews in the next week.

and was continuing to work on the script. Also, he would be showing the video of the Kyle Depot to MOCHA (Manchaca-Onion Creek Historical Association) on April 2 at 11:00 a.m.

4. **Cemetery Committee Report**—Jo Landon said that the Eagle Scout, Crispin Lyman, was leading a small group of boys in working at the Antioch Cemetery for a school community service project to plant trees. According to County Commissioner Mark Jones, the County was doing a survey to mark the right-of-way on Old Black Colony Road. Improvements are being discussed for this roadway in the future. According to Carlyn Hammons (Cemetery Preservation Program Specialist), the status of HTC Designation would be addressed in about two months. A clean-up day was scheduled for Saturday, April 16, at the Perry Cemetery in Driftwood.
5. **Flowers, Shrubs & Trees Report**—Delbert Bassett reported that he had seen the Kyle Auction Oak after stabilization work had taken place. Three tons of wood materials had been removed to ease the stress on the branches, the roots had been aerated, and screws had been inserted to be able to measure future splitting. Kate and Eric Beckers had some of the old wood from the Kyle Auction Oak and invited discussion as how the wood could be used. The Kyle Depot flower beds had roses blooming but water access was still needed outside for further plantings. Jim Cullen asked about the issue of the old oak trees possibly being removed due to widening of Main Street. Delbert said he would look into that issue.
6. **Historical Marker Committee Report**—Marie Bassett said that the scripts for the Miss Lillie Dobie’s House and the Wimberley-Hughes House arrived the previous week from THC. They were distributed to all interested parties which resulted in a great deal of discussion on their content. As soon as there is consensus, they will go back to THC for their take on the changes.
7. **Hispanic Committee Report**—Ofelia Vásquez-Philo said that a group will attend the SMCISD school board on March 28 to ask for assurance that the Centro Cultural Hispano de San Marcos would be allowed to remain at its current location on Lee Street for 25 more years. Linda Coker suggested sending a letter of support from the HCHC. Ofelia also reminded members of the Annual Cinco de Mayo luncheon to be held on Thursday, May 5 at the Cuauhtemoc Hall, 1100 Patton St. in San Marcos. Tickets cost \$10 each.
8. **Courthouse Committee Report**—Linda Coker said that the ArtSquared and Corndog Festival held on the courthouse grounds were successful. A group from the Hood County Historical Commission visited on March 18. Mayor Daniel Guerrero would read a proclamation on April 5 stating that General Burluson Day would be held on April 21, which is also the 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of San Jacinto. She expected many fourth-grade students to tour the courthouse in April for their study of local history. Other events in April included the Brew Hop on April 1 as part of the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Swing Festival on April 1-3; and the Wine and Art Walk on April 29 (volunteers were needed) with the Heritage Association of San Marcos’ Home tour that weekend. The Facebook page and email were bringing research requests. The remaining copies of the DVDs of Ofelia Vásquez-Philo’s Oral History were sold at her tribute at Texas State University on February 26, and Richard Kidd made more to replenish the supply. The Sons of

the American Revolution would be using our original inscription pages to try to identify any graves of soldiers that could have participated in the American Revolution or the War of 1812. HCHC member Jerry Moore would be working in our area. The Chamber of Commerce would be hosting the Annual Luau on April 23 and would be offering a \$1000 raffle. Another call for art was going out for works to be exhibited at the Hays County Government Center in San Marcos.

9. **Community announcements:** Cathy Dillon spoke about the proposal to develop the land occupied by the Lamar School between Hutchinson and Burleson Streets near the historic district. The development proposed would include a hotel, apartments, parking garages, and more. She encouraged members to attend the meeting on April 12 at City Hall to support those who are opposed to the development.

**Adjourn**—SarahAnn Lowther moved that meeting adjourn; Ofelia Vásquez-Philo seconded the motion. Motion passed, and the meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m. After the meeting, supper was served.

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

