

HARRISON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

January 12th 2023

The Harrison County Historical Commission (HCHC) is the county agency in Harrison County, Texas for historic preservation. Its mission is to assist the commissioners' court and the Texas Historical Commission (THC) in the preservation of our county's historical and cultural resources and to protect and preserve the county's historic and pre-historic resources for the use, education, enjoyment and economic benefit of present and future generations.

Members Present: Barbara Judkins, Richard Magrill, Rose Mary Magrill, Steve McFarland, Bill Elliot, Audrey Kariel, Susan Speers, Robert Wood, Steve Horton, and Marty Vaughan.

Visitor(s) Present:

I. Call to Order

Barbara Judkins, vice chair, called the Zoom meeting to order on January 12th 2023 at 1:35 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the Zoom meeting of November 10th 2022 were approved.

III. County Budget Report

Barbara Judkins reported that \$261.15 had been spent of the county budget of \$5,000 leaving a balance of \$4,738.85. Cherry Fisher reported that the Friends accounts as of 12-31-22 are: General \$6,565.29 and Greenwood \$8,022.75. (The Friends balances are the result of small amounts of interest added and \$50 spent from General for franchise tax.)

IV. The standing committee reports are as follows:

A. Archaeology

Barbara Judkins shared Tom Speir's report that the expansion of I-20 from FM450 to SH43 will include an archaeological study of the right of way by the Burns and

McDonnell Company. Jesse Todd is the archeologist who will be doing much of the work.

We must advise them of any known historic sites on the proposed route. (FYI, they are looking for a good backhoe operator with a backhoe to assist them.)

We have two other sites that are still pending: the Fields Family site, and a natural spring in Gregg County.

B. Archives and Historic Survey

No report.

C. Cemeteries

Barbara Judkins reported that we got a call from a Mrs. Smith who was looking for information on her grandfather's burial at Golden Hill Cemetery. Bill Elliot is looking into that for her.

We got the following message from Jessica Martin about Lillie Hill Cemetery: "I was able to finally make contact with a member of the congregation at Lillie Hill this morning. He said that he has actually tried to clean up the cemetery many times in past years but was always unable to gather enough help to accomplish the job. We also spoke about applying for a historical marker. He said that many of their church records have been lost over the years. We will try to help them with a Historic Texas Cemetery designation.

We got word that the Woodlawn Cemetery marker has been received, but for some reason the pole was shipped separately.

In the general Marshall area, Bill Elliot reported, that we have 286 Civil War Veterans buried at various cemeteries.

Bill also reported that the tombstone for Judge J.B. Williamson, donated by Marshall Monument, has been received. Ann Brannon located him in an unmarked grave in Greenwood Cemetery. (Since he was in the 6th Battalion of the Texas State Troops, rather than the CSA Troops, the VA would not issue a marker.)

Ann did secure a VA tombstone for Theodore P. Hawley. Securing it was made harder because records have him listed as dying as a POW at Camp Douglas in Chicago, Illinois!

In reality, T.P. Hawley came home in 1863 and lived a successful life as a Marshall citizen.

Hawley was born near Natchez, Mississippi on November 24th 1837 and came to Texas in 1843. The 1850 census shows the Hawley Family in Marshall with a total of 9 in their household. T.P. was shown as age 12 with 4 younger siblings. The 1860 census shows T.P. as age 23. T.P. joined Co. D, 7th Texas Infantry (part of Gregg's Regiment) on

October 4th 1861 at age 24. The records show he supplied his own breech loading rifle and that he was on special assignment several times with the medical department in the apothecary service.

He also served with Captain John Gregg and also Gen. Maxey's Brigade in the 9th Texas Infantry. He stayed with the 9th for a long period but also was assigned for a period with the 1st Texas Cavalry mounted rifles also known as Yager's Mounted Rifles Cavalry.

T.P. was captured at Fort Donelson when it fell along with Co. D., 7th Texas on February 16th 1862 along with his brother Lee C. Hawley. They, along with most of the enlisted men, were sent to Camp Douglas in Chicago, Illinois where the winter of 1862 was terrible. T.P. was exchanged after being sent to Vicksburg after September of 1862. Lee however would stay at Camp Douglas and died there on March 15, 1863.

The Texas voter registration records show that T.P. registered to vote on January 31st 1868, which means he went thru all the parole and oaths of allegiance requirements that a Confederate Veteran had to go through to get his rights of voting returned during Reconstruction. The 1870 census shows T.P. in Jefferson with his brother Dan and mother Eliza serving as a hotel keeper.

After returning from the Civil War he ultimately entered journalism, in which he employed his talents at various times in both Marshall and Shreveport. In Marshall he was the editor of the *East Texas Bulletin* from 1873 to 1875, and the *Tri-Weekly Herald* from 1881 to November 1886. While editor of the *Herald*, he was elected mayor of Marshall and filled the office acceptably to the people.

He was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Sunday school superintendent and leader of the choir. He ranked high as a Mason at the time of his death, being Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Commandery of Texas. He had served six terms as Master of the Marshall Lodge No. 22, A.F. and A.M.; he was C. of H. in Marshall Chapter No. 198 and past E.C. of Gray Commandery, Knights Templar, and was past dictator of Mark's Lodge No. 1607, Knights of Honor. As a soldier of the "lost cause," a citizen, and a democratic journalist, he was faithful, active and capable.

A very involved life of service to his community for a veteran whose records show he died as a POW at Camp Douglas in Chicago!

As always Ann Brannon studied, worked and documented her findings and persuaded the VA to issue the VA tombstone. We salute Ann for her work!

D. Education

In a late report (January 25th) the winners of the 2023 Harrison County History Fair were reported in their respective categories by Barbara Cox, who said "We had a nice turnout; the projects were all very impressive!" This year's theme was "Frontiers in

History: People, Places and Ideas.” “We had a total of 20 projects,” said Barbara. “Seventeen were exhibits, two were documentaries, and one was a performance.”

Tucker McDonnell and Ryan McGuire were the first place winners in the group exhibit category for “The Evolution of Barbed Wire.” Second place was claimed by Emma Woodruff and Julian Shaw for “It’s a Texas Thing: Whataburger.”

Winning first place in the group performance category for their project titled “Texas Instruments vs. Micron Companies” were Kaitlyn Brown, Aiden Pilarowski, Kierstyn Chastain and Ashley Keith.

For the individual documentary category, Raven Bernoudy won first place for her project, “Mother of Modern Dance: Martha Graham and the American Modern Dance Revolution.” Second place winner was Zoey Beiza for her project on the Texas & Pacific Railroad. Raven, when hearing she had won first place in her category was “just so happy that I was beaming with joy and so excited to be moving on to the regional fair in Texarkana.”

E. Historical Markers

Barbara Judkins reported that the text for the Cooperville/Rosenwald School marker was submitted by the THC. The sponsor had one addition to be made, if possible, so that revision has been sent back to the THC.

The Undertold marker applications were submitted last fall, but they have yet to be ruled on by the THC.

Tom Speir met with Glenn Barnhart, manager for Marshall Memorial City Hall, Terrell Smith, Marshall city manager, and Randy Pritchard with the City to discuss the C.G. Lancaster marker which has been received. It has been decided that, rather than place the marker on the wall of the Memorial City Hall (structural concerns), the marker will instead be placed on a pole in the garden area near the Marshall City Hall front door. Updates will be coming regarding a dedication ceremony.

F. Harrison County Historical Museum/ Inez Hatley Hughes Research Library

No report except for new Hallsville exhibit at Memorial City Hall.

G. Information Technology

Barbara Judkins reported that progress has been made on the QR codes for some downtown historical markers. The texts for the James Farmer Jr. and the Boogie Woogie markers have been completed. The text for the Hub Shoe Store marker is nearly completed.

We are waiting for the County Information Technology director to create website locations for these files (Tom Speir met with him this past week. He is currently having to deal with beginning of the year issues, including newly elected officials who have to be granted access to the system.)

H. Oral History

Audry Kariel noted that her interview was done by Randi Leffall last autumn. Barbara Judkins suggested its delay in completion was probably due to the transcription process.

I. Preservation/Rosenwald Schools

Barbara Judkins reported that the Elysian Fields Community Improvement Association (EFCIA) is the group trying to re-purpose the old stone Elysian Fields school building. They have applied for 501(c)(3) status, which includes stating where their funds will go if they ever disband.

At the recommendation of County Judge Chad Sims, their Bylaws will state that those funds will be transferred to the Historical Commission, should they ever disband. No action is required by us.

We received a request for grant information from Mrs. Childress at the Childress Church at 403 East Burseson. We provided them with that information, including grants available specifically for African American Churches.

Barbara noted that Tom Speir reported that he is working with THC in Austin to find out how to get some Information Panels made for some property owners who want info presented in addition to the historical markers on their property. The Henry Ware House on Blocker Road sale fell through, so there is no progress there. Tom has spoken with the county Road and Bridge department, and they are going to work some more concrete into the Stagecoach Road roadbed to help stabilize it this year. There has been an inquiry about the old John Furrh house in Elysian Fields; that home never had any official marker.

J. Publications

No report.

K. Tourism

Steve McFarland reported that eight Third=Saturday weekends are already planned by the Marshall Regional Arts Council. Marshall is now certified as a “music friendly city.” There are about 40 cities state-wide so certified. We are exploring getting folks from El Paso involved. “We hope to have a little festival almost monthly. Fran

Hurley is working on this project and Jessica Harker, reporter for the *Marshall News Messenger* is also working with the effort.”

L. Goals

No Report.

M. Annual Preservation Awards

Barbara Judkins reported that we need nominations and that Tom Speir is still asking everyone to provide him with them by the end of January so we can confirm them in March and get the awards manufactured.

V. Partners in Preservation Reports

A. 1901 Courthouse

The group of architects from the Northeast Texas AIA Architecture and Design Exchange toured the 1901 Courthouse on December 1st 2022. “It was excellent and we received excellent feedback from them about the tour,” reported Christina Anderson.

B. Texas & Pacific Depot Museum

Robert Wood reported that the Depot is making progress on a very comprehensive plan. This plan is a very positive development and promises a lot of good for the Depot’s long term prospects. More details will be forthcoming. Finances are getting better and a fundraiser is being worked on by Christina Anderson.

C. Starr Family Home State Historic Site

Barbara Judkins reported that the front porch and steps are being replaced at the Starr Home Site.

D. Michelson Museum of Art

The Michelson is having its “For the Love of Art” fundraiser for Valentine’s Day in February 14th from 6:00-10:00 p.m. They are looking for sponsorships and auction items.

E. Historic Landmark Preservation Board (HLPB)

Jay Cariker presented the following report:

The Historic Landmark Preservation Board will return from its Wonderland recess for its regular meeting on Monday January 23 at 4pm. It will be the first time Véronique Ramirez joins the board as a voting

member. Vice-Chair Faye Whittaker is stepping down as Vice-Chair and a replacement will be selected. HLPB Chair Jay Carriker has an appointment for City Manager Terrell Smith on January 25.

Over the recess Chair Jay Carriker was notified about the forthcoming demolition of the Dogan School. HLPB Board member and preservation architect Tony Crosby and Marshall City Councilor and Dogan School alumnus Marvin Bonner met with Tom McClurg, Director of the Marshall Housing Authority, and proxy for the property owner Van Belafonte Friar. Mr. Crosby took a preliminary survey and photos of the property for preservation and Mr. Friar for a fuller survey before demolition. Mr. Bonner and Mr. Carriker discussed which elements of the building to salvage and preserve for future generations. The removal of the Dogan School sign letters and their donation to the Harrison County Historical Museum's collection was agreed upon. Other elements such as doors, window pieces, and the planter will be preserved based on the potential of the element and feasibility with the final design of the new housing. HLPB is hoping to work with the City and community to have a celebration of the Dogan School's legacy this year with speakers and an oral history collection opportunity. Plans are still early, but Mr. Carriker reached out to President of Wiley College, Herman J. Felton, to emcee the event but has not received a response. Tyler Mayor Pro-Tem and the first African-American woman to run for the US House 1st Congressional seat, Shirley J. McKellar, is interested in giving a regional perspective on M.W. Dogan's regional effect on education as she is an alumna of the M.W. Dogan school in Tyler. Other speakers would include local community leaders who attended Dogan.

Over the recess the board received multiple reports of plans to demolish the Wiley President's Home and the Sinclair Oil Station. Christina Anderson was able to confirm there are no current plans to demolish the Wiley President's Home and Lacy Burson was able to confirm that there have been no proposals to demolish the Sinclair Oil Station. Both properties are considered priorities for preservation and future landmark status.

City Manager Terrell Smith has asked for input on a new name for the pocket plaza on North Washington across from the Weisman Center from four city boards including HLPB. The Landmark Committee of HLPB met on January 11th and unanimously recommended the name Sam and Jean Birmingham Plaza. The plaza is at the heart of Marshall's

downtown district and the city is working to promote small businesses, history, and the arts. Sam and Jean Birmingham's legacies intersect with all three. It also fits the draft updated Historic Preservation Plan's goal of passively educating Marshall's population about its history by expanding the city's namescape to include more references to its history and embedding its heritage into its geography. Jay Carriker is working with the Harrison County Historical Commission on a historical marker for Sam Birmingham with a submission goal of 2024. The board would like to see this marker installed at the third entrance to the plaza on one side with a marker for Jean Birmingham to follow in 2032 on the opposite side of the entrance. This proposal will be presented to the full board for consideration at the January 23rd meeting.

The City Manager is holding on to HLPB's proposal to expand the Downtown Design district for the time being to create a unified plan for downtown and improved communication and coordination between boards.

The Kariel-Newlan Historic Properties Survey has been confirmed to still be in the Planning Department at City Hall and Lacy Burson and Jay Carriker are working to get permission to digitize the survey and re-issue it digitally for deposition with multiple libraries and institutions, including the Harrison County Historical Commission. The Kariel-Newlan survey will then be updated and incorporated into the new preservation plan. This will be particularly important given the loss of historic properties included on the survey such as the Pelz House, Dogan House, Sam Houston Oak, Hardy House, and Pemberton Tenement House.

HLPB continues to work on updating its bylaws and ordinance 32-A and hope to have it sent to the City Council for consideration by Spring 2023.

HLPB will consider issuing and renewing Certificates of Agreement (CoAs) for multiple projects of Marcial and Evelyn Avelar. These include renewing the CoAs for the Houston and Austin facades of the First National Bank Building and Bockmann Building, new CoAs for the Elks Building, Austin Shoe Building, Blissmoor Building, and Bradbury Buildings. A new salon owned by Sharon Pickett will be moving into the marquee bay on the N. Washington side of the Paramount, discussion of a CoA for changes to the facade were undertaken but no CoA will be required at this time. Unfortunately damage to the north facade of the Marshall National Bank Building's

brutalist slip has caused parts of it to crumble into the pocket plaza site. As the Marshall National Bank Building is considered a priority for preservation and landmarking, Historic Preservation Officer Lacy Burson is monitoring the situation.

Kim Ryan, the owner of 400 W. Houston (the Lewis Chevaillier House) reached out about the landmark status of her property. It is still designated a local landmark and despite architectural changes since its designation HLPB has no plans to revoke its status at this time. The landmarking process remains on hold until the bylaws and ordinance are updated.

HLPB will also formally request action be taken to remove the trees growing out of the city owned SWEPCO building which are destroying parts of the building. It is considered a priority and future candidate for state and national markers.

At the request of Thomas Speir, Jay Carriker is working on a summation of the state of HLPB's historic preservation efforts and suggested reforms which will be submitted to Audrey Kariel for consultation.

F. Others (Sabine Farms, T.C. Lindsey Store, Main Street, Pemberton Heritage Center, colleges/schools, etc.)

T.C. Lindsay Store. Marty Vaughan reported that the Store had three events in November/December and folks seemed to enjoy them. The store continues to carry an excellent inventory of local history including copies of the book on Concord Cemetery and Rose Mary Magrill's book on the Karnack area.

VI. Other

No report.

VII. Administrative

Barbara Judkins shared Tom Speir's report. Two more folding chairs were purchased for the office.

Membership renewals were submitted for nine organizations, including: Preservation Texas; East Texas Historical Association; Texas Archeological Society; Texas State Historical Association; Texas Oral History Association; American Association for State and Local History; Harrison County Historical Museum; Michelson Art Museum; and T&P Depot Museum

We are still awaiting a hard-copy membership renewal form from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. That will complete all membership renewals for 2023.

We received a “thank you” note from Jean Birmingham’s family: “She truly loved all of you,” it said. The memorial service for Jean at Wiley College was wonderful according to Marty Vaughan.

The roll of members for 2023-2024 was given out:

1. Chip Arledge

213B North Wellington Ave.
Marshall, TX 75670
205-602-9495

Chiparledge@att.net

etaia@att.net

6. Cherry Fisher

4446 Poplar St.
Marshall, TX 75672
903-903-0163

cherry.fisher@outlook.com

2. Scott Barmore

1907 Turtle Creek Dr.
Marshall, TX 75670
Fire Marshal, Marshall Fire Dept.
903-702-9479 cell
903-935-4580 office

barmore.scott@marshalltexas.net

7. Gerald Don Gibson

300 Albemarle Rd.
Marshall, Texas 75672

geraldgib@gmail.com

903-930-8677 Cell

3. Barbara Cox

605 Lakeview Dr. S
Marshall, TX 75672
903-926-0454 cell

barbarajune1981@gmail.com

8. Dinora Harris

6820 US Hwy 59 S
Marshall, TX 75672

dharris@michelsonmuseum.org

903 935-9480 office

903 407-6194 cell

4. Sharon Dews

2311 MCR 3612
Jefferson, TX 75657
903-926-8322 cell MHS

dewssk@marshallisd.com

sharondews@aol.com

9. Steve Horton

202 E. Merritt
Marshall, TX 75670
903-930-0253

s_horton2915@sbcglobal.net

s_horton_ornot@yahoo.com

5. William M. “Bill” Elliott

304 Fairview St.
Marshall, TX 75672-7727
903-938-5730 home
903-263-9092 cell

10. Barbara Judkins

Starr Family State Historical Site
407 West Travis St.
Marshall, TX 75670
214-766-2616

Barbara.Judkins@thc.texas.gov

11. Audrey D. Kariel

C/o Nancy Kariel
6358 Bandera, Unit B
Dallas, TX 75225
903-935-5387

marshallaandl@aol.com

12. Randi Leffall

13189 FM 31
Marshall, TX 75672
310-259-6571

wltexasboys92@gmail.com

13. Dr. Rose Mary Magrill

203 Pitts Avenue
Marshall, TX 75672
903-935-6609

rmmagrill@gmail.com

14. Richard Magrill

500 Miller
Marshall, TX 75672
903-923-0981
901-292-1160 cell

richardmagrill@att.net

15. Roy Jack McCarroll

9668 FM 134
Karnack, TX 75661
903-926-5746 cell

roy.jack.mccarroll@gmail.com

16. Steven R. McFarland

P.O. Box 533
Marshall, Texas 75671
903-926-1553

StevenMcFarland1961@gmail.com

17. Helen G. Murray

4612 FM 1186
DeBerry, TX 75639
hgmurray@prodigy.net
903-935-9961 home
713-376-6325 cell

18. Veronique Ramirez

210 Saint Francis St. B
Marshall, TX 75670
210-537-2398
veroniqueram87@gmail.com

19. Thomas Richardson

P.O. Box 83
Hallsville, TX 75650
903-668-3230
thomashollandrichardson@hotmail.com

20. Thomas Speir

P.O. Box 8396
Marshall, TX 75671
903-930-7468
tespeir@yahoo.com

21. Marty Vaughan

P.O. Box 141
Jonesville, TX 75659
903-407-2443
mlvaughan@shreve.net

22. Bea White

12836 FM 450 North
Harleton, TX 75651
903-777-2249
beawhitemh@msn.com

23. Robert Wood

2516 Holmes Rd

Marshall, TX 75672

903-930-5183

woodhome645@cobridge.tv

VIII. Adjournment

Barbara Judkins announced that the next meeting will be March 9th 2023 at 1:30 p.m.
The meeting adjourned at 2:11 p.m.

Submitted by Richard Magrill