

Schertz Historical Preservation Committee



Annual Report

Calendar Year 2017

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- A. Committee Calendar Year 2018 Objective Statement
- B. Resource Inventory/Audit Report, dated January 28, 2016

Executive Summary

The Schertz Historical Preservation Committee's (SHPC) Calendar Year (CY) 2017 objectives included the following general topic areas: 1) historic recognition projects 2) advancement of the City's "historic narrative" through publications and public appearances, and, 3) joint organizational initiatives.

The Committee's "Landmark Property"/"Heritage Neighborhood" designation program produced nominations for three properties that were eventually selected by City Council for designation as Landmark Properties. The selected properties were: 603 Main Street; 7720 Trainer Hale Road; and, 207 First Street. Several of the banners recognizing the two Heritage Neighborhoods were destroyed by the winds associated with Hurricane Harvey. Replacement banners have been procured and will soon be mounted. Three Main Street Matching Grant Program proposals were sent to City Council for approval and all were approved.

Publication projects have included: four quarterly newsletters; six Remembrances Special Edition Articles; a revised set of Committee By-Laws; and, a forth book titled: "*Schertz City Council – Half Century of Service*". The Committee's 2017 "Looking Back" feature appeared in each monthly edition of Schertz Magazine. Twelve new inputs for the 2018's "Looking Back" feature have been submitted for publication. Sales of the Committee produced local history books continued throughout the year.

A joint Committee/Schertz, Cibolo, Universal City Independent School District (SCUCISD) Student Art/Essay Contest was successfully completed in the 2016/2017 school year. An appropriate student winner recognition ceremony was held at the December 5, 2017 City Council meeting. Community outreach included Committee representation at the Schertz City/Community Neighbor Helping Neighbors clean-up initiative. The Committee participated in open house activities for the City Volunteer Open House and the Clemens High School 50th Anniversary Celebration. Multiple public appearance opportunities were pursued to include presentations at two community's genealogy society meetings (Schertz and New Braunfels), City and school district open house events, and participation on the Northeast Lakeview College Lower Valley School Project Committee.

Committee Chairman Dean Weirtz was honored as the Randolph Metrocom Rotary Club Volunteer of the First Quarter 2017.

Sister historical society contacts continued during the years with the Riedisheim, France Historical Society.

The Committee has accomplished its objectives for calendar year 2017 and looks forward to continuing the progress into 2018.

Membership

The Committee is authorized 14 members. Committee strength was at 13 members as the year began and concluded the year at 13. Several persons resigned membership during the year due to relocation and/or outside commitments. One such resignation involved losing the Committee Treasure but member Paul Ringenbach stepped-in to fill the position very ably. The membership quality remains high and enthusiasm is ever present among members. The Clemens High School History Club has begun participation as an associate member group under the leadership of Clemens History Club School Advisor Mark Anthony Thornton. Brian James, City of Schertz Executive Director, has participated in all committee meetings and offered excellent counsel and advice throughout the year. Schertz Planning Department specialist Channary Gould has also attended meetings regularly and provided assistance where needed. Officers for CY 2017 included: Chairman – Dean Weirtz; Vice Chairman – Debbie Krause; Secretary – Lynn Foehrkolb; Treasurer – Paul Ringenbach. Those same officers will serve again in 2018.

Resource Management and Control

Resources available to the Committee consist of display items (photographs, artifacts, documents, paintings, charts, maps, furniture, etc.) donated by Schertz citizens, purchased by the City or manufactured by Committee members.

Inventory control is maintained through use of a resource listing (APPENDIX B). As determined necessary, the Committee Chairman and one other Committee member complete a 100 percent inventory/audit of the resources. There are several locations where resource inventory is maintained. The major location is the Space Saver II storage facility, Universal City, Texas (storage locker #1015). Other resources are on display at the Schertz City Library, Schertz Visitors Center, Schertz Area, Clemens High School Library, and, at the Randolph Field Realty Office.

The last resource inventory was conducted in January 2016 and disclosed no discrepancies regarding Committee resource accountability.

Disposition of the artifacts and furniture items in the Committee's custody remains a matter of concern to the Committee as explained under "Impact" discussion.

Committee Goals and Objectives – 2017

Appendix B of the Committee's CY 2016 Annual Report set forth goals and objectives for the Committee to pursue in CY 2017. The goals and the results achieved are set forth below:

Goal #1 – Historic Recognition Projects

Pursue identification, research and designation of potentially eligible "Landmark" and "Heritage Neighborhood" properties within the City and its ETJ. RESULT: Three city properties (603 Main Street/7720 Trainer Hale Rd./207 First Street) were designated as Landmark Properties by Schertz City Council. Two Heritage Neighborhoods (Old Schertz South and Aviation Heights) remain as active designations. Telephone pole banners designating the neighborhoods as "Heritage" sites were damaged by the winds of Hurricane Harvey and will soon be replaced. The Committee reviewed and approved applications for three City of Schertz Main Street restoration matching grants.

Goal #2 – Historic Publication Projects

Continue research and publication of quarterly Remembrances Newsletters, Remembrances Special Edition Articles. RESULT: Four newsletters and six Remembrances articles were published. Sales of the Committee published local history books continued throughout the year. Twelve installments of "Looking Back" features were published in Schertz Magazine and another installment of twelve issues for 2018 were submitted. The publication "Schertz City Council – Half Century of Service" was published outlining City Council achievements over the period 1960 to 2010.

Goal #3 – Joint Committee/Student/Community Initiatives

Continue development of joint outreach initiatives involving youth/student and community organizations. RESULT: A student history related art/essay contest was judged by Committee members and on December 5, 2017 a winner's award ceremony was held before City Council. Committee member representation assisted with the judging of the Sons of the Texas Revolution student history essay contest. The Committee participated in two community/city sponsored neighborhood clean-up projects and performed routine monthly maintenance at the site of the Old Schertz Heritage Neighborhood memorial. The Committee participated as an exhibitor and presenter at the Clemens High School 50th Anniversary Open House Event. The Committee continued its representation at the City of Schertz Volunteer Open House event. The Committee Chairman gave historical background presentations at meetings of the New Braunfels and the Schertz Genealogy Societies. The Committee maintained contact with

the City Council Main Street Project Committee pursuing restoration initiatives for Main Street, Schertz, Texas and with our sister preservation society in Riedisheim, France. The Randolph Metrocom Rotary Club gave community recognition to Committee Chairman Dean Weirtz by naming him their Volunteer of the First Quarter of 2017.

Fiscal Matters

The Committee’s budget cycle is the same as the City of Schertz (October 1st to September 30th). The only revenue generator is derived from book sales. Budget expenses and revenues for fiscal years 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 are set forth below:

FY 2016 – 2017 (As of September 30, 2017)

<u>ALLOCATED</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
\$11,750.00	\$2,909.10	\$498.81(book sales after tax)

FY 2017-2018 (As of January 31, 2018)

ALLOCATED	EXPENSES	REVENUE
\$11,750.00	\$1,504.65	\$254.06 (book sales after tax)

Impact Event(s)

Pending for the 8th year is the question of how to dispose of collected artifacts accumulated by the Committee in hopes of a history/cultural museum being created. There is little expectation that such a museum will be created. Thus, continued storage of the materials seems fruitless and costly in terms of time spent by the Committee and storage cost to the City. The matter has been aggravated this year by the removal of all artifacts from the Schertz Senior Center due to remodeling of the facility. It is unknown at this time whether the artifacts will be permitted to be returned to the walls of the Senior Center.