

MINUTES  
Historic Columbia River Highway  
Advisory Committee  
July 21, 1998  
Mosier Creek Terrace  
Mosier, Oregon

Members Present: Bill Pattison, Julie Curtis, James Hamrick, John Lundell, and Janice Newton, Jeffery Plummer, Kay Van Sickel, and Carolyn Wood.

Staff Present: Jeanette Kloos, Robert Hadlow, Ed Moore, Charlie Sciscione, Kirk Chamberlin, Julie Osborne and Gail Smith.

Public Present: Nancy Russell, Friends of the Columbia Gorge; Gay Jervey, Iva Harmon, Wanda Taylor and Elmer Lierman, Mosier 20/20.

*A field trip was taken to view the West Trailhead, and East Pit. Construction operations prevented viewing the Rockfall Catchment progress.*

Bill Pattison, chair, called the meeting to order.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

John Lundell had a correction to the previous minutes. John was concerned with discoloration at Eagle Creek Viaduct, as seen while traveling west bound on I-84. The minutes stated the discoloration was on I-84. The minutes stand approved as corrected.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

**MOSIER 20/20 PLAN**

Gay Jervey, chairman of the Mosier 20/20 committee, told the AC that they have several social events planned. They have a three-day festival planned at the end of summer (Labor Day weekend). Field trips are also planned to introduce the public to the Mosier Waterfront Plan.

Mosier Downtown development planning process will be starting soon. They have applied for funding at this time. One idea would be to build a replica of a railroad station on the north side of the HCRH.

Mosier has applied for Recreational Development funds from the CRGNSA for the Mosier Waterfront. One copy of the proposal was presented to the Committee (since copied and distributed to all Committee members).

**WEST MOSIER TUNNEL TIMBER LINING**

Jeanette Kloos distributed a history of actions taken for the timber-lining project (attached). The timber lining was completed in November of 1920. The tunnel was open before the lining was completed. The timber-lining project was previously determined by the Committee to be a low priority. There is no funding available to complete this part of the project, however it is included in the original plans. Lewis McArthur had previously asked that the lining in the West Tunnel be considered complete as is, with no further lining added to the tunnel. James Hamrick asked if the AC needed to make a decision at this time. John Lundell stated that the lining was a safety feature back in 1920 because of falling rocks. John said that it does not seem like there is a rockfall problem inside the West Tunnel now; if we do experience rockfalls, then we could add the lining.

Kay Van Sickel suggested that we should try to return the tunnel to its original condition. Julie Curtis asked why the subject of the lining has come up again. Carolyn Wood reported that the lining project was in the newspaper, which has drawn attention to the project. Bill Pattison suggested that the East Tunnel lining should be completed and the decision about the lining the remainder of the West Tunnel should be put on hold until the other portions of Phase 3 of the project are complete. The committee agreed this position is the consensus of the committee. The timbers for the lining are being held until needed for the project. Julie Curtis suggested a letter be sent to Al Hardwood, Lewis McArthur and Ted Davenport letting them know of the AC decision on the matter.

## **PROJECT UPDATES**

### ***HOOD RIVER TO MOSIER UPDATE***

#### ***PHASE 1***

Bid opening for the waterline extension will be Thursday, July 23. Construction over Rock Creek will be completed this fall while the creek is dry.

James Hamrick reported that a letter sent to OPRD by the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Heritage Committee regarding ADA accessibility; it is quite a bit different from the letter originally discussed. The tribes expressed concern about the preservation of the Mosier mounds. James stated that a response has been sent by Bob Meinen stating that consultation has occurred and OPRD will proceed. Sam Wilkins and District 9 will do the work establishing the parking area.

Iva Harmon, (Mosier), had concern about the mounds east of the Mosier Pit. Mr. Dwayne Blanchard is the owner of some additional archeological features. Iva said that Mr. Blanchard would be willing to donate this area to OPRD. It was noted that there are also some features on Howard Houston's property.

#### ***PHASE 2***

Kevin Bracy reported that additional rock scaling is being done for worker safety. The project is proceeding on schedule. James Hamrick requested a field report be sent to the Committee and OPRD as quickly as possible and that quick notification be sent if there are any additional problems.

#### ***PHASE 3***

The West Trailhead parking is paved and the curbs are in for the landscaping. The landscape will be done when the rainy season arrives. The kiosk is installed. Grand opening dedication has been postponed until Phase 2 and 3 are complete sometime next summer.

### ***SCENIC BYWAY FUND APPLICATION***

There is a short time frame for applying for National Scenic Byway grant funding. Jeanette stated that the HCRH has a good chance of receiving the funding because All American Roads are given priority for funding. There are several things that can be applied for, including: a) an interpretive signing brochure showing the locations of the interpretive signs; b) brochures in foreign languages; and c) design and installation of additional signs. Funding requires 20% match. The application needs to be in by the middle of August. If anyone knows of matching funding, please contact Jeanette. John Lundell recommended that money from the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary be used as match money. The AC decided to pledge funds from the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary monies. Nancy Russell stated that the brochures should be ready for the beginning of the tourist season next year. Rest Areas are eligible for funding, but must be located on the Scenic Byway (HCRH from Troutdale to Dodson/Warrendale and Mosier to The Dalles).

Jeffery Plummer stated that he had some ideas for the brochures and has some contacts that may be interested in bidding the job. Gay Jervey stated that she would be able to get some volunteers together of help with the brochures by donating services or possible money.

### ***MOFFET CREEK - TANNER CREEK***

This project is well under way. A large petrified log was found in the area and is now being protected. Jerry Lairson, ODOT construction crew, is the contact for this project.

### ***EAGLE CREEK - CASCADE LOCKS***

The construction zone at this work site is down to one lane in each direction with the north half of the tunnel complete. The detour will be done by the end of the month and I-84 will be back to 4 lanes. The rockery walls have been built and there is a temporary construction bridge to protect Ruckel Creek Bridge. FHWA is in charge of the work on this project.

### ***INTERPRETIVE SIGNS***

The sign panels will be arriving in the next month. Jackie Scott, of the Oregonian, has written a nice article (attached).

### **NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK NOMINATION**

Robert Hadlow reported that he sent the nomination to Robie Lange, of the National Park Service, in Washington, DC, at the first of the month. Robie Lange will send it out to various groups and individuals for a 60-day review. A decision to landmark the highway is based on the outcome of the review.

Julie Curtis asked about local support for the nomination. ODOT sent out requests for letters. So far, local officials, congressional delegates, and others have sent letters of support to Mr. Lange (see attached chart). Several local governments, however, have not responded. Bill and John will follow up on that.

### **ACTIVITY STATUS REPORTS:**

#### ***ODOT***

Sam Wilkins, District 9, was on tour with the Governor's Efficiency Committee.

Charlie reported a fire that swept through 5 acres near Oneonta.. Fire fighting operations have caused rocks to fall in the area. A temporary dirt berm has been placed to contain the rocks.

Richard Fix has completed the rock wall at the culvert at Latourell Falls. Richard is also working at repairing the two arches east of the Larch Mountain junction. Richard also is completing work at Vista House and Wahkeena Falls.

The correction workers have been clearing brush east bound on HCRH near Ainsworth and Multnomah Falls.

Charlie is working with the US Forest Service and National Marine Fisheries Service to dredge Multnomah Creek again this year.

#### ***OPRD***

Kirk Chamberlain reported that the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the Vista House was a great success.

A "disk golf" course is proposed at Dabney Park.

Jack Wiles is working on an application for a waterfront recreation funding for parking at Memaloose Park.

Kirk reported that Diane McClay continues to work with the public regarding the dog leash rules at the trailhead. People are going over and under the gate at the West Portal and entering the construction and rockfall zone. James Hamrick suggested that a large, simple graphic sign be added on the inside of the West Portal gate and at the next gate to the west that would emphasize the hazards beyond.

### ***FOREST SERVICE***

Jeanette Kloos reported that Jurgen Hess is hopeful that the trail to the Benson Foot Bridge at Multnomah Falls will be open again this fall.

The Forest Service estimates that the remaining work at the East Pit will cost about \$20,000. This will leave \$80,000 - \$100,000 available to be used on the next highest priority job.

### **DEVELOPMENT REVIEWS:**

The Connelly residence at 6008 Highway 30 W is proposed to be replaced on the same lot but closer to HCRH. The development review indicated existing plantings screening the site.

Nancy Russell seconded Janice Newton's concern that more information is needed on development reviews. She suggested that photos of the sites be available at the Committee meetings.

### **MEMBERS ISSUES:**

Senator Ted Ferrioli is planning a meeting in The Dalles, August 13 at 9:00 a.m. regarding the scenic area. Nancy Russell suggested that a member of the Committee should try to get onto the panel, so that they could discuss what role the AC plays, to describe the benefits of the CRGNSA act to the HCRH and the local communities and to discuss future actions that may effect the HCRH. John Lundell and Carolyn Wood will attend the meeting.

James Hamrick reported that Governor Kitzhaber's Task Force on Cultural Development met Friday, July 18. Input is requested on the focus of this committee – art or culture in a broader sense. James gave a copy of the executive order and membership list to the AC. The task force will determine how state funds are going to be used. Julie Curtis is also on the task force.

Julie Curtis reported that she and Carolyn Wood are planning to attend the Tamastlikt Cultural Institute grand opening in Umatilla, Saturday, August 1, at 9:00 a.m. Julie also informed the committee that she would be spending half of her time working for Oregon Heritage Commission beginning August 3.

Bill Pattison asked Charlie if there have been any changes regarding fire suppression in the gorge since the fire. Charlie will check into this concern and report back to the AC.

Jerry Igo asked if there has been any change on the situation at Starvation Creek. Charlie reported that there has been no further action at this time.

Ed Moore, Region 4, introduced himself and informed the AC that he is working on the rock quarry dispute.

### **NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION:**

**Thursday, September 17, Best Western, Cascade Locks. This meeting will include a field trip.**

Attachments:

Mosier Twin Tunnels lining chronology

HCRH projects

Oregonian article on Interpretive signs

Landmark support letter received

Development Review chart

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