

OREGON HERITAGE COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
July 27, 2009 / 9:30 a.m.
Crook County Library – Broughton Room
175 NW Meadow Lakes Dr., Prineville OR

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: George Kramer, David Lewis, E. John Rumpakis, Jan Mitchell, Charlotte Fugate, Kimberly Jensen, Jon Tullis, Carol Michael, Jim Schepke, George Vogt, Carole Astley, Irene Zenev.

STAFF: Kyle Jansson, Kuri Gill, Kimarie Lamb

PUBLIC: Gordon Gillespie, David Patterson, Jodi Egan.

Call to Order and Introductions

Kramer brought the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. After welcoming all, he asked commissioners and guests to introduce themselves.

Welcome of new Commissioner: David Lewis

Commissioners welcomed the newest commissioner, who briefly talked about his background.

Approval of Agenda

Fugate made a motion to approve the agenda. Mitchell seconded. Approved unanimously. It was suggested to discuss Logo Advice during the working lunch.

Welcome by Crook County Library

Library director Dave Patterson welcomed the Commission, and talked about the history of the library and how it serves as an information hub for the county.

Welcome by Crook County Historical Society

The society's executive director Gordon Gillespie gave a history overview of the Crook County area, the city railroad, and the museum.. He also gave a history on the tax levies, how they have affected the historical society, and the current capital campaign.

Commissioner Reports and Comments

- Rumpakis reported that in Portland the city is divided up by neighborhood associations and those different associations put out various publications like walking maps, brochures, etc. that can contain historical information.
- Schepke reported that the University of Oregon Library's Digital Newspaper Project has chosen its first set of newspapers for digitization.
- Vogt reported that OHS came away from the Legislature with funding. The Pacific Wonderland license plate surcharge will be split between OHS and the Oregon Capital Foundation. OHS is also considering a special heritage district to generate some funding. OHS is now selling digitized images online. He encouraged commissioners to stop by the

Museum at Warm Springs and see the Art of Ceremony: Regalia of Native Oregon exhibit there. In October, the regalia exhibit will be paired at OHS with “Oregon is Indian Country.”

- Fugate reported that there is now a Japanese Garden at the Four Rivers Cultural Center in Ontario.
- Astley reported that the Oregon Tourism Grant cycle is open and the deadline is Aug. 18. The first planning session for the Governor’s Tourism Conference is on Wednesday. Commissioners can submit ideas to her.
- Tullis reported that the Lewis and Clark Mt. Hood Wilderness Bill added 140,000 acres of wilderness area. The Geo Tourism efforts for the Central Cascades are increasingly important.
- Mitchell reported that Clatsop Community College’s restoration program will be starting this fall.
- Lewis reported that he is helping with the Tribal Archives, Museums and Libraries conference. Also, tribes are helping with interpretive signage at different locations.

Public comments

There was no public comment at this time.

Approval of April 16 minutes

Fugate made a motion to approve the minutes as drafted. Tullis seconded. Approved unanimously.

Commissioner job descriptions

Commissioners reviewed revised drafts prepared by the coordinator. Noting the provision for Asian American Heritage Month, some commissions said representatives from the Asian American Commission should be invited to the next meeting in Salem.

Jansson said the Tourism Commission is no longer a part of the Department of Economic and Community Development. It has always represented Economic Development and several years ago the department director forwarded to the Tourism Commission a request for a new representative to the Heritage Commission. This could be a housekeeping change by the Legislature.

Mitchell moved to accept the revised draft of the Ex-officio job description for the Oregon Heritage Commission. Fugate seconded. Approved unanimously.

Fugate made a motion to make the revised draft for the public member job description. Mitchell seconded. Approved unanimously.

Election of vice chair

Tullis nominated Mitchell for vice chair. Fugate seconded. Approved unanimously.

Oregon Heritage Tradition

Jansson reviewed the changes proposed by the committee. Further designations may require change in administrative rules. Fugate made a motion to adopt the re-drafted Oregon Heritage Tradition policy and procedures. Mitchell seconded. Approved.

Commissioners reviewed an application by the Oregon State Fair to be designated an Oregon Heritage Tradition. Commissioners noted it met the criteria of the just-adopted policy. Zenev moved that the Commission approve the designation of the Oregon State Fair as an Oregon Heritage Tradition. Rumpakis seconded. Approved unanimously. The Governor will issue the award to the Oregon State Fair at an event Aug. 28.

Oregon Heritage Grants

Jansson reviewed the Heritage Grant program during 2007-09 cycle. He said several normally dependable organizations were unable to complete their projects and this meant that 15 percent of the cycle's funds were unspent. Other organizations spent less than anticipated so there was a high amount of unspent funds. Commissioners offered their ideas for improvements: do a monthly email with grantees, regular visits to grantees and allocate more than the amount of funds available anticipating it all won't be spent.

Commissioners reviewed the draft application for 2009-11. Jansson said applicants will have the opportunity for the first time to submit online. The exact format will be worked out during the coming week. Fugate made a motion to accept the draft as submitted. Rumpakis seconded. Approved unanimously.

Oregon Museum Grants

Jansson said about 80 percent of funds were spent during 2007-09. Most grantees got their work done, many came in under budget and some fell through because of organization changes. For 2009-11, he is proposing two cycles so there will be a bigger window of opportunity for applications. The application will also be online. Mitchell moved acceptance of the application form. Rumpakis seconded. Approved unanimously.

Cultural Trust partner grants

Jansson told the Commission that its share of the 2009 distribution of Oregon Cultural Trust funds is \$43,023. The intention is to combine those funds with a similar amount received by the State Historic Preservation Office. He said the intention is to use those combined funds for continuing the technical assistance program and the digital newspaper project. He asked commissioners for their ideas on other needs that could be met with those funds. The five statewide partners of the Cultural Trust are looking at joint projects, including the poet laureate.

Working Lunch began at 12 noon

Oregon Encyclopedia Project Report

Bill Lang of Portland State University, Linda Tamura of Willamette University, and Richard Ulrich of PSU talked about the project. PSU has agreed to support the project for 10 years. The encyclopedia's purpose is to include "All things Oregon". A power point presentation was given

to show all that the Oregon Encyclopedia has done through their website, how it can be viewed and where they're going. It noted the commission's 2007-09 Heritage Grant to the project.

Logo Advice

Commissioners reviewed six draft logo designs created by InHouse Graphics. They asked to be kept informed as the design decision was made.

2007-09 Action Plan update

Jansson briefly discussed the written report he had prepared on how the 2007-09 Action Plan had been implemented in support of the Heritage Plan.

2009-11 Commission Objectives

Jansson asked for suggestions in drafting a 2009-11 Action Plan. Commissioners offered many suggestions. Among the ideas presented were regional gatherings to build a regional sense of cooperation, strengthen advocacy efforts, commissioners hosting brown bag luncheons, tracking visually the Commission's accomplishments, and increasing public knowledge of the crisis in collections care. Other said there was a need to get ahead of the curve on legislation before the February Legislative session, perhaps with a message that counties are facing bankruptcy, that public records and historical societies are at risk. Others said the Commission needs to document the crisis quantitatively and qualitatively. Perhaps when Measure 66 goes back to the voters a part of it could be designated for heritage.

Legislative Review and Future Initiatives

Lewis noted that it's clear there needs to be a study on heritage in Oregon to figure out what the problems are. Otherwise, there will not be necessary information to convince the Legislature to act. Commissioners offered during an extended discussion a variety of ways the study or white paper could be conducted, communicated and used.

Fugate made a motion that a white paper be produced on the condition of the state of heritage in Oregon and strongly encourage OPRD to use remainder funds from the 2007-09 grants to fund it. Commissioners believe this will undergird existing plans and help in planning for the future of the heritage community. Lewis seconded. Approved unanimously.

Commissioners Vogt, Fugate, Mitchell, Lewis and Astley said they would be willing to help with the selection of the consultant and design of the plan.

Heritage Conference locations 2010 and 2011

Conference surveys from this year were wonderful. An Oregon State Library survey device was used and 20 percent of conference attendees responded. More than 82 percent said it was worthwhile, 92 percent said they would do it again. 93 percent said they would attend a conference like this again and over 95 percent said conference staff was friendly and helpful.

Staff is planning three regional one-day mini-conferences in April 2010 in Oregon City, La Grande and Jacksonville with common strands, local organizations, and regional trainings. The plan is to have the 2011 Oregon Heritage Conference in Astoria.

Mitchell gave her official offer for the 2011 Heritage Conference to be in Astoria and noted the opportunities there with Astoria's Bicentennial that year. Rumpakis made a motion to approve designating Astoria as the 2011 conference host. Jensen seconded. Approved unanimously.

Adjourn

Fugate made a motion to adjourn. Jensen seconded. Approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm