

**Oregon Heritage Commission
February 1, 2016
Museum of the Oregon Territory
211 Tumwater Drive
Oregon City**

Approved Minutes

Commissioners: Eliza Canty-Jones (for OHS), MariLou Diamond, Kimberly Jensen, Todd Kepple, Sarah LeCompte, David Lewis, Eric Martin, Andrea Morgan, Jerry Ostermiller, Layne Sawyer, Jon Tullis.

Staff: Kyle Jansson, Kuri Gill.

Public: Miguel Salinas, Marge and Rolla Harding, Herman Hake.

Martin called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Commissioners identified themselves.

Approval of Agenda: Approved by consent

Minutes of Nov. 2 meeting: Review deferred until next meeting.

Public Comments: Salinas talked about demographic representation on the Commission and in its related functions. A copy of his written comments are attached to these minutes.

Marge Harding emphasized the importance of telling the whole story of heritage.

Rolla Harding welcomed commissioners to Oregon City.

Herman Hake talked about the challenges of operating a historic cemetery.

Statement of Appreciation: As Tullis' term on the Commission is drawing to a conclusion, Martin asked that the Commission consider Resolution 2016-01, in which the Commission would declare its grateful appreciation for Tullis' leadership on behalf of Oregon heritage and the state's residents, and wish him the best in his future endeavors. Lewis moved adoption of the resolution. Jensen second. Approved unanimously.

Membership Update: Jansson reported six people have submitted interest forms for the open commission position. A recommendation has been submitted to the Governor's office which will make the decision.

Bylaws Review, Discussion and Adoption: Martin briefly reviewed the last three years of work by the Commission in drafting bylaws. Commissioners then discussed the current draft. Discussion initially focused on the "mission" section, especially subsections (b), (c) and (f)

relating to coordination and subsection (g) related to statewide celebrations of Asian American Heritage Month. Commissioners discussed the need to propose updated statutory duties, consult with other related commissions, and seek legislative approval. Some changes might be possible at the 2017 Legislature and others at the 2019 Legislature. Ostermiller moved to appoint Lewis, Ostermiller and Jensen to a subcommittee to work closely with staff to broaden language with advocacy commissions. Diamond seconded. Approved unanimously.

Commissioners discussed the “duties and expectations of commissioners” section, including specifics about what they are. Jensen moved to add “diverse” to subsection (e) as advocates for Oregon’s diverse heritage resources. Diamond seconded. Approved unanimously.

Commissioners talked about the “expectations of advisors” section. Jensen moved to insert language noting their duties and responsibilities do not include making motions and voting. Kepple seconded. Approved unanimously.

In the “public participation at meetings” section, Diamond moved that “citizen” be replaced with “individual.” Jensen seconded. Approved unanimously.

Ostermiller moved adoption of the draft bylaws with the amendments. Diamond seconded. Jansson noted this would be a first approval and would be brought back to the next Commission meeting to confirm their adoption. Motion approved unanimously.

Museum Grant Program Overview: Gill made a presentation about the program that included its founding in 1965, changes in its distributions, and usage during the past nine years. Most of the awards and applications are for museum collections care. Since 2007, it has had requests totaling \$1.3 million and awarded \$527,000. Nearly one million objects have benefited from cataloging and preservation efforts. Twenty-five grants have related to diversity efforts. Ostermiller said reviewing the grant applications is a chance to get the pulse and vision of heritage organizations.

Historic Properties Commission listings: Jansson gave a brief history of the 2,600 listings and talked about a request from Legislative Administration related to about 160 House chairs. Discussions took place around how the state surplus system works, the public trust and benefit, accounting of the funds, and the administrative rule’s requirement of consultation with the Commission on Indian Services.

Diamond moved to accept the staff recommendation for removing the chairs from the inventory while retaining representative examples and recognizing that the Legislative Administration was responsible for complying with applicable legal requirements. Kepple seconded. Approved with Tullis dissenting.

Heritage MentorCorps: Jansson talked about the progress of the MentorCorps. It has met many of its original goals including helping more than 150 organizations, including more than 50 that have received help from the mentors. In addition to traditional heritage organizations, 13 community organizations have been assisted. The biggest demand for mentors has been in Portland and the Willamette Valley.

Seven key findings so far are: Most planned impacts have been made. Face-to-face outreach is critical. Most people who want to improve collections care find that leaping to prepare a disaster plan is an impossible reach. Digital collections have become part of the conversation. Mentors are motivated more by passion than by money. Fourteen projects have received grants from the Heritage Commission for collections or emergency preparedness since the project began. This project has created stronger, yet unanticipated links between the state's emergency and cultural agencies, including Oregon Heritage.

Heritage Traditions – Dory Days: Jansson gave a brief description of the event and the review committee's recommendation. Commissioners talked about how it has created community, although it may not be the same as it once was. Diamond moved that Dory Days be approved as an Oregon Heritage Tradition. Kepple seconded. Approved.

Heritage Traditions – Founders' Day: Jansson gave a brief description of the event and the review committee's recommendation. Commissioners talked about whether the event could be considered a celebration because of how tribes were affected by it, its attendance and whether it was participatory or engaged the community. Jensen moved the application be rejected because the event did not have a demonstrated appeal to a broad spectrum of the community. Tullis seconded. Approved without dissent.

Communications: Jansson talked about the electronic media and messaging used by Oregon Heritage, including the four statements that commissions/council put together two years ago. Commissioners suggested hiring a consultant to help create a full communications plan as well as launching a photo of the week. Gill mentioned that SHPO will be having large posters at Oregon Travel Experience's welcome center this year as part of the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Heritage Conference: Gill reviewed the conference planning efforts.

Reports of Commissioners:

Morgan said she had recently been to Hood River to be with students learning about the Presidential Medal of Freedom awarded to Homer Yasui. The new Every Student Succeeds Act supports well-rounded education. For the first time in 10 years, the Oregon Department of Education will be re-doing its social studies standards.

Diamond described how in 1910 Greeks were less than one percent of the state's population, but were a majority of the railroad workers.

Kepple described how the Klamath Museum created a 10-part curriculum for area schools and that it was now the number one cultural site in Klamath County as calculated by Trip Advisor.

Tullis described Timberline Lodge's exhibitry and its disaster plan development. He also encouraged commissioners to be on the lookout for opportunities to help in critical situations such as the current standoff at the Malheur Wildlife Refuge.

Ostermiller said NOAA plans to have a ship exploring Oregon's continental shelf in April and May.

Canty-Jones described the upcoming Chinese exhibits at OHS and said that immigration is this year's theme for the museum.

Jensen said the Oregon Women's History Coalition, with support of the Heritage Commission, will be offering a scholarship this year.

Lewis said he will be helping a History Pub get launched in Salem by talking about Chemawa athlete Ruben Sanders.

Sawyer said the Archives will be hosting an exhibit by the Historic Columbia River Highway. Also, a bill has been proposed in the Legislature this session to create a public records ombudsman.

Adjournment: Martin adjourned the meeting at 2:39 p.m.