

**Approved Minutes**  
**Oregon Heritage Commission**  
**August 6, 2007**  
**Teleconference**

(Public listening room was in Room 146, North Mall Office Building, 725 Summer St.  
NE, Salem)

**Present:** Carole Astley, Constance Beaumont, George Kramer, Jan Mitchell, Roger Roper, E. John Rumpakis, Layne Sawyer, Jill Thorne, Irene Zenev, Kyle Jansson, Kuri Gill, Kimarie Lamb.

Meeting was called to order by George Kramer at 1:40 p.m. Members introduced themselves. Kramer announced that this was the first meeting for new commissioner Thorne.

**Approval of Agenda:** With the addition of the county history project and college fellowships to the preliminary agenda, Rumpakis made motion to accept the agenda, Mitchell second. Commission approved unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes of May 3, 2007:** Mitchell made motion to accept the minutes as drafted, Rumpakis second. Commission approved unanimously.

**Public Comments:**

There were none.

**Reports:**

**Action Plan:** Jansson reviewed the steps he plans to take in helping the Commission to implement its 2007-09 Action Plan. He noted the survey would be the lowest priority as there appears to be no purpose for it at this time.

**Oregon 150:** Kramer reviewed the organization's progress since May. Oregon 150 will meet with media organizations of all types on Sept. 19 to launch the public awareness effort. The board is disappointed the Legislature provided no additional funding beyond the \$419,000 in the Governor's budget, but the board is working at creating a buzz so that both public and private funding will come.

**Legislative Update:** Roper reported that the Legislature had fully funded the Governor's CHAMP package. Kramer reported that the Legislature had also approved a law approving the establishment of heritage districts, a topic the commission had talked about during its February meetings. Roper also reported that a couple of cemetery reporting requirements had been eased, that the Legislature had directed that a study be made of the route of the Oregon Trail, and that it also directed that a study be made of the special

historic property assessment program as its statutory life is scheduled to end then. The Legislature provided no additional funding for the Heritage Programs grant programs, as it directed OPRD to emphasize park acquisition during the biennium.

**County History:** Jansson reported that a review of the May minutes showed there were differences among commission members on what would constitute a county history. To determine what is currently available, he and the State Historic Preservation Office will be looking at developing what has been published during the past 50 years. Kramer also suggested town histories be inventoried. A county history series would be a great legacy for the sesquicentennial. Thorne suggested universities would be good resources for a county history project.

**Heritage Conferences:** Jansson reported that registration for this conference is higher than any other Heritage Conference with the exception of the joint Washington-Oregon conference in 2000. Work on the 2008 conference will begin immediately after this conference. A preliminary outline for the 2009 conference with the Northwest Archivists is included in the commissioners' packet, with the idea that it be in the Portland area. Rumpakis said that if the conference is in the Portland area it should be in a place accessible to a MAX line. Roper said the project will be done by October.

**University Fellowships:** Jansson reported that there appear to be funds available to establish a fellowship program for college seniors or graduate students. Started with 1 or more fellowships, these would enable students to pursue in depth a topic related to Oregon history, heritage or archaeology. The students would then present their research papers at the Heritage Conference. Commissioners suggested that foundations and the Oregon Heritage Trust might have additional funds to support the Fellowships or criteria for selecting a student. Roper said anyone who wants to serve on the selection committee should contact him.

## **Old Business**

**Heritage Districts:** Kramer said the Commission needed to talk about how it wants to position itself on efforts to form heritage districts. He wasn't certain what was appropriate. He had been asked by one group to join the effort, but had declined. Rumpakis said educating the public on the value of heritage was one route. Roper said he would look into the options and report back to the Commission.

**Heritage Grant and Museum Grant applications:** Jansson presented applications that were more streamlined than those the Commission had approved at its May meeting. The revisions were made as part of OPRD's efforts to make it easy for organizations to apply for grants. Jansson said that beyond streamlining language, the only editorial language he changed was deleting the focus as it seemed to be restating what the purpose of the grant program was. Rumpakis asked if grantees can doublebill different funders under the programs. Jansson said reporting requirements are designed to prohibit that from happening. Thorne said the sesquicentennial needs some emphasis. Rumpakis made a

motion to approve the revised Heritage Grant and Museum Grant applications as submitted, Mitchell second. Commission approved.

**Historic Properties Commission Subcommittee:** Jansson reported that Glenn Mason had completed preliminarily categorizing items on the inventory since the May meeting. He noted commissioners at the May meeting had said it would be best if that categorization be reviewed. Zenev and Sawyer volunteered to be on the committee to do that, and Rumpakis said he was willing to serve if no one else was willing. Jansson will send a request to commissioners whether they were willing to serve on this subcommittee or the Heritage Grant applications review committee.

**New Business:** None.

### **Commissioner Reports**

Roper said he is looking at establishing a barn rehabilitation grant program for barns that are either on or are eligible for the National Register.

Sawyer said that in mid-August there will be an exhibit at the State Archives on the sesquicentennial of the 1857 Oregon Constitutional Convention. It will also be available online.

Adjourn: Mitchell made motion to adjourn, Thorne second. Meeting adjourned at 3 p.m.