

Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries

Minutes

October 25, 2018

BUSINESS MEETING: 2:00 p.m.

Location: Heritage Station Museum, 108 SW Frazer, in Pendleton.

- I. Welcome and Introductions (2:00) Mark Petrie
 - a. Scott Stuemke, Milo Reed, Sarah Silbernagel, Mark Petrie, Bev Power, Mike Leamy
 - b. Charlotte Lehan - excused
 - c. Kuri Gill, Jamie French
 - d. Public – Lynda Leamy, Steve Sprenger, Randy Reese
- II. Approval of Minutes (2:05) Mark Petrie
 - a. Sara moved to approve, Leamy 2nd, approved
- III. Public Comment (2:10) Comment limited to 5 minutes
 - a. Steve Sprenger – Share photos of fire burned cemetery near Redding, CA.
 - b. Cricket Soules – celebration of a found monument, Travel Oregon grant received.
- IV. Permit program documents review and discussion (2:20) Kuri Gill
 - a. Format works and was easy to read.
 - b. approved
- V. Grant timeline update (2:30) Kuri Gill
 - a. General information and the commission encouraged to promote it locally.
- VI. Goal Setting (2:35) Kuri Gill
 - a. Change the date for the designation - Change ORS. Use the internal OPRD process to request the designation change to be 75 years from today's date. Approved.
 - b. See attached
- VII. Promotion of Historic Cemeteries Planning (3:00) Kuri Gill
 - a. The commission came up with two messages.
 - i. Historic Cemeteries, Clues to Community Mysteries – Stories of how you can sleuth out information about the community in historic cemeteries.
 - ii. Every Marker has a Story – Stories about the art and inscriptions of historic markers.
 - b. The commission will find stories fitting these messages and share them through the blog and video.
- VIII. SOLVE outreach planning (3:45) Kuri Gill
 - a. Contact scouts,
 - b. College professors
 - c. Workshops on how to do the clean-up day, webinar – record and have online
 - d. Neighborhood associations
 - e. Local landmarks commissions
- IX. Oregon Heritage Summit 2019 (4:00) Kuri Gill
 - a. Commission reminded to encourage people to attend the summit.

- X. Commissioner Comments/Reports (4:05) All
 - a. Scott Stuemke – It is amazing to see Tribal cemeteries, it is interesting.
 - b. Milo Reed – Working with Cricket Soules in Coos Bay to create a monument for the only spectacle lynching of an African American in Oregon.
 - c. Sarah Silbernagel – Heard about the Hilgard cemetery, interested in checking it out and trying to visit and see it.
 - d. Mark Petrie – Talked with Cricket about the lynching monument, discussed memorials to the native people in the area. Getting some updates on ownership of abandoned cemeteries.
 - e. Bev Power – Working on her cemetery and the commission. They received \$11,000 will be doing the stone work. Plans to help the cemeteries work on grant applications.
 - f. Mike Leamy – Showed a news article on the grant for Prairie Cemetery Association of Knappa. Talking Tombstones is at Ocean View cemetery, both Lynda and he will be portraying characters. A couple from Hawaii is supporting them, and has made them a website. Fort Stevens Military Cemetery – When they replace a stone, the original will go to Ft. Lewis. Volunteers have continued bringing up sunken markers over the last two years. Volunteers have sprayed the D-2 to remove lichen.
- XI. Appointments – Officer discussion, tabled to February (4:15) Kuri Gill
- XII. Upcoming Meetings & Workshops (4:20) Kuri Gill
 - October 25-26 – Pendleton
 - February 8 – Conference call
 - April 25 Summit – Medford, meeting in the morning, 8:30-11:30
 - July 18 (meeting) & 19 (workshop) – Florence? – make it earlier
 - October 17 (meeting) & 18 (workshop)
- XIII. Meeting Adjourned – 4:22 (4:30)

5:30 – 6:30 Public Presentation – Creative Events in Historic Cemeteries, Commissioners Milo Reed, Mark Petrie, Mike Leamy and OPRD Staff, Jamie French – Canceled due to low attendance.

OCHC Goal Setting

Needs						
Funding	Grants information (OCHC)					
People	Engage schools, youth organizations	Videos (OCHC)	Events – SOLVE (OCHC)	Local Landmarks commissions	Cemetery contact info on website (coming long into future)	Partnering with others (OCHC blogs or heritage bulletins)
Knowledge	Marker repair video (OCHC)					
Appeal to many	Oral histories	Videos (OCHC)	Events – SOLVE (OCHC)	Travel Oregon website, or OTE	History Pubs (OCHC?)	
Contractor availability	Training for contractors					
Contractor knowledge	Training for contractors					
Access						
Security, Disaster prep						
Insurance/Liability						

General Agreement

OCHC has provided ample technical assistance.

- Continue workshops
- Maintain web information
- Add monument repair video
- Provide training to prepare contractors, including granite
- Create bulletins or blog articles to encourage group grants or projects

OCHC should help promote the cemeteries and their value to the general public

- Gather oral histories
- Collect interesting stories that show the breadth of Oregon History
- Connect with Oregon Travel Experience for mapping
- Have a cemetery discussion at the annual CLG workshop, fall 2019
- Put stories out in blog and video