

Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries

Minutes

July 18, 2019



BUSINESS MEETING: 2:00 p.m.

The meeting site is accessible to people with disabilities. Special accommodations for the meeting – including translation services – may be made by calling (503) 986-0690 at least 72 hours prior to the start of the meeting.

Location: Siuslaw Pioneer Museum, 278 Maple Street, Florence

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| I. Welcome and Introductions (2:00) | Bev Power |
| Commissioners: Bev Power, Mike Leamy, Milo Reed, Charlotte Lehan, Scott Stuemke, Mark Petrie, Sarah Silbernagel | |
| Staff : Jamie French, Kuri Gill, Eric Newcomb, Jeremy Ebbersole | |
| Public: Lynda Leamy, Eric, Jeremy, Cricket, Pat Rogne, Nancy Sobottka, Steve Spenger, Justin Heeberg, Sharon Waite, Sandy Zinn, Ryan Warren, Cricket Soules | |
| II. Approval Minutes (2:05) | Bev Power |
| Moved by Charlotte, all in favor | |
| III. Public Comment (2:10) | Bev Power |
| No public comment | |
| IV. Grant report (2:20) | Kuri Gill |
| Presentation on 2018 grant results. | |
| V. SOLVE Cemetery Clean-Up Day report (2:50) | Kuri Gill |
| Report on the clean-up day results | |
| VI. Workshops, presentations & conference ideas (2:55) | Bev Power |
| Kuri present current plan | |
| April - one of the grants we award this year was for cemetery software – maybe a topic of cemetery, database discussion, genealogical research. | |
| Find a company that is acknowledged successful at GPR, Colorado. | |
| October pub event – topic, partner with Kimberli at City of Salem, marking unmarked-options graves, State Hospital - Salem – hospital, process to claim the cremains. Art piece | |
| Shared with SACHP and OHC. | |
| Conference – heritage toursim | |
| VII. Joint Commission meeting (3:15) | Kuri Gill |
| Explained concept of the meeting | |
| VIII. Acknowledging unmarked graves discussion (3:30) | Bev Power |
| Bev report on progress – Bev will email the draft | |
| Document will share the resources | |
| Charlotte would like a discussion – creating criteria for the grant in relationship for this. Bev thinks it is wrong to create the criteria for one cemetery, been part of the grant review a couple of times. | |
| IX. Confederate flags in historic cemeteries discussion (3:35) | Kuri Gill facilitate |
| General discussion of the historic of memorial and veterans day. Memorial day was created as a union commemoration. There were confederate burials in Arlington. Concerns about being unwelcoming to the public. Power requested continuation of the discussion. | |
| X. Commissioner Comments/Reports (4:00) | All |

Stuemke- Lakeview and Paisley, asked locals for the cemeteries in the area. Spreading the word about the commission, Maury Mountain Cemetery – right near the meek wagon Trail, you can see it there, first one is a baby, Crook county has cemetery association. One small cemetery needs fencing repaired.

Lehan – nothing

Leamy – When first came on the commission he mentioned the contraption for raising monument and finally got it finished and used it. Character he portrayed is in the Maritime Museum publication. Wrote blog, “Thank you Alexander”

Silbernagel – been working at job a lot lately. Talked with archaeologists about the remote sensing work. Still taking pictures, hoping to write up the information about the Ritter Cemetery

Reed – Several projects finishing up. Meeting with METRO and neighborhood associations for clean-up day.

Petrie – Busy with a lot, trying to share information with people for outreach activities.

Bev – Contacted by the smaller cemetery for the grant, next year maybe for trees, bring the confederate flag question on for further discussion. City of Medford has owned the cemetery for years and now they have a maintenance person, quit selling plots

XI. Thank you to Mark and Mike (4:15)

Kuri Gill

XII. Upcoming Meetings & Workshops (4:20)

Kuri Gill

October 17 (tour) & 18 (joint commission meeting),

February 8 – Conference call, Salem

April 22 – with Oregon Heritage Conference, Corvallis

June – early June conference call for grant approval

July 16 – location?

XIII. Meeting Adjourned (4:30)

PUBLIC PRESENTATION: 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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Charlotte Lehan, of Wilsonville, and Bev Power, of Medford, both commissioners with OCHC, will present “Adventures in Mapping Historic Cemeteries.” They will present interesting challenges, surprise discoveries and other issues in mapping and documenting historic cemeteries.