

Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries

Minutes

April 23, 2021



BUSINESS MEETING: 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Location: Conference call

OCHC Business Meeting

1. Welcome and Introductions – 1:00
 - a. Commissioners –Shawn Steinmetz, Sara Silbernagel, Milo Reed, Bev Power – chair, Charlotte Lehan Absent
 - b. Staff – Kuri Gill
 - c. Public – Cricket Soules
2. Approval Minutes (February) 1:05
 - a. Moved – Milo Reed– 2nd – Shawn, approved
3. Public Comment – for items not on the agenda 1:10
 - a. Cricket Soules – Shared about the Norway Cemetery Project happening in the area by Darrell Gulstrom was the main contributor, with Robyn Greenlund, put together the information and bios about the cemetery and the people in the cemetery, online access through the museum. They are looking to apply for a grant for the Schroeder monument.
4. Commissioner appointments update 1:25
 - a. We have applicants in both areas. We will hopefully have appointments by the June meeting.
5. OPRD update 1:30
 - a. Staffing/planning update – Provided a sort summary of the OPD planning work and lottery funding information.
6. Chair and Vice Chair selection 1:35
 - a. Sarah nominated Milo for chair – Shawn 2nd, approved.
 - b. Bev – nominated Sarah for vice-chair, Sarah declined.
 - c. Shawn nominated Bev for vice-chair – through October meeting, approved.
7. Legislation Update & Discussion 1:50
 - a. Updated on the current legislation – the bill had passed the house.
 - b. Discuss cemetery issues and needs
 - i. Venerable objects
 - ii. Abuse of a memorial to the dead – was a good.
 - iii. Dedicated or platted, is qualified for the ORS. – Bev will look into this. Look into how the archaeology laws apply.
 - c. Review the primary legislation
 - d. Discuss possible legislation to address the needs
8. Cemetery Stories Discussion & Workplan 2:50
 - a. Update from each commissioner on their work on this project
 - i. Lehan – committed to two stories
 - ii. Reed – Has two other librarians who will write some stories, Doch article, by early June before his birthday, Cash Alonzo will do one. Will ask another.
 - iii. Silbernagel – Ritter story, submitted the story.
 - iv. Steinmetz – Looking at this through experience of remote sensing cemeteries, and the questions he fields throughout the year. Might put together a best practices in historic cemeteries. He is reviewing other state offerings.
 - v. Power – will complete a story in the next couple of months.
 - vi. New ideas – Thinking about the Whitman incident (efforts to locate the

Cayuse people arrested for that). Ft Walla Walla cemetery, landowner asked about burials and the property (perhaps share a walk through the process of how we have helped people). Promote the METRO project of research and their blog. On-going short stories or posts of a person with connections to each of the states.

9. Invasive Species discussions – what action do we want to take 2:45
 - a. Sarah has an outline, information from counties, she will submit something for commissioners to comment on.
10. July meeting & event planning - Possible topics
 - a. Presentation in the future, large project on historic cemetery they had to move for an airport. 3D documentation of the cemetery. At some point it would be a cool topic, maybe conference topic. Structure for motion is the software. Great for documentation and condition assessment.
 - b. Mt Zion Memorial Fund – Dwayne T Moore, locating the final resting place of blues musician. 2:55
11. Heritage Bulletin updates 3:00
 - a. Charlotte #3 update, Bev will take up #4, #12 Milo, #8 choosing consultants and contractors Sarah.
12. Commissioner action reports and issues for the commission 3:05
 - a. Lehan – absent
 - b. Reed – Served on Oregon Heritage excellence awards, assisted with cemetery owner research, agreed to be on the grant review committee
 - c. Silbernagel – finished and submitted the story, helping a property owner research a small burial site, started working on the invasive species document.
 - d. Steinmetz – GPR bulletin project, at work helped people out with scopes of work for grant applications. Will look in to structure for motion tie in with cemeteries.
 - e. Power – The recent hire for a part-time person for the cemetery just quit. Central Point cemetery will be taken over by the city, still trying to connect with the owners of the Dunkard Cemetery (found them through (Cricket), helped someone find a grave for the IOOF cemetery in Grass Valley, Recompose programs moving through the legislature.
13. Items for future meetings 3:15
 - a. Ideas?
14. Upcoming Meetings & Workshops 3:20
 - April 23, 2021 – teleconference, Summit also online
 - June 11, 2021 – grant approval, online [NOTE next meeting is June 4]
 - July 15, 2021 – afternoon meeting, evening event (likely online)
 - October 14, 2021 - afternoon meeting, evening event
- XIII. Meeting Adjourned 3:25