



Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries

October 14, 2021

Zoom

Minutes

Thursday, October 14, 2021

Location: Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83183625406>

Or One tap mobile :

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Webinar ID: 831 8362 5406

Business Meeting: 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

1. Commission Business

- a) Welcome and Introductions (Information)
 - a) Commissioners: Milo Reed (chair), Bev Power (vice-chair), Sarah Baylinson, Charlotte Lehan, Lisa Sears, Sarah Silbernagel, Shawn Steinmetz
 - b) Staff: Kuri Gill
 - c) Public: Steve Sprenger, Cricket Soules
- b) Approval of July 15, 2021 Minutes (**Action**)
 - a) Moved: Shawn Steinmetz 2nd: Lisa Sears; Lehan & Power abstain. Approved no objections.
- c) Approval of October 14, 2021 agenda (**Action**)
 - a) Moved: Power 2nd: Lehan. Approved.

2. Public Comment: *This is the time for the public to address the Commission.*

*If you wish to make public comment on an item on the agenda you can choose to make your comment either when the item is heard, or during this allotted time. Although written testimony is not required, it is suggested that 15 copies be provided to the Commission Assistant prior to the meeting. **Speaking time is limited to 3 minutes.***

Cricket Soules – Lisa Sears has been down a few times. Appreciates a commissioner. Museum held an event – History, Headstones, Haunts – working with them for appropriate lens. Asked experience of the commission with post-mortem pictures. It will be Halloween night. Steinmetz – brought issues of showing Native American humans remains is a critical issue. In the context of archaeology, looting, etc. Charlotte noted seeing photos posted online. Reed – Crime scene photos should be considered. Context is everything.

3. OPRD & Staff Update

- a) Heritage staff and planning update (Information)
- b) Land Acknowledgment conversation (Information)
- c) Agenda and minute format update (Information)

4. Cemetery Stories Discussion & Workplan

- a) Commissioners report on work (Information)
 - i. Baylinson – No new updates.
 - ii. Lehan – Just submitted three steamboat captain storie.
 - iii. Power – Another female in the cemetery with good photos.
 - iv. Reed – Would like to re-do the agreement between OPRD and the Multnomah County Library. Will touch base on extending that agreement.
 - v. Silbernagel - absent
 - vi. Sears – Nothing at this time.
 - vii. Steinmetz – Doing some more research on a nearby cemetery.
- b) New ideas (Discussion) – Would be good to kick around themes for the next quarter. Woodmen of the World, Milo will look into that. Zinc and White bronze monuments. Cemetery iconography – outside of Christian or other cultures and religions. Dia de los Muertos – perhaps offer blog space for an appropriate organization. Military practice of leaving coins at the grave.

5. Remote Sensing Project

- a) Commissioners report on work (Information) – Working on a standards document that looks at what people are doing in other states guiding people using remote sensing in cemeteries. Gathering examples. Separately, there has been an effort to put a workshop on for archaeologists in the state. It is on hold due to COVID.

6. Invasive Species Discussion

- a) Commissioner reports on work (Information) – will send to commissioners for comment.
- b) Commission discussion (Information) – discuss at next meeting.

7. Heritage Bulletin Updates

- a) Commissioners report (Information)

8. Future Work Plan

- a) Outreach about the commission and cemetery resources
- b) Tourism – coastal cemetery trail, other connections – Sears: visited Marshfield Cemetery and many south coast people are interested in this. Shared a cemetery handbook in Bandon. If you fill the brochure you get a badge for being a graveyard explorer. Lehan – has looked into an online one, example is Polk County, but include more information.
- c) Cemetery records – promoting care, digitization – look into appropriate partner organizations to digitize. Northwest Digital Hub.
- d) Disaster preparedness – gun safe to store records.
- e) Oral history information hub – Reed had conversation with Laura Lo Forti about an oral history hub. They will talk with the Northwest Heritage HUB.

9. Items for Future Meetings

- a) Commissioners and public suggest topics (Information) -

10. Reports: Commissioner Action and Issues (Information)

- a) Baylinson – Connecting with Kelly Cannon-Miller and connecting with the newer designated cemeteries. Maybe that can happen this winter.
- b) Lehan – Two monument preservation and cleaning workshops. Nice dedication of the Boone monuments that was a grant from the commission. Walnut orchard dedication for TOE. Would like to invite people to visit the cemetery and talk about the restoration efforts there.
- c) Power – had to leave early
- d) Reed – Laura Lo Forti – Oral history HUB, Northwest Digital Heritage HUB for cemetery records, still planning to update Heritage Bulletin 8.
- e) Silbernagel – Worked on invasive species document. Grant County land owner who thinks he has a historic cemetery. Was supposed to get pictures from the Rockville Cemetery, but the trip was canceled.

- f) Sears – Visit more counties and cemeteries for the tour idea. Committing to a story from the Tillamook Cemetery.
- g) Steinmetz – No that wasn't covered.

11. Commission Planning Calendar (Information)

- a) February 4, 2022 – online
- b) April 27, 2022 in the morning – during the Oregon Heritage Conference, Corvallis
- c) June 3 or 10 (TBA) – short, online for grant approval
- d) July 21, 2022 – meeting in person in the afternoon, evening event
- e) October, 2022 – TBA, possible meeting and training with the other commissions and committees

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