

Oregon Heritage Commission

Aug. 3, 2020, 9a.m.--- DRAFT MINUTES

Commissioners: Chelsea Rose, Rosemary Johnson, Kerry Savage, Anne LeVant Prah, Laura Ferguson, Kimberly Moreland, Matias Trejo De Dios, Todd Kepple, Layne Sawyer, Larry Landis, Michelle Woodard, Jennifer Patterson

Staff: Katie Henry, Kuri Gill

Public: Siobhan Taylor, Jon Gustafson, Jon George

1) **Call to Order (9:00 a.m.)** Chelsea Rose

2) **Introductions** All

3) **Approval of Agenda** All

Kerry Savage moved to approve the agenda. Kepple seconded; approved.

4) **Approval of Minutes June 8** All

Rosemary Johnson moved to approved the June 8 minutes. Moreland seconded; approved.

5) **Public Comment**

Presenters from the Willamette Falls Heritage Area introduced themselves: Siobhan Taylor, Jon Gustafson, Jon George

6) **Oregon Heritage Update** Kuri Gill

Gill reported the end result of the staffing reductions for the heritage division. The position of Restoration Specialist held by Joy Sears was laid off, the vacant Review and Compliance position was laid off, an archaeologist position held by Shane James was laid off, and the Heritage Outreach Specialist position was laid off with Katie Henry moving into The Oregon Heritage Commission Coordinator position and Beth Dehn being laid off.

Gill updated commissioners on the Addressing Racism in Historic Places and Heritage – Using the Oregon Heritage Plan that Oregon Heritage staff released in response to the racial unrest occurring in the state and country. That statement and action plan can be found [here](#).

Gill updated the commissioners on National Register news including the listing of the African American MPD and the grant Oregon Heritage received from the National Park Service related to a more statewide application of the MPD.

Gill updated Commissioners on the grants. The museum and historic cemeteries grant continued, though at lower award amounts with other funding. The Diamonds in the Rough and Preserving Oregon grants were canceled due to loss of lottery funding.

Gill updated the Commissioners on the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries (OCHC) position paper on the Confederate Flag that was recently discussed at the last meeting and more work will be done before the next OCHC meeting.

7) Willamette Falls Heritage Area Update (9:30)

Siobhan Taylor

Taylor updated the Commission on the management plan of the Willamette Falls Heritage Area. The plan includes 4 tracks:

- Track 1: Long term - Enable the State Heritage Area to become a destination of national significance, adding value to the State Heritage Area, help our Heritage Partners and each Heritage Asset prepare for increased visitation, dependent upon current fund-raising efforts and approval of funding from the Federal agencies
- Track 2: Build Capacity - Actions provide the Coalition and individual members with the skills, expertise and human resources to undertake their missions at the highest levels.
- Track 3: Product Development - Recommended actions, developments and investments to build the Heritage Area's drawing power as a cultural heritage destination
- Track 4: Heritage Destination Banding and Marketing - Actions and programs to build awareness and visitation to the Heritage Area, from key tourism markets to promote and boost the Heritage Area, build up the Heritage Area economies.

8) OMA Strategic Plan Update

Tim Hecox

Hecox informed the Commissioners they finished their 2020-2023 Strategic Plan process and summarized the goals and the strategies for consideration for any future partnerships with Oregon Heritage and Commission. The goals and strategies can be found [here](#).

9) Break

10) Staff Update and FY20 Cultural Trust Fund Reports

Katie Henry & Kuri Gill

Henry Reported on the commiseration calls: Call 1: This call was just a general check in with folks and we also had a few folks talk about their state of affairs, Call 2: communicating with stakeholders, Call 3: Historic Preservation Month, Call 4: Thinking about Reopening, Call 5: Planning to Reopen. Henry reported that there were some hit or miss calls and we will do more on an as needed basis.

Henry reported on the Covid resources provided by Oregon Heritage: COVID-19 resource website which includes webinar calendar has over 963 view since mid-March

Henry reported on the Heritage Bulletins: Resillience Series: First one was on Board Agendas and we are planning the next ones to be on board involvement in grants, know your community, promoting your value, and inclusion in historical interpretation

Henry reported on the Digitization partnership with the State Library of Oregon: The State Library of Oregon and the Washington State Library applied and were approved to become a DPLA hub. Henry will report updates at the next meeting.

Gill reported on the Disaster Preparedness Initiative: This project is in partnership with the University of Oregon Institute for Policy Research and Engagement. There are 6 Cottage Grove organizations participating. It included 3 group meetings and one workshop. It is in draft format at the moment but the end result includes 5 organizational disaster plan, one community plan, one guidebook, and four guide videos as a companion to the guidebook. The two things that still need to be finished include inventories for the organizations and the value statement. Gill will present the results at the next meeting.

Gill reported on the Volunteer Value Survey & Report: This survey and report was contracted out to the PSU Nonprofit Institute. Survey was completed in August and the report and analysis will be done by December. Gill will provide updates on this at a future meeting.

11) Action on FY21 Cultural Funds Proposal

Kuri Gill & OCT Committee

Laura Ferguson moved to approve the proposal. LeVant Prael seconded; approved.

12) Lunch Break

13) Portland African American MPD

Kim Moreland, Brandon Spencer-Hartle, Stephanie Whitlock, Robert Olguin

Olguin presented on what a Multiple Properties Document is within the National Register Program. Moreland gave some history on the efforts to list this particular MPD. Spencer-Hartle addressed the efforts from the city perspective and some successes and challenges. Whitlock representing the Architectural Heritage Center described their role as a consultant on the project led by Cathy Galbraith.

14) Action on Heritage Tradition- Christmas Ships Katie Henry & Traditions Committee

Rosemary Johnson moved to approve the proposal. Trejo De Dios seconded; approved.

15) Suffrage Centennial Recognition

Katie Henry & Chelsea Rose

Commissioner Rose reminded Commissioners that the year 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment. The 2020 conference would have allowed us the opportunity to remind and honor this important anniversary but that did not happen. Henry reported how Oregon Heritage was still able to bring awareness to the suffrage centennial which included the following: Adapted a website where people can submit information on historic sites related to women's history, promote events and exhibits through the heritage news, facebook, and blog, worked with Oregon Women's Consortium to promote a national effort to identify women's history sites, shared National Trust efforts to compile a list of 1000 places where women made a mark. Henry also commented on two online exhibits that can be visited at Oregon Historical Society website and State Archives website.

16) Fieldwork reports by Commissioners

All

Johnson: Noted that museums in Astoria are opening up but not a lot of international visitors.

Landis: Recently retired but still with the department. Will look into University libraries and archives and their reopening and will report back.

LeVant Prahl: Everyone is still working from home at the OJMCHE. The museum had an exhibit in the windows which drew some media attention.

Trejo De Dios: The Instituto de Cultura Oregoniana is working on a project with the Chehalem Cultural Center in Newberg. They are also working to address recovery for Spanish speaking artists. The 2020 Hispanic Heritage Celebration will be held virtually on Sept. 19, 6-7pm.

Patterson: Gave an update on the DPLA hub that was approved and is moving forward. Also mentioned the approval and rollout of the strategic plan for the State Library of Oregon.

Woodard: Reported that Travel Oregon is working on messaging safe and responsible travel and urging really local travel. Travel Oregon will also be having webinars to help give tools to those in the tourism industry.

Sawyer: Reported that the State Archives launched an online exhibit, On Her Own Wings: Oregon Women and the Struggle for Suffrage.

Rose:

17) Adjournment (1:20pm)

Next Meeting

Nov. 2, Virtual Meeting