Oregon Historical Marker Committee
Meeting Minutes
Oregon Travel Experience, Salem, Oregon
Tuesday, June 12, 2012

Committee Participants:
George Forbes
Richard Engeman
Stan McDonald
Dick Matthews
David Bogan
Marty Klug
Wayne Sharp

Absent:
Clark Niewendorp
Robert Keeler
Eliza Canty-Jones

Staff Participants:
Annie von Domitz
Jenn Smith
Madeline MacGregor

Guest Participant:
Kelly Haverkate, Program Manager, Dayton Community Development Association
Gwen Carr, Research & Education Chair, Oregon Black Pioneers

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1) **Call to order**
David Bogan called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. Self-introductions were made.

2) **Approval of the February 14, 2012 Minutes**
Wayne made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; George seconded. Motion passed.

3) **New Marker Applications**
   a. **Blalock:** Annie reminded the Committee that at the previous meeting, they decided to table the decision until it could be determined where a sign would be placed. In response the nominator provided a map with some options. Annie expressed concern about getting a sign on I-84 that would direct people to the marker itself. She told the group that even though there is not currently funding for the sign, fundraising is in progress.

      Annie reminded the committee that they had indicated this story would be a good way to educate about the impacts the Columbia River dams had on the state.

      After discussion, George made a motion that the story has merit and potential and to go to the next steps. Wayne seconded the motion. Motion passed.

   b. **Dayton:** Bogan introduced the marker application for the Dayton Blockhouse site. Annie reviewed the history; the committee had decided to be proactive and find a way to replace the sign due to

inaccuracies. Kelly Haverkate has since stepped forward to partner in the development of the marker on behalf of the city.

George made a motion to approve and accept the application; Richard seconded. Motion passed.

David requested volunteers for the sub-committee for this marker project. The volunteers are: Stan, David and Dick. Kelly will be the principal contact for the City of Dayton.

David said he would like the committee to discuss a revision of the historical marker application. One addition David suggested was to provide a place for the applicant to list bullet points for the main topics of the marker. He also suggested giving applicants more guidance in describing the story they would like to have the marker tell. This will help streamline the process.

With the help of Kelly and the others involved in Dayton, this marker will tell a broader story about the Dayton Blockhouse and the city than the original routed marker did.

David asked if there was any stipulation from the grant committee on the National Historic registry; Kelly said she would clarify the grant requirements before proceeding with text development.

4) Marker Projects

a. Captain Robert Gray: Annie reminded the committee that the marker had been blown down and needed to be replaced. Coincidently, Gwenn Carr from the Oregon Black Pioneers contacted OTE with additional information and history that could be pertinent to the marker.

The marker states: "…a flight with the Indians in which one of Gray's crew and several Indians were killed." Research shows that the member of Gray's crew that was killed was, Marcus Lopius, the first documented person of African descent in Oregon. Since this is a significant piece of Oregon's black history, Gwen asked if the sign could be revised to include the identity of Marcus Lopius.

Richard noted that there needed to be some additional changes to the sign. He asked if the new sign would be routed or a new style panel. Annie replied that the materials for a new routed sign are on hand. If the Committee wanted to pursue a new interpretive panel, funds would have to be identified. Richard suggested a redone routed sign would be appropriate.

George, Richard and Gwen volunteered to be the sub-committee to rewrite the sign text.

b. Champoeg: David asked the Committee to review the wording for the marker that was in the packet. Annie noted that the tribe approved the text that has been presented to the committee. George asked if there had been a decision on where the marker will be placed. Annie said they need to meet with Bryan, the Champoeg Park Manager, to go take a look at the location options before a decision is made.

David asked how many posts will be used for the sign. Annie said it depends on how much the park can help with the finances. David said he favors a replica that includes the three decorative posts on each side, to maintain the original design. He said the sign itself has historical significance, since it was one of the first Beaver Boards.

George made a motion to accept the copy as presented. Richard requested an amendment to the motion that the information be edited to be in craniological order. George accepted the amendment. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed.

c. Jedediah Smith: David explained that it seemed to make more sense to try to tell about the other stops Smith may have made during his journey, rather than just focus on one event. Annie presented two options on the new marker and how it could be laid out. Richard asked what the impact Smith had on

Oregon history. It was decided the best option would be for Annie to get information from Heritage Trails and create a story outlining the route he took through Oregon and what places he named. Annie requested a couple more volunteers for the sub-committee. This marker has been funded through a grant from the Oregon Historic Trails Fund of the Oregon Community Fund.

d. **Coos Bay/Hollering Place:** Annie handed out packets of information provided by the City of Coos Bay. The packets contain references and a basic text outline for four markers. The large marker will give a historical overview of the Hollering Place. The other three, pedestal style markers will each cover one of the following topics: history of the Coos people, geology and other historically significant sites around Coos Bay.
Subcommittees for each of the marker projects are as follows:
Hollering Place (large marker)- Bob Keeler and David Bogan. Steve Greif will be the local contact.

Geology(small pedestal)- Clark Newiendorp. Mike Vaughan will be the local contact

The Coos People(small pedestal)- Richard Engeman and Stan McDonald. Jesse Beers and Wendy Williford will the local contacts

Other significant sites around Coos Bay (small pedestal)- Richard Engeman. Local contact to be determined.

The installation goal for this project is June 2013, to coincided with the Clamboree Festival held annually at the Hollering Place.

e. **Philomath:** Annie relayed a request from Irene Zenev, the Executive Director for the Benton County Historical Society to the committee. Irene would like the committee to consider adopting the Philomath College marker into the Oregon Historical Marker Program. The text and the sign have been restored. It was originally created under ODOT's marker program and later gifted to the historical society. George made the motion to adopt the sign. Stan seconded; motion passed.

5) Marker Projects Updates

a. **Applegate-Yoncolla:** Annie reported that a cousin of the Applegate family is coordinating the moving of the marker to the other side of the driveway. The hope is the county will move the sign; otherwise the OTE sign crew can do it.

b. **Bannock War:** Wayne reported the Salemtowne volunteers completed the updated marker the day before. Dick asked if staff could look into putting up some barriers to protect the sign from being hit in the future. Annie said Jim Renner mentioned there were some bollards in front of the sign at one point, but she would check to see if they were still in place.

c. **Mulino Mill:** Annie reported the final draft was complete (sample in packets) and the marker is currently in fabrication. ODOT will be installing it. The date for the dedication has not yet been set, but as soon as it is, she will notify the committee.

d. **Abigail Scott Duniway:** Annie reported the final draft for the marker is in the packet and will need to be voted on by the committee. The sub-committee members, Bob and Eliza, have both signed off on it. The dedication date has yet to be set, but it will most likely in be in September. Once the installation date is finalized, the dedication date can be determined. George asked if there were any other suffrage markers in the works to create a series. Annie replied there are not, however if the committee wanted to pursue the idea, it would need to be driven by the members. Richard made a motion to accept the final draft as presented. George seconded; motion passed.

e. **Oregon Coast Indians:** Annie noted this item was on the agenda simply so the committee doesn't forget about it. She reminded them the marker had been removed for a highway project and then put back up. It was flagged by the committee for text revision during the program review last year. Additionally, the Tribes did not approve of the text. The marker was removed again and is currently in storage. The Committee decided it should be under the "new marker" category and tabled until funding can be secured for a replacement.

f. **Meacham:** This marker has been tabled several times by the committee, following its removal in July of 2011. Richard said that he has research regarding Grandma Munra, who is mentioned on the marker. He agreed to do more research to see if the story could be expanded on the existing marker. David said that this marker could be the start of and "off-the-beaten-path" series of markers that the committee discussed at previous meetings.

6) **Council Report:** George reported that Cheryl Gribskov, OTE CEO is retiring and the Council will be putting together a search team. He also noted that there will be some changes in the make-up of the Council

7) **Committee Elections:** George made a motion to nominate Dick Mathews to be a member of the Committee until July 2015; Wayne seconded. Motion passed.

Richard made a motion to reappoint Clark to the Committee until 2015 (pending Clark's agreement); George seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Wayne made a motion to reappoint Richard to the Committee until 2015; George seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Dick moved that Richard be Chair of the Committee for the coming year; George seconded the motion. Motion approved.

George moved that Eliza be Vice-chair (in absentia and upon Eliza's agreement) of the Committee for the coming year; Stan seconded the motion. Motion approved.

8) **Committee Member Reports/New Business**
   a. **Volunteer Report:** Wayne told the Committee they volunteers were working on maintenance of signs
   b. **New Business:** Annie introduced a new design for the Beaver board. The goal will be to have the signs be easier to maintain. The group had some concerns and thought more research needed to be done before making a decision.

9) **2012 Meeting Schedule**

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the second month of the quarter, unless otherwise specified.

August 14, 2012- possibly at Oregon Historical Society (OHS). David said he would ask Eliza if the Madison Room at OHS is available.

November 13, 2012 –TBD
February 12, 2013 – TBD
May 14, 2013 – TBD

Adjournment

David called for the meeting to adjourn at 12:05 pm.