

Oregon Historical Marker Committee
Meeting Minutes
Oregon Travel Information Council, Salem Oregon
Tuesday, June 7, 2011

Committee Participants:

Eliza Canty-Jones
David Bogan
George Forbes
Wayne Sharp

Robert Keeler
Marty Klug
Beverly Vogt

Absent:

Richard Engeman

Stan McDonald

Clark Niewendorp

Staff Participants:

Annie Von Domitz

Cheryl Gribskov

Guests:

Glenn Harrison, Oregon Historic Trails Advisory Council (OHTAC)
Bryan Nielsen, Oregon Parks & Recreation

1) Call to order

Bob Keeler called the meeting to order at 9:20 AM.

2) Approval of February 1, 2011 Minutes

David Bogan moved that the minutes be approved. George Forbes seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

3) Council Report

George Forbes presented Bev Vogt with a plaque from TIC in appreciation for her nine years of service to the committee. George reported that TIC approved their 2011-13 biennial budget on June 2. Sign customers report complimentary evaluations to TIC, those that were negative are being addressed so that we can assure even more customer service. Senate Bill 179 passed, allowing specified TIC employees citation authority for those breaking administrative rules in rest areas. George also talked about office expansion to address anticipated growth.

4) New Business

Joel Perkins Park: Annie Von Domitz presented an application from the City of Lafayette that focused on variety of historical offerings in the city. After much discussion on location, types of markers, and the valuable history involved with the city, the committee requested more details about the theme and story desired by the city through this application. Bob Keeler and Annie will go to the city to discuss in more detail their desires, the types of signs, and how the information can be best showcased.

Hollering Place: The second application came from the southern coast meeting last August which stimulated interest in a marker celebrating the Hollering Place outside of Coos Bay. This is an excellent partnership with the tribe. The committee felt the concept should move forward, George Forbes and Eliza Canty-Jones will serve on a subcommittee to move the marker process

forward. It was recommended that Bill Robbins or Steve Beckham be advisors to the subcommittee through their depth of background with the tribal history.

5) **New Business**

a. Election of Officers and Renewal of Terms:

- i. Eliza Canty- Jones was nominated to replace Bill Failing representing Oregon Historical Society. George Forbes nominated, David Bogan seconded, passed. She will serve until 2014.
- ii. David Bogan was recommended to renew his term until 2014, and was also nominated to serve as committee chair for 2011-12. George Forbes nominated, Bev Vogt seconded, motion passed.
- iii. Wayne Sharp nominated Marty Klug for membership renewal until 2014, David Bogan seconded, passed.
- iv. George Forbes nominated Richard Engeman to serve as vice chair for term of 2011-12. Bev Vogt seconded, passed pending agreement by Richard.

- b. Bob Keeler reported on the Heritage Commission Vitality Report. He asked that each committee member receive copies of the report. He felt that many of the conclusions can serve as a barometer for the committee as it sets goals and objectives, including building a larger partnership base, moving with other like groups in a cohesive direction, leveraging resources, etc. He hopes that this discussion can result in an action plan. From this discussion, it was decided that more involvement should also take place with the Main Street program and that the committee should move around the state in order to touch more groups and gain more visibility in communities. Each meeting should involve a different historic organization that can present its mission and generate collaborative discussion.

David Bogan and George Forbes reminded the group that the committee is about travel and economic development through enriching communities when the traveler stops to learn more about the area history, then stays longer to see more opportunities and use local businesses.

The committee also requested that a list of grant resources be compiled that will allow the committee to work more closely with sponsors as funding of markers is considered.

6) **Old Business**

Restoration/Replacement projects

Text Review: A sub-committee met to analyze the edits and comments the committee received during an initial text review of the marker program. Markers that were identified during the review as needing revisions were included in a list. The sub-committee rated the markers on that list with a scale from 1-5, with five being the highest priority for revision. The recommendations were presented to the committee. The committee agreed to work on the Champoeg, Jedediah Smith, and Oregon Coast Indians markers as previously planned. All three of the markers were included in the highest priority category during the review. Bob Keeler urged the committee to review the text of the markers regularly, to become familiar with them

and to continue to look out for errors that we may have missed. He stressed that this will be an ongoing process and the list will change as projects are completed.

Jedediah Smith: The committee discussed the Jedediah Smith marker and agreed that it would be best to focus on the story of the Jedediah Smith Historic Trail rather than one incident that happened during Smith's travels. The committee requested that research be done regarding a possible grant through OCF/ Oregon Trail Fund. Glenn Harrison said that the next round of grant applications will be considered in September. The committee also agreed that the content should be developed with input from both the Tribes and OHTAC.

Oregon Coast Indians: The committee agreed that the panel should be replaced with verbiage that focuses more on tribal history, using advisement from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and local tribal consultation.

Champoeg Marker: Bryan Nielsen, OPRD Manager of Champoeg State Park, reported that the pavilion is being remodeled to reflect the original design. He would like the committee to consider replacing support posts that would emulate the same posts of the new building, replacing the old creosote telephone pole posts currently used. Annie recommended a subcommittee to review the marker in its entirety, working with Bryan and including the tribes. David Brauner from OSU Anthropology Department was mentioned as a potential advisor. Bryan told the committee that a member of Friends of Champoeg is a member of the Grand Ronde tribe and he would be very helpful. This is an important project because the marker is in the middle of the most historic section of the park. David Bogan and Eliza Canty-Jones agreed to serve on the subcommittee.

8) Committee member reports/New Business

- a. Wayne Sharp passed out pictures of the markers refurbished by Salemtowne last year. Salemtowne has seven volunteers planning to work with Annie on marker refurbishments as soon as the weather clears, and will also probably be involved with the new "Welcome to Oregon" sign at the Ontario rest area.

7) 2011 Meeting Schedule

August 2011: Wallowa Lake, 2 night field trip or possibly Pendleton

November 2011: Oregon Historical Society, Portland, OR

Adjournment:

Bob Keeler adjourned the committee meeting at 11:40