

**Oregon Historical Marker Committee
Meeting Minutes
Salem Towne Community Hall, Salem, OR
Friday, August 21, 2015**

Committee Participants:

George Forbes	Charlotte Lehan	Richard Engeman
Marty Klug	Clark Niewendorp	Robert Keeler
Eliza Canty-Jones	Lina Ma	

Absent:

David Porter	Jack Carroll	Chris Bell
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Staff Participants:

Annie von Domitz	Tim Pickett	Jenn Smith
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1) Call to Order/ Introductions

Forbes called the meeting to order at 12:42 pm.

2) Approval of the May 16, 2015 Minutes

Richard Engeman moved to accept the February 10, 2015 meeting minutes as presented. Marty Klug seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3) Committee Elections

Canty-Jones made a motion to elect the following people for three-year terms on the committee: Lina Ma, DOGAMI; George Forbes, Member-At-Large; Richard Engeman, Member-At-Large. Keeler 2nd; motion passed unanimously.

Canty-Jones made a motion for Ma to be vice-chair; Keeler 2nd; motion passed unanimously.

Canty-Jones made a motion Lehan to be chair; Keeler 2nd; motion passed unanimously.

4) Strategic Direction

A. **OAR Revisions:** Von Domitz gave some background on the OARs and how they are antiquated. It was agreed to form a sub-committee to make suggested changes. Canty- Jones, Engeman and Lehan volunteered.

B. **SWOT :**

Tim Pickett, Operations Officer for OTE, gave the committee a quick overview of the biennial budget process OTE is currently working through.

The committee then participated in a brainstorming session based on the SWOT analysis results:

Opportunities

- Coordination with Travel Oregon, Oregon Heritage Commission and the Cemetery Commission
- Submit topic for the 2016 Heritage Conference
- Assess all OTE rest areas for potential historical markers
 - Grove of the States Marker
- Rulemaking (sponsorship)
- Augmented reality apps
- Oregon Encyclopedia collaboration
- Oregon Wayfinder collaboration
- Oregon Historic Project collaboration
- Ask historical marker listserv about technologies other states have tried (wins/disappointments)

Next 3 Years

- Grow & Diversify Committee
- Research web meetings to allow greater committee member participation
- Create a pro-active plan
 - Revive interpretive plan
 - Review text revision priorities

C. **Nomination Criteria:** The committee decided to have the same sub-committee looking at the OAR's to review historical marker nomination criteria and make any suggested changes.

5) Marker Projects (Work Session)

- A. **TJ Howell:** Niewendorp reported that he was working on the text for this marker with David Porter, but they were not ready to present it to the committee. The committee agreed to table this nomination.
- B. **Stuart Roosa/ Moon Tree:** The committee felt that the story had already been told. Canty-Jones made a motion to decline the nomination and suggest to the nominator that there might be a different story that could be told about the area. Keeler 2nd; motion passed unanimously.
- C. **Cannon Beach:** Canty-Jones reported she has not had a chance to work on this text, but would get to it very soon. OTE Council member, Ryan Snyder, is from Cannon Beach. Von Domitz said she and OTE Executive Director, Nancy DeSouza will reach out to him for sponsorship ideas.

- D. **Pistol River:** Von Domitz reported this marker is a challenging project due to the strong feelings of the community and the controversial nature of the story. Canty- Jones suggested holding a community panel with Oregon Historical Society, and perhaps with Oregon Humanities Council, to let the community discuss the history and help find a common ground.

6) Council Report

Lehan reported the Council is more committed to the continued support of the heritage programs than ever and are seen as a valuable asset to the agency. During a strategic planning meeting there was discussion about how and where to integrate the markers into the rest area and kiosk programs.

7) Committee Member Reports/ New Business

- A. **Volunteer Report:** Jack Carroll gave the committee a tour of the workshop before the meeting.

- B. **New Business:** Klug asked about the status of putting up supplemental information on “Heritage Marker Ahead” signs. Von Domitz said the idea had been tabled the idea for now, due to the cost of creating the additional signage and installing larger posts.

8) Meeting Schedule

November 10, 2015- Railroad Museum in Portland @ 9:30 am.

February 9, 2016- TBD

May 4, 5, or 6 (TBD), 2016 – Salem, in conjunction with the Heritage Conference

August 9, 2016 - TBD

9) Adjournment

Forbes adjourned the meeting at 2:01 pm.