

**Oregon Historical Marker Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
Oregon Travel Experience Offices  
1500 Liberty St. SE, Suite 150, Salem, Or. 97302  
**Tuesday, August 14, 2018**

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**Committee Participants:**

Robert Keeler, Chair	Ed Washington
Kelly Cannon-Miller (phone)	Charlotte Lehan
Eliza Canty-Jones (phone)	Chris Bell
David Porter	

**Absent:**

George Forbes	Gwenn Baldwin
Bob Garcia	Jack Carroll

**Staff Participants:**

Annie von Domitz	Jessica Carbone
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**1. Call to Order/ Introductions**

Keeler called the meeting to order at 1:07pm. Self-introductions were made.

**2. Approval of the Minutes**

*Bell moved to approve the February 13, 2018 minutes. Porter seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.*

**3. Committee Elections**

Chris Bell was nominated for a one-year term as committee Chair. Bob Garcia was nominated for a one-year term as Vice-Chair. There were no other nominations.

*Porter made a motion to elect Chris Bell as committee Chair and Bob Garcia as Vice-Chair. Lehan seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.*

The re-election of George Forbes as a Member-at-Large was tabled until next meeting.

**4. Current Marker Projects**

**A. Fort Stevens Marker**

Canty-Jones presented the most recent edition of the marker text. The revision was made using feedback provided by Robert Kentta and Doug Deur. The sign addresses some of the earlier history of the area that may not be addressed among the information provided in the Fort. With the shift in information of the narrative the committee discussed the possibility of a

new title for the marker, in lieu of the current name, “Fort Stevens State Park.” The committee discussed ideas to reduce the current word count. Canty-Jones will present a new draft at the next meeting. She hopes to have feedback from Kentta about the new draft before the next meeting.

*Washington joined the meeting at 1:30 p.m.*

**B. Beacon Rock**

Von Domitz said that Baldwin continues to reach out to the Yakima Tribe for feedback on the marker text. Porter said that Scott Burns has agreed to provide geological information on Beacon Rock.

**C. Broughton’s Expedition**

Porter presented a first draft of text for review and comment. The committee discussed major themes and gave feedback. Porter will work on a new draft. Von Domitz will ask for feedback from Doug Deur when the new draft is finished.

**D. Great Tsunami 1700**

Von Domitz provided comments from Robert Kentta and her current revisions and asked the committee for feedback. She will also reach out to Sea Reach to see if better illustrations can be found. Keeler recommend verifying with the Office of Emergency Management that the instructions for what to do when the earth shakes are still accurate. Lehan suggested mentioning that the January 26, 1700 date was established due to Japanese records.

**E. The Dalles to Canyon City Wagon Road**

The committee discussed the comments provided from the meeting with Warm Springs. Keeler asked for more information about the other names for the John Day River. It was suggested to change the legend to say “other roads and trails” instead of “pioneer roads”. Lehan suggested an edit to the picture caption “on the streets of Antelope.” Von Domitz will connect with Baldwin and Warm Springs for any further information.

**F. 555<sup>th</sup> in Pendleton**

Travel Pendleton has received a permit from the city to place a pedestal marker downtown. They also received a grant from the county to cover most of the cost. The Pendleton Underground provided the funds to cover the rest of the cost. Keeler has agreed to help take the story of the larger marker and condense it down to pedestal size.

**5. Nez Perce Marker**

The Salemtowne volunteers reported that the Nez Perce marker will have to be brought in for repairs. The damage is too severe to be done in the field. Von Domitz sent the current text to Veronica Redstar and Bobbie Connors for comments. Redstar asked the marker be made a

priority and provided feedback. Keeler recommended reaching out to David Liberty. Chris Bell will take the lead on this marker for the committee.

**6. Oregon Trail Interpretive Kiosks**

Von Domitz and Canty-Jones are working on a project plan. Phase one is stakeholder development and hiring a contractor to help develop content. Canty-Jones made a successful grant proposal presentation to the Oregon Cultural Trust Partners for funding to provide stipend and travel assistance for a project advisory committee. Ann Craig at the museum at U of O was supportive of the project idea and is interested in having her organization be included in the project. She will talk to her director about who would be most appropriate to participate. The goal is to have a first draft of the content by Fall of 2019.

**7. Old Business**

Keeler asked if there was any new information about the Indian Marathon marker. Bell said that there has not been any communication from the City of Grants Pass on funding the marker, but he will reach out to them. Bell has continued to reach out to interested parties with the refocused topic of the Redwood Highway including the Indian Marathon. Possible funding sources are still being researched.

**8. Committee Member Report/New Business:**

- A. Volunteer Report:** Von Domitz said that Salemtowne group completed a maintenance trip and visited all the markers along I-84 in June. They also visited all the markers they missed along the Southern Oregon Coast due to the fires last summer. They reported that a couple of the markers are deteriorated to the point they are unrepairable. They will need to be assessed for replacement soon. The Fort Stevens replacement marker has been built and is ready for routing. The volunteer appreciation lunch took place last week and was a great success.
- B. Council Report:** Washington reported the agency is busy onboarding six new rest areas and working building a capital projects plan for the entire program.
- C. Scottsburg Marker:** Bell reported that due to a nearby ODOT project there may be funding for a new Scottsburg Marker. Von Domitz said that the Salemtowne volunteers reported that it is in need of significant repair, so this is a great opportunity to revisit this marker. Bell will keep the committee informed about the project.

**New Business:**

Lehan asked if the committee had any good sources of information on the history of log rafts along the Willamette river.

**9. 2017 Meeting Schedule**

November 13 – OHS, Portland  
February 12 - OTE Offices  
May 14 – Leach Botanical

August 13 – OTE Offices/ Volunteer Appreciation

The committee discussed the possibility of a meeting with the Siletz Tribe in 2019.

**10. Adjourn at 3:03 pm**