

Oregon Historical Marker Committee
Meeting Minutes
TIC Offices
1500 Liberty St. SE, Suite 150, Salem, Or 97302
Tuesday, February 12, 2019

Committee Participants:

Chris Bell, Chair Robert Keeler
Kelly Cannon-Miller (phone) George Forbes
Eliza Canty-Jones (phone) David Porter (phone)
Bob Garcia, Vice-Chair (phone) Jack Carroll
Charlotte Lehan

Guests: Nancy DeSouza

Absent:

Gwenn Baldwin Ed Washington

Staff Participants:

Annie von Domitz Jessica Carbone Jim Denno

• **Call to Order/ Introductions**

Bell called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m. Self-introductions were made.

• **Approval of the Minutes**

Carbone corrected the spelling of “Yakima” to “Yakama”. *Forbes moved to approve the November 13, 2018 minutes as amended. Keeler seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.*

• **New Member Application**

The committee reviewed a new member application. Nancy DeSouza, a former TIC Executive Director, is a native Oregonian with a love for beaverboards. She would bring great writing experience and research skills to the committee.

Forbes made a motion to add Nancy DeSouza to an At-Large position of the committee for a three-year term. Keeler seconded the motion. The motion carried.

• **Conflict at Pistol River marker**

This marker was taken down in 2014 due to extensive rot, which made the marker unsalvageable. At that time, the committee discussed the cultural appropriateness of its content and possible funding options for its replacement. The marker was tabled indefinitely after extensive discussions and research over the course of several meetings. A Curry County Commissioner, Court Boice, has contacted several agencies inquiring about its return. The committee discussed the marker’s content and options to replace the marker. Von Domitz will

follow up with Commissioner Boice to discuss possible funding and potential content of a replacement marker. Garcia will send the current text to representatives with the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians for feedback.

- **Current Marker Projects**

- **Beacon Rock**

- Von Domitz presented Baldwin's most recent draft text. No feedback has been received from the Yakama Tribe. The committee recommended minor changes to the text. Von Domitz will make the edits and send it to the committee for approval.

- **Broughton's Expedition**

- Porter presented the most current draft text for review and comment. The committee discussed content and suggested editorial and textual edits. Porter will make edits and bring the text back to committee. Bell will introduce Porter to his contact with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Canty-Jones will send the contact information for the Chinook Tribe to von Domitz.

- **Volunteer Report:** Carroll gave a brief report of the Salemtowne volunteers' plans for a maintenance trip this summer. They plan to stay within the Willamette Valley this trip, heading up to Wilsonville and down to Drain. He is hoping that this summer will bring the program as close as possible to the maintenance goal of visiting every sign every five years.

- **Great Tsunami 1700**

- The committee reviewed the draft of the marker from SeaReach. Von Domitz will make the edits suggested by the committee and research options of inundation maps for Siletz Bay to replace the bottom illustration.

- **555th in Pendleton**

- Von Domitz presented two markers layouts from SeaReach. The committee discussed the layout of the two options and the quotes chosen. Von Domitz will take the committee's comments about the sign's layout and quote headlines to SeaReach. Once SeaReach has made the suggested edits she will send it out to the committee and the marker sponsors in Pendleton.

- **Nez Perce Marker**

- Bell presented the marker text with Veronica Redstar's edits. The committee discussed content and suggested editorial and textual edits. Bell will edit the text and send it back to Veronica for review. Von Domitz will send the revised text to Bobbie Connor.

- **The Dalles to Canyon City Wagon Road**

- Von Domitz said there was nothing new to report. She continues to work with representatives from Warm Springs for feedback on its content.

Willamette Post

Keeler volunteered to take over the text review for this marker. Von Domitz will connect him with the Champoeg State Park manager, Greg Leo of both the Friends of Champoeg and Friends and French Prairie, and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde for feedback on the marker's content.

- **Oregon Trail Interpretive Kiosks**

Von Domitz said the advisory committee met earlier this month. The meeting was very successful. The committee discussed guiding principles and the necessary requirements for the contractor hired to produce the content. It is planned to have the RFP for the contractor out by the end of month and hired by April.

Old Business

- **Fort Stevens**

Von Domitz said it is in the ODOT sign shop being routed.

- **Indian Marathon**

Bell reviewed the background of the marker. Tara Keegan, a U of O grad student who is researching this topic, has reported the all the tribes that she has contacted are very favorable of remembering this event. Bell will be taking steps to develop text and working with Roger Brandt to develop funding.

New Business:

Committee Member Report

- **Council Report:** Garcia said that the agency has officially discontinued the Oregon Travel Experience Business name and strictly using Travel Information Council. Staff is working toward onboarding three new rest areas from State Parks this summer and beginning the building replacement and expansion project at Oak Grove.

Damaged Markers

- **Dead Indian Memorial**

The TIC Sign Crew took pictures of this marker to show the heavily damaged marker is a safety concern. The committee discussed possible repair options. The committee recommended taking the sign down so Salemtowne could assess its condition. DeSouza will lead the text review on this marker. Von Domitz will report back to the committee to determine next steps.

- **Transcontinental Auto Race**

Bell volunteered to lead the text review for this marker. Von Domitz will provide him with the information that she has available. He will bring information and any suggested edits to the next meeting.

Heritage Tree Committee Updates:

Charlotte has volunteered to give tree committee updates at all future meetings to help connect the two committees. Von Domitz will work on finding a date to have a joint lunch.

- **2019- Meeting Schedule**

- May 14 – Leach Botanical Garden, Portland

- August 13 – TIC Offices/ Volunteer Appreciation

- November 12 - TBD

- **Adjourn at 3:48 pm**