

Oregon Historical Marker Committee

Meeting Minutes

Zoom Meeting, Tuesday, August 4, 2020

Committee Participants: Chris Bell, Chair; Bob Garcia, Vice-Chair; Kelly Cannon-Miller; Eliza Canty-Jones; Nancy DeSouza; Bob Keeler; David Porter; Ed Washington

Excused: Gwenn Baldwin

Guest: Zachary Stocks- Oregon Black Pioneers

Staff Participants: Annie von Domitz; Jessica Carbone; Jim Denno

Call to Order/ Introductions: Bell called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. Self-introductions were made.

Approval of the Minutes: *Garcia made a motion to approve the May 12, 2020 minutes as submitted. Keeler seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

Oregon Black Pioneers Partnership: Zachary Stocks the new Executive Director of the Oregon Black Pioneers introduced himself to the committee and explained his desire to focus the scope of his organization's programming to maintain a consistent, sustainable offering of programs. His three priorities include developing a virtual museum through the Oregon Black Pioneers website, a new speakers bureau program, and developing partnerships with museums and historical societies who have the capacity to incorporate African American stories into programs and displays. He thinks the historical marker committee would be a great partner to reach out across the state. The committee expressed their support and excitement to work with the Oregon Black Pioneers. They asked Stocks to provide the content direction and to make a list of the priority stories to tell. From that point, the committee can help develop those stories and develop connections and community support in local communities.

Elections: Bob Garcia was nominated for a one-year term as Committee Chair. Nancy DeSouza was nominated for a one-year term as Vice-Chair. There were no other nominations.

Porter made a motion to elect Bob Garcia as committee Chair and Nancy DeSouza as Vice-Chair. Keeler seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

Program Values Statement: Von Domitz presented the third draft of the program values statement developed by the value statement subcommittee. With only very small grammatical changes, the committee congratulated the sub-committee on their work.

Garcia moved to approve the Program Value Statement. Keeler seconded. The motion carried.

The committee discussed how the new value statement would be used in the program. It was suggested to use the values to create a tool to filter any potential projects, incorporate it into the marker application process, in the recruitment any new members, and in most if not all publications and digital materials.

Current Marker Projects

- **Conflict at Pistol River Marker:** Garcia has had no feedback from the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. This story is a very difficult story to tell overall, even without a significant word limit. In order to give the local community back a marker, Garcia recommended that the best

plan would be to work with the community and the Tribe to find a different story to replace the Pistol River marker.

- **Broughton's Expedition:** Christian Nauer, Porter's contact with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, made some edits and corrections to the draft text. Nauer submitted it to the tribe's cultural committee for review. Because of the meeting constraints of the current pandemic, the cultural committee has only met once since February, but Porter reported that Nauer believes they were ok with the draft. Nauer asked Porter to keep him in the loop after this meeting. Von Domitz was still concerned with the 125-word count of the draft text. It may not fit on the marker. She will send out the draft text to the committee for review.
- **Indian Marathon:** Bell said that Tara Keegan (the graduate student working on this topic for her thesis) was again out of the state and unavailable for the meeting. Bell will reach out to Rodger Brandt to make sure the funds are still available.
- **Nez Perce Marker:** Bell is waiting for feedback from Veronica RedStar. Von Domitz will reach out to Bobbie Conner after RedStar has provided her feedback.
- **The Dalles to Canyon City Wagon Road:** SeaReach has the final approved text. They are working on the final panel and rebuilding the frame. The Community of Antelope is very excited to have the marker back.
- **Willamette Post:** Keeler said he had nothing new to report. He is waiting for feedback from David Lewis and State Parks.

Oregon Trail Interpretive Kiosks: Von Domitz reported that HRA has completed their research. The advisory committee will be meeting in a couple of weeks to go over the outline of that research and discussing direction. The next phase will be to develop content.

Old Business:

- **Transcontinental Auto Race:** Von Domitz said the sign is completed and ready to be installed in the next couple of weeks.
- **Salemtowne Volunteers:** Von Domitz said the volunteers want to get out in the field and continue their work but won't feel comfortable going out until Oregon hit phase three in the COVID-19 reopening plan.

Committee Member Report/New Business:

- **Second Bristow Marker:** Von Domitz said that she received a call about a metal pedestal marker at the Bristow Marker location. It was a marker that she had no previous knowledge of. The wood beaverboard at that location was given to State Parks in 2016 so they could move it to the state park named after him. The only mention she could find of the metal marker was a notation in meeting minutes from 1998. She will need to do further research before the next meeting so the committee can discuss what to do with the with the metal marker.

2020/2021 Meeting Schedule

November 3 – Zoom

February 2, 2021 – TBD

May 4, 2021 – TBD

August 3, 2021- TBD

Adjourn at 2:28 p.m.