

**Oregon Historical Marker Committee**  
Meeting Minutes  
**Virtual Meeting, Tuesday, February 1,  
2022**

**Committee Participants:** Bob Garcia, Chair; Gwenn Baldwin; Chris Bell; Barbara Bonnem; Kelly Cannon-Miller; David Porter; Nancy DeSouza, Vice-Chair; Bob Keeler; Ed Washington.

**Excused:** Eliza Canty-Jones

**Staff Participants:** Elizabeth Boxall; Jessica Carbone

**Guest:** Annie von Domitz

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**Call to Order/ Introductions:** Garcia called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. Carbone made introductions.

The Historical Marker Committee presented a gift of a small sign with thank you sentiments to von Domitz for all her wonderful work on behalf of the committee.

**Approval of the Minutes:** Keeler suggested correcting the misspelling of his last name under Brownsville. *Bell made a motion to approve the November 2, 2021 minutes with the suggested correction. Keeler seconded. The motion carried.*

#### **Current Marker Projects**

- **Conflict at Pistol River Marker:** Carbone said that work is in progress for this marker. Dani Padilla, Harris Beach State Park, and the Pistol River Manager is interested in partnering to develop a new topic for the site.
- **Nez Perce:** Bell was able to contact Veronica Redstar with the Nez Perce, but she had no new insights for the marker text. The current text currently contains too many words. Bell will propose a 115-word count version to Redstar for her review. DeSouza volunteered to help with edits.
- **Ruben Shipley Homestead:** DeSouza said the marker's sponsor was able to obtain a grant for \$3,900. The GoFundMe account has earned \$4,100. Von Domitz introduced the design drafts from Sea Reach. The committee discussed their likes and dislikes of the design. The committee's suggestions for change include:
  - A. A separate "you are here map" that clearly identifies the location of the park where the sign will be located, the homestead, and the cemetery.
  - B. Renaming the marker Shipley Family Homestead, "creating a resting place for all"
  - C. Removing the photo of the school and the empty location where the homestead once stood. Adding a photo of the cemetery.
  - D. Breaking up the large text block into three smaller text blocks.Carbone will send the suggested changes to Sea Reach for a second draft and then bring it back to the committee for comment.
- **Cape San Sebastian:** Porter has been in communication with Padilla. In their discussion, two potential topics for the new marker are the stories of the indigenous peoples along

this portion of the coast or the significance of the geology of the area. The project could see a time delay as State Parks develops a policy on land acknowledgments into its interpretation of any area. This will most likely cause delays for any of the projects involving state parks.

- **Yaquina Bay:** Cannon-Miller has started work on this marker. In her meeting with the park manager, the focus of the marker has become the bay as a food source throughout history.
- **Priority List for Text Review:**
  - A. First Coastal Expeditions – Carbone said that Canty-Jones is still in the process of building a relationship with the State Park Manager where the sign is located.

**Oregon Trail Interpretive Kiosks:** Carbone said that we should know if the project was awarded a significant grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation in March.

**Old Business:**

- **Willamette Post:** Carbone said that a draft marker has been received from ODOT. Keeler reviewed and approved the text. Carbone will ask the sign shop if there is a way to widen the margin on the left side of the text.
- **Beaver Hill Mine Marker Dedication:** Carbone said the dedication is still planned for a time near June 19 to coincide with a Juneteenth event being held in Coos Bay.

**Council Member Report/New Business:** Washington said the new Executive Director has been selected by the Council. Garcia said that the Council recently approved a onetime Pandemic Hazard Payment for our staff who continued to work through the pandemic, as well as an increase in the annual COLA to help staff meet the current economic climate. Carbone introduced Elizabeth Boxall, TIC's new Executive Director. Boxall introduced herself and told the committee about her previous experience before joining TIC and her excitement about joining the agency.

Von Domitz left the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

**New Business:**

**None.**

**2022-2023 Meeting Schedule**

May 3, 2022

June Dedication (Coos Bay)

August 2, 2022

November 1, 2022-February 7, 2023

**Adjourn at 2:18 p.m.**