



Travel Information Council
1500 Liberty St. SE, Suite 150
Salem, OR Salem, OR 97302

MINUTES
Historical Marker Committee
Tuesday, May 2, 2023
Hybrid Meeting

Members Participating: David Porter, Chair; Barb Bonnem, Co-Vice-Chair; Gwenn Baldwin; Eliza Canty-Jones; Kelly Cannon-Miller; Nancy DeSouza, Co-Vice-Chair; Sarah Jalving.

Advisory Member: Robert Olguin

Excused: Bob Garcia; Ed Washington.

TIC Staff Participating: Beth Dehn; Elizabeth Boxall; Jessica Carbone.

Call to Order/Introductions: The meeting was called to order by Porter at 1:04 p.m.

Public Comment: None

Approval of the Minutes: *Canty-Jones made a motion to accept the November 11, 2022 and the February 7, 2023 minutes as submitted. DeSouza seconded. 7-0 Vote.*

Current Marker Projects:

- A. **Cape San Sebastian:** Porter presented the committee with a topical outline of the content he proposes for the updated text of the Cape San Sebastian marker. The new text would identify what the Native American tribes called the cape and then reference the later European explorers that gave it its current name. The text would reference the geological feature itself and offshore volcanic activity, key fault lines, and connect that to changes over time. It would also reference the earliest discovery of dinosaur fossils in nearby rock formations.

Baldwin left at 1:14 p.m.

Jalving shared her support of the marker's content. The committee discussed which Tribes would be appropriate to contact for the marker's location. Dehn will reach out to Legislative Commission on Indian Services to find the right contact.

- B. **Yaquina Bay:** Cannon-Miller shared an update on the marker text. There is work being done to balance the feedback from the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians and information from other documented European sources.
- C. **Nez Perce:** Dehn said that she and Charlie Moses, a Nez Perce tribal elder who sits on the board of the Nez Perce National Historical Trails Committee, worked together to combine

his suggested text and the original drafted text. Moses will present the revised text to Colville Tribes for their permission before moving on to potential images and the next steps in the process. Both Washington and DeSouza will be part of the committee to edit the marker. DeSouza asked if all the funds had been raised for the new marker. Dehn responded that she received a Historical Trails Grant (HTG) to cover the costs of transporting and installing a wooden marker in Eastern Oregon but it will not cover the cost of the new graphic marker. Funds to cover the gap between the cost of a wooden and graphically designed marker could come out of the committee budget or there may be an opportunity to go back to HTGs to see if more funds could be secured.

- D. **Jesse Applegate:** Bonnem presented the newest version of the marker text. Bonnem said Dehn did a great job mediating text revisions between all the interested parties. The committee discussed the presented text, especially the best way to write Applegate's actions in Oregon's complex history with slavery and Native Americans.

DeSouza made a motion to conditionally approve changes to the final draft subject to reconfirmation by email at a future date. Bonnem seconded.

Cannon-Miller confirmed with the committee that it was decided to word Applegate's history with slavery as "He was a vocal opponent to slavery in Oregon." Dehn confirmed.
6-0 Vote.

- E. **Prehistoric River:** Dehn said she worked on a second draft text based on DOGMI's comments. Dehn sent it back to the DOGMI representative for comment and is still waiting for feedback. There is a question whether to keep the last line that makes an effort to include a Native American perspective of the area or to keep the marker strictly geological. Dehn will have further discussions with our DOGMI representative and the regional Tribe.
- F. **Upper Klamath Lake:** Porter said that he and Dehn had a great meeting with the Tribal Council of the Klamath Tribe about the marker text. The Tribal Council worked very well with staff to achieve a workable word count. The committee discussed the marker text, the longevity of some of the content, and did some edits to bring down the word count. Dehn and Cannon-Miller will take the suggested edits and create a draft to resubmit to the Klamath Tribal Council and then resubmit to the committee meeting in August. Dehn said she informed the Tribal Council that due to the committee's new wood supply needing to dry, fall would be the soonest the marker could be created with a potential spring dedication.

Old Business

- A. **Westport Marker Application:** Dehn informed the committee that the nominator pulled the nomination.
- B. **Memaloose Island Marker Update:** Dehn said that she was notified by an archaeologist at a partner agency that the Memaloose Island marker had a photograph on it that showed human remains. Once the information was confirmed, rest area staff worked with the TIC Sign Crew to have the sign removed the next day. The marker has been moved to the high priority replacement list.

New Marker Applications:

- A. **Rough & Ready Wayside Geologic Markers:** Dehn presented a new condensed version of the

three topics nominated for markers at the Rough & Ready Wayside. The nominator Roger Brandt requests that the committee consider all three markers and feels State Parks support the three markers as well. Brandt has no concern about fundraising, he feels he can raise full funding. When Dehn shared with Brandt the possibility of an extended timeline, he was not concerned. Brandt said that the 100th anniversary of the site is in 2027 and he would like to have the markers up in time for that celebration. Dehn recommends moving forward with this on the condition that Brandt helps write the text that would be vetted through a certified geologist, along with the understanding that the other two geological markers currently in progress have completion priority.

DeSouza moved to approve all 3 pedestal markers, Klamath Peneplain, Peridotite, and Alluvial Fan at the Rough and Ready wayside. Jalving seconded. The motion passed. 6-0 Vote.

Oregon Trail Kiosk Update: Canty-Jones informed the committee that the kiosk advisory committee recently met with the design team and that phase II of the project is coming to a close. The design for the interpretive kiosks is designed based on research and frameworks that the committee had set out in 2019 at the launch of the project. The designers are currently working directly with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation through the Tamastlikt Cultural Institute to get feedback on the design proposals. The advisory committee reviewed the available content and approved the ongoing process that was being used but has not seen the full design because the designers are continuing to work on the feedback they have received. The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs also recently came on contract for the project. The next phase will be finalizing the design and fundraising for the installation. Canty-Jones then informed the committee of a possible funding source through Senator Jeff Merkley's office. There may be an opportunity to receive some congressionally directed funding meant to educate and preserve Oregon's rich and diverse statewide heritage.

Committee Member Reports/ New Business

- A. Council Report:** Canty-Jones said that the staff is working to create a 2023-25 budget for Council approval at the June meeting that would take effect July 1. Assumptions for this budget have been approved by the Finance Committee and Council. Canty-Jones said that TIC has adopted a strategic plan and is making sure we are working to meet all requirements related to diversity, equity, and inclusion planning. The Executive Committee is in the middle of the Executive Director's Annual Evaluation. Boxall said that the current focus has been on the foundational components of the agency and getting that resolidified after so many staffing changes.
- B. New Member Application:** Porter presented the application of David Hedberg to join as a member of the Historical Marker Committee. He is a current member of the Heritage Tree Committee. Canty-Jones shared support for his application.

DeSouza made a motion to accept David Hedberg's application to join as a member of the Historical Marker Committee. Canty-Jones seconded. 6-0 Vote.

Baldwin returned at 2:52 p.m.

Porter presented a plaque to Gwenn Baldwin to thank her for her dedication and hard work as a member of the Historical Marker Committee. This is her last meeting.

2023/2024 Event and Meeting Schedule

August 1 –Salem Towne Appreciation Lunch,

Committee meeting West Salem Public Library, Salem, OR.
November 7 - Salem
February 6, 2024 - Salem

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 2:54 p.m.

Next Meeting: There is a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, August 1, 2023, in Salem at 1:00 p.m.