

**Oregon Historical Marker Committee
Meeting Minutes
Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, Portland, Oregon
Tuesday, February 14, 2012**

Committee Participants:

Clark Niewendorp	David Bogan
George Forbes	Eliza Canty-Jones
Richard Engeman	Marty Klug
Robert Keeler	Wayne Sharp
Dick Matthews (ex-officio)	

Absent:

Stan McDonald

Staff Participants:

Annie von Domitz
Jenn Smith

Guest Participant: Bob Padlow, ODOT Historian

1) Call to order

David Bogan called the meeting to order at 9:30am.

2) Approval of the November 1, 2011 Minutes

Bob Keeler moved that the minutes from the November 1, 2011 meeting be approved. George Forbes seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

3) Council Report

George Forbes reported that the Council has been focused primarily on legislation that has been introduced that would transfer the management of more rest areas to OTE. He said the current version of SB 1591 would transfer most of the rest areas on I-5 and I-84 to OTE over the next three years.

4) Restoration/ Replacement Projects

David reported that a couple of marker sponsors had applied for heritage grants recently but were denied due to the insufficient information provided to the grant committees. He suggested putting in grant writing tips and/or notice of classes in the nomination packets they receive from OTE. Eliza suggested we could direct marker sponsors to county grants. David asked if it might be appropriate to update the nomination applications. It was decided a sub-committee of David, Robert and Annie would work on revising the nomination forms.

Champoeg Marker: Eliza reported that she and Annie were waiting to hear back from Bryan Nielsen, Champoeg park manager, on text and placement for a revised Champoeg marker. Annie said she would send Bryan an email and try to prompt him.

Jedediah Smith: David reported that there is still quite a bit of text needed for this marker and he and Annie are working with representatives from the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians (CTCLUS) to get it accomplished. Annie said the marker will be a new interpretive panel rather than a wood routed

marker. She said she would send the latest draft to the committee for input. At this time there is not a decision as to where the new marker will be placed.

Oregon Coast Indians: Annie reminded everyone the marker was taken down due to the text review and it didn't talk about the tribe itself, but focuses mostly on the village, which concerned the CTCLUS. The Committee decided to table this project for future discussion after the representatives from the CTCLUS get some of the other markers finished they are working on.

Applegate – Yoncalla: David reported that he has been in touch with one of the descendents of Applegate to discuss where would be an appropriate place to re-place the marker. She has not gotten back to David lately, so he will try again. It was suggested that other descendents of Applegate be consulted as well.

Meacham: The committee discussed whether or not there should even be a marker at Meacham. And if so, should the Committee start a program such as "Off the Beaten Path"? Richard said he has been doing some research and found a woman who had a restaurant there that served the railroad workers, in addition to having similar businesses in Eugene.

Wayne said the marker has been removed and is in his shop.

Robert suggested the marker go through the whole process as if it was a new marker nominee. Annie was concerned if they did that, it would be challenging to find sponsors. David asked if there is any criteria for restoration/replacement of Markers. Annie said the committee has considered each on a case by case basis.

The Committee agreed to table the project for a future discussion.

Bannock War: Wayne informed the Committee that the Bannock War marker is in his shop. It was built (replaced) in 2001. Recently someone backed into the sign and broke the posts off at ground level.

It was suggested that OTE try to get permission from ODOT to move it further back so it doesn't get hit anymore or perhaps put some type of barrier in front of it.

David suggested that since it was down, the Committee should review the text and see if there were any changes that should be made.

5) New Marker Projects

Mulino Mill: Bob told the group that this marker started when ODOT began a bridge project and re-alignment on Highway 213. They had to move an historic house and were working with the National Historic Society. In the process the Historic Society requested some interpretation of the mill, which is believed to be the oldest commercial building in Oregon. Linda Dodds (ODOT, retired) began working with a local historian on the text and the photos. A draft of the marker has already been produced, but Bob would like to have the marker included in the Heritage Marker program.

Bob said ODOT has funding in the construction project for production and placement of the marker. The current plan is to place the marker across the street from the mill in a lot that has a coffee shop and an historic barn that the owner opens to the public for antique shows.

The discussion turned to the editing of the text. Annie said that if the committee members email their comments, she would get them back to Bob and Linda from the sign company.

Bob was asked about a timeline for the construction project and when it was projected the marker could be placed. Bob said he would have to check into it and would let Annie know.

George made the motion that the committee take on this project to be part of the Historical Marker program. Eliza 2nd; motion passed unanimously.

David suggested the comments on the edits should be to Annie by the 29th of February.

Abigail Scott Duniway: Eliza reported that the copy of text they had was close to final. She requested that OTE send Jean Ward a thank you card for all of her work on the marker. There was some discussion about replacing one of the photos and some text changes that needed to be made. It was suggested that her birth and death dates be added at the top.

David was concerned about the weight and size of the photo caption text. And that perhaps some word-smithing could take place.

George was concerned about the location. Bob said it should be fine; it is 2 blocks from the main highway and would need a marker ahead sign.

Annie said the marker is fully funded. They do not have a dedication date selected yet.

Annie requested that the Committee send any edits they suggest to her as soon as possible.

Bob asked if there were plans to have other women suffrage markers in the future. Eliza suggested that the committee could set a goal to come up with a certain number by 2020 (the national 100th anniversary of women's suffrage). Annie said if that was something the committee wanted to do, they could apply for a Historical grant.

Southern Coast Regional Marker: Annie announced the S. Coast Regional Marker is ready to be installed either late spring or early summer

Blalock: The committee reviewed the new application sent in by a citizen who had done a lot of research on this former town. The town of Blalock was submerged by the Columbia River when the John Day Dam was put in. There is no identified funding yet, however the sponsor said if it looked like it might be approved, he would work on getting the funding.

After discussion, it was agreed the Committee needed more information about exactly where the town was, where the marker would go and other general information. Annie was asked to request this information and a map from the sponsor.

It was agreed the committee would discuss the nomination again at the next meeting when they had the requested information.

Coos Bay/Hollering Place: Annie announced that the signs will be fully funded by the City of Coos Bay with some from the CTCLUS. David said it will be one big sign (at the Visitors Center) and 3 smaller signs. The original Beaver Board will talk about the cultural aspects of the area and the smaller signs will discuss the geology.

The next steps are to assign a sub-committee to help the city determine sign content. George and Richard volunteered to serve on the subcommittee and take a field trip to Coos Bay.

6) Annual Report- Annie presented the rough draft. She asked the committee to let her know of any changes they would like to see. She said it will be sent out with the annual newsletter and will be used as a hand out throughout the year.

7) Committee Member Reports/ New Business

Volunteer Report- David thanked the volunteers for their work.

Wayne stated he had nothing further to report.

Marker Ahead Sign- Marty said there wasn't anything new to report. He and Annie had met and have decided where they will go and the style of the sign, however still have questions about funding. The cost will vary depending on where the sign is and the environment the sign is located. In addition, there is still the question of how many are needed.

8) 2012 Meeting Schedule

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month, unless otherwise specified.

May 8, 2012- tentatively in Salem. However if the S. Coast marker is ready and there will be a dedication, the two things could potentially be combined.

August 14, 2012- possibly at Oregon Historical Society. David said he would ask Eliza.

November 13, 2012 –TBD

David inquired to whether or not it was possible to go on a trip this year. Annie said she would know more a little later in the year. Her budgeted goal was to have a field trip every other year, which would include a field trip in 2013.

David informed the Committee that there is a Heritage Conference in Salem on April 26-28, 2012. It is in conjunction with the NW Archivists. Other than that he didn't have much detail and suggested if people were interested they should go to the website.

Annie said she has been asked to speak to the Oregon Heritage Commission meeting during the conference. She is hoping that will open some doors to get more grants and forge more partnerships between the organizations.

8) Adjournment

David called for the meeting to adjourn at 11:45 am.