

**Oregon Historical Marker Committee
Meeting Minutes
Leach Botanical Garden, Portland
Tuesday, May 13, 2014**

Committee Participants:

Eliza Canty-Jones
Robert Keeler

Marty Klug
David Porter

George Forbes

Absent:

Clark Niewendorp
Dick Matthews

Stan McDonald
Richard Engeman

Charlotte Lehan

Guest: Chris Bell, ODOT Historian

Staff Participants:

Annie von Domitz

1) Call to order/Introductions

Eliza called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. Participants made self-introductions.

2) Approval of the February 18, 2013 Minutes

George moved to accept the February 18, 2014 meeting minutes with the correction of Eliza's name under agenda item number 3a. Bob seconded the motion. The minutes passed with no dissenting votes.

3) Review Historical Marker Criteria

Eliza said Bob wisely requested a review of the historical marker topic criteria to make sure the program is still on track with its stated mission. Eliza opened the floor for comments regarding the criteria attachment that was emailed with the meeting materials. Bob said his main concern is making sure that our new historical marker topics are historically relevant and don't turn into advertising for industries or products. After some discussion, the committee determined the program is still operating within the scope of the stated criteria. Eliza commented that the criteria overlap and is consistent with SHIPO's Oregon Heritage Tradition criteria, which is beneficial. The committee requested the criteria be submitted with all new applications in the meeting packets. This will help the committee members keep the criteria in mind when reviewing the applications.

4) New Application

- a. **Thomas Jefferson Howell:** Annie reported the Forest Service has been informed of this project and has indicated in an email that a letter of support will be sent soon. Annie said she consulted several people at State Parks, BLM and the Forest Service to see if there were any potential political conflicts which could cause problems with installing interpretation in this area. She did not discover any potential conflicts that would cause problems with this project.

The committee expressed concern about the claim T.J. Howell was the "earliest" Oregon pioneer botanist. He was certainly "an early pioneer botanist." Eliza said one of his most significant contributions was his donation of extensive research to U of O. The committee agreed generally that the topic had merit. David Porter volunteered to lead the development of the marker. He did express concern he may have a conflict of interest, since he works at the Leach Botanical Gardens and Lila Leach could also be considered the most important botanist in this area. Eliza made note that the committee would take this view into consideration and noted the final text must be reviewed by the entire committee. She also asked David to use his knowledge about the history of botany in the region to verify the facts in the application.

5) Marker Projects

- a. **Joel Perkins Park:** The committee members reviewed the Joel Perkins Park marker design. Eliza asked that all comments and final edits be sent to Annie by next Monday, May 19th.
- b. **View-Master:** The committee members reviewed the View-Master design. Annie reported Sea Reach is in the process of securing the photos and will add in the credits soon. David asked if the committee should be worried about copy write infringement regarding the use of the View Master name. Annie will ask Sea Reach their opinion on the issue. David said he would also email a friend who is an expert on copy write issues. Annie and David will report back to the committee on their findings. Eliza asked that all comments and final edits be sent to Annie by Monday, May 19th.
- c. **Pinot Noir:** The committee reviewed the design for the Pinot Noir marker. Eliza asked that all comments and edits be sent to Annie by Monday, May 19th. Annie will also send a copy to Dyson DeMara and the Oregon Wine Archives for review.

6) Marker Projects Update

- a. **Meacham:** Annie reported Wayne Sharp has retired from the committee. Wayne has appointed Jack Carroll, a long-time volunteer, to take his place as foreman. Jack will begin attending committee meetings starting in August. Annie said the Meacham marker is complete and will be installed in the next few weeks.

7) Council Report:

Annie reported for Charlotte. OTE is set to adopt the new strategic plan this month. She said the focus is still heavily on rest areas, but the heritage programs continue to be a valued part of the agency and are well represented in the plan.

8) Committee Member Reports/New Business

- a. **Volunteer Report:** Annie reported for Wayne. She said the volunteers have been busy this Spring. Besides work on the Meacham marker, they have also been repairing "Cow Creeks-A Tale of Strong Recovery" marker located in Cabin Creek Rest Area, southbound, which is just north of Roseburg on I-5. Eliza reminded the committee that the volunteers were presented with an Oregon Heritage Excellence Award.
- b. **Sea Lion Point Rock Wall project:** Chris reported ODOT Region 2 is beginning a construction project to restore the historic Sea Lion Point Rock Wall on Hwy 101. The Senior Traffic Sign Designer, Kellie Bordeaux contacted OTE regarding the potential development of a historical marker at this site. Chris and Annie will inform the committee as they learn more about the project.

9) 2014- 2015 Meeting Schedule

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

August 12, 2014 – Department of Geology & Mineral Industries (DOGAMI)

November 4, 2014- Oregon Historical Society (Please note, this meeting will be held a week early, due to the Veteran's Day holiday)

February 10, 2015 (location TBD)

May 12, 2014 (location TBD)

Adjournment

Eliza called for the meeting to adjourn at 11:00 am.