

**Oregon Historical Marker Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
Oregon Travel Experience  
1500 Liberty St SE, Ste 150, Salem, OR 97302

**Tuesday, August 8, 2017**

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**Committee Participants:**

Robert Keeler, Chair	George Forbes	Kelly Cannon-Miller
Eliza Canty-Jones	Charlotte Lehan	Marty Klug
Chris Bell	David Porter	Bob Garcia

**Absent:**

Lina Ma

**Guests:**

Erin Schmith

**Staff Participants:**

Annie von Domitz

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**1) Call to Order/ Introductions**

Keeler called the meeting to order at 9:35am. Self-introductions were made for noting attendance. Canty-Jones introduced her guest, Erin Schmith, who is a graduate student working with Oregon Historical Society for the summer.

**2) Approval of the Minutes**

The February 14, 2017 meeting minutes were presented for approval. *Canty-Jones moved to approve the minutes, Bell seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.*

The minutes from the June 2, 2017 meeting were presented for approval. Canty-Jones noted she was absent from that meeting. *Bell moved to approve the minutes with the attendance correction, Lehan seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.*

**3) Committee Elections**

*Bell moved to nominate Bob Keeler as Chair. Lehan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.*

*Bob Garcia moved to nominate Chris Bell as Vice-chair. Canty-Jones seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.*

#### **4) Current Marker Projects**

##### **A. Cannon Beach Marker**

The first draft of the Cannon Beach marker design was provided to the committee members for review and the committee discussed edits to the draft. Canty-Jones and von Domitz will reach out to their contacts with the Siletz and Grand Ronde Tribes to get feedback on the Tillamook Indian reference.

Keeler will draft a caption for the main picture of the ship. Once von Domitz has received all the comments and edits back from the committee members, she will send them to Sea Reach for the second draft. The second draft will be sent to the local sponsors for feedback.

##### **B. The Dalles to Canyon City Wagon Road**

Von Domitz reported that Canty-Jones sent a draft of the revised text to a colleague with the Warm Springs Tribe for feedback several months ago. The suggested edits were to be presented to the tribal council for feedback. We still have not a response, but will continue to follow-up with the tribe.

*David Porter joined the meeting at 10:20am*

*George Forbes joined the meeting at 10:30am*

#### **5) Regional Commemorative Markers**

In 2008, the committee developed a new marker type to commemorate the state's sesquicentennial celebration. They were designed to be regional "gateway" markers and the goal was to have at least one in each tourism region. The committee was successful in placing three markers, one in Southern Oregon, and two on the Coast. Due to lack of time, Keeler decided to table this discussion until the next committee meeting. He asked the committee to review the planning documents before the next meeting and be prepared to discuss if this is a program that should be pursued again.

#### **6) Oregon Trail Interpretive Kiosks**

Von Domitz reported the Travel Information Council approved a \$30,000 budget to get the Oregon Trail Interpretive Kiosk renovation project started. The original structures are in mostly good condition and the current plan is to keep them, but replace the interpretive panels inside the structures. Some initial conversations have been started to gauge interest with potential partners. Von Domitz has submitted a proposal to hold a workshop during the 2018 Heritage Conference to help gain feedback and build support for the project.

#### **7) Old Business**

There was no Old Business to discuss.

#### **8) Committee Member Report/New Business:**

- A. Volunteer Report:** Von Domitz reported for Jack Carroll, who was not able to attend this morning. The Salemtowne Volunteers completed a maintenance trip to the North

Coast in June, but had to cut the trip a day short due to a landslide on Hwy 101. They went back and finished the markers near Tillamook on a day trip in July. The volunteers are planning a trip to cover the rest of the coast in September. Carroll and his volunteers are looking forward to meeting the committee members at the appreciation luncheon following the meeting.

During the trip to the north coast, the volunteers realized the Ft. Clatsop and Ft. Stevens markers had too much rot to restore. The markers are now in their shop, but will require total rebuilds. Von Domitz provided the current text from the markers and asked the committee if they wanted to revise the text. The State Park staff at Ft. Stevens wants us to replace that marker. Von Domitz will reach out to the National Park service at Ft. Clatsop to see if they care if that marker is replaced. A discussion of text revision for both markers will be placed on the November meeting agenda.

- B. Council Report:** Garcia said he was glad to be a new member on the Travel Information Council and was looking forward to serving on the Historical Marker Committee as the Council representative. He reported the Travel Information Council had a busy legislative season. The transportation package that passed included a significant investment in rest areas that will expand the number of sites OTE manages and provides funding for capital improvements over the next eight years.
  
- C.** Lehan reported on the progress for the Willamette Falls Heritage Area, including the new redevelopment of the land at the falls, which was occupied by a paper mill for decades. The committee members expressed interest in learning more about the project and how the existing historical markers nearby will be, or could be, incorporated into the plans. Porter and Lehan said they will work with von Domitz to organize a meeting with Oregon City Mayor Reed and members of the Clackamas County planning committee, possibly in November.

**9) 2017 Meeting Schedule**

November 14 – Oregon City

February – Salem

May- TBD

July- TBD

**10) Adjourn at 11:06 am**

Committee members joined with the Salemtowne Volunteers for a volunteer appreciation luncheon following the meeting.