

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Board of Directors Meeting
April 27, 2011
“Final”

Those present at the meeting held on April 27, 2011, were Jim Harlan, Elaine Tyler, Doug Alder, Ian Crowe, LoAnne Barnes, L. Karen Platt, Lyman Platt, Roger Simister, George Cannon, Richard Kohler, Jennifer Kohler, Beth Bentley, William J. Ehrheart, and LaNeil L. Ehrheart, and Lynne Johnston.

Richard started the meeting at 10:00 AM. There were three prospective members who introduced themselves. They were Beth Bentley, William & LaNeil Ehrheart.

Minutes of March 30, 2011 – Lynne Johnston

A motion was made by Susan Crook and seconded by Jim Harlan, to approve the March 30, 2011 Minutes – with corrections. All that were present said “AYE”.

Treasurer’s Report –

Lynne Johnston volunteered to watch for mail in the WCHS mailbox over the summer for Carol Christensen. She is also making deposits of check or donations “when needs be”. There were membership dues for three new members and one renewal from the following:

- Hal & Valerie Johnson
- G. Rene Bentley & Ellen E. Bentley
- William & LaNeil Ehrheart
- Lee E. Edel
- Lynne made three deposits – one on May 10th for \$30.00, one on May 23rd for \$30.00, and one on May 25th for \$120.00, into the Checking Account at State Bank of Southern Utah.

Field Trips

Saturday, April 30th – Kanab – Lyman Platt

Meet at the Hurricane Pioneer Museum at 9 AM, or at the Mosdell Mortuary – (address 676 US Highway 89) - in Kanab at 10AM. The tour will include visits to a big panel of Petroglyph’s in Johnson Canyon, Artifacts by Dixon Spendlove, Best Friends Sanctuary and the Reservoir Archaeological site.

Field Trips Continued

Saturday, May 21st - Bloomington Field Trip – Richard Kohler

Meet at the LDS Church on the corner of Man of War Rd. and Bloomington Dr. at 9AM. Richard plans on showing us the Blake home, early school foundation, Webberville and Price, Petro glyph Park, Jacob Peart Inscription – also a history of the beginnings of Bloomington by Jeff and Connie Morby.

June 4th - Pine Valley – Richard Kohler

Meet at the Pine Valley LDS Chapel at 10AM on Saturday. There will be a tour of the Pine Valley Chapel which was built by Ebenezer Bryce, information about the water used at Pine Valley and Bill McMurrin will talk about Virgin Land Trust.

September 17th, 2011 – Santa Clara

This Field Trip will be held in conjunction with Swiss Days which are September 22–24, 2011.

The Field Trip to Silver Reef to see the Wells Fargo Museum will be sometime in the Fall of 2011.

There will be no Field Trips during July and August (vacation).

Grants – Elaine Tyler

There were three requests for Grants, each for \$1,000 from:

LoAnne Barnes – Leeds, Ian Crowe – Bart Anderson, and Karen Platt – Fort Harmony. Richard suggested that we discuss the requests – to approve or not approve. Lyman Platt made a motion and Elaine seconded the motion to give the three - Leeds, Bart Anderson's slide/film project, and Ft. Harmony - \$1,000 Grants, totaling \$3,000.

Leeds – LoAnne Barnes – is requesting the \$1000 Grant to add to their CLG Grant of \$6,000 for Historical Signage in Silver Reef. The Leeds Historical Preservation Committee would like to install an orientation sign for the visitors, at the Wells Fargo Museum to point out the many sites in the area to visit – Orson Adams home in Harrisburg, CCC Camp in Leeds, Tithing House and Sterling home in Leeds, etc.

Ft. Harmony – Karen Platt – is requesting the \$1000 Grant for a new 18” x 24” sign to install at the front of the Fort where the posts are.

Bart Anderson's Slide/Film Collection – Ian Crowe - Bart Anderson's wife, Dolores, donated his extensive collection (70 canisters) of slides, film, and stories to Dixie College. Ian wants to digitize the films. Editing could be done with the help of Phil Tuckett's film classes. Ian is requesting the \$1,000 Grant to facilitate the above.

Grants – Elaine Tyler

Elaine made the suggestion to ask Washington City to return their \$1,000 Grant money. Several attempts had been made to contact George Staheli about returning the paperwork with the receipts, etc. Lynne called Yvonne Kendall (past president of the Washington City Historical Society) to see if Yvonne could help – Nothing has been turned in. They have passed the allotted time to return the paperwork.

Elaine asked Richard if he would write a letter to them notifying them that they need to return the unused funds and send an accounting of the funds they spent. Richard said he would go to their next meeting on May 18th.

Susan Crook suggested that there be a “Mid-Term Progress Report” done on all the Grants. That would help to alleviate the problem of not getting the Grant work and reports done.

Susan made a motion that in the future all Grants have a Progress Report turned in to the WCHS Board at their January meeting (last Wednesday in January)– showing the recipient’s progress. Elaine seconded the motion and all present said “AYE”.

Ian said he would have to discuss with Dolores Anderson the intent of the Grant as far as the slides/film are concerned and get her signature of approval. He would inform her that they would be making copies of the slides/film and selling them – this would generate the funds to preserve the slides/film. The money would go into the General Fund of WCHS to be dispensed again for future projects, on request. Ian said he would report back at the May meeting of WCHS.

It was suggested that the Grant forms be put on the WCHS website, so that Board members only could have access to them.

CCC Camp Legacy Gathering and Reunion – LoAnne Barnes

LoAnne talked about the upcoming CCC Camp Legacy Gathering and Reunion. She handed out information about the Registration and other activities planned during the three days, September 22-24, 2011. LoAnne mentioned that this is a unique event for all residents of St. George and Washington County.

The meetings and other activities will be held at Lexington Hotel (old Holiday Inn) at 850 Bluff Street.

Future Activity on Building in Silver Reef – LoAnne Barnes

Dennis Parker's Uncle owned some of the mines at Silver Reef. He worked there. In the Master plan, there were plans to re-build the Saloon. Annette Densley has drawings and 1890 Blueprints showing the Saloon. The Archaeology has been done on the area. LoAnne is to meet with Dennis next week – there was a plan but it has been lost. There is no viable source for information. Who owns the property now? Where are the physical plans? Where is the money?

Doc.Utah – Richard Kohler

Richard invited everyone at the meeting to attend a Documentary titled “Carbon Nation”, Friday – April 29, 2011 at 7:30 PM. It will be shown at the Dore Eccles Fine Arts Center, Main Stage Theater – 225 S. 700 E., St. George. It is free to the public.

Mormon History Association – Doug Alder

Doug wanted to remind everyone about the Mormon History Association Conference to be held here May 26-29, 2011. “From Cotton to Cosmopolitan: Local, National, and Global Transformations in Mormon History”. He also thanked those who have volunteered to help out with the Conference – it is to be held at the Dixie Convention Center.

Newsletter – Lynne Johnston

Lynne has volunteered to put together the next Newsletter. She will need a paragraph or two from each of the representatives on the committee for their particular town, sharing some of the historical events/activities in each town. Please submit to her your information before July 1, 2011.

- George said the Membership list is on the WCHS website
- A suggestion to list the “Life” Members
- Make a membership reminder card/with return envelope, which can be filled out and returned with the membership dues - include with the Newsletter
- Specify how much the dues are for one year
- Karen Platt made a Motion to raise the yearly dues (what would the new amount be?) and Susan Crook seconded the Motion. All in favor said “AYE”.
- Should the “Year” be changed from the Fiscal Year to the Calendar Year?
- Annual contributions support the Grants
- List reasons for the “value of joining” WCHS

Susan Crook – Utah Heritage Foundation – Funding

Susan told about different ways to get funding – Utah Heritage Foundation gets funding from a ZAP (Zoo, Arts, and Parks) Tax which for Salt Lake County is 1/10th of 1% of Sales Tax or 1 cent of a \$10.00 purchase. Weber County has a RAP (Recreation, Arts, and Parks) Tax.

The Washington County Arts Council is planning to launch a campaign for passage of a CARE (Community Arts, Recreation, and Education) Tax in Washington County. Washington County Historical Society should be able to apply for and get Grants from CARE.

Certified Local Government Grants (CLG), assist local governments in documenting and preserving historic buildings and archaeological sites. The Grants, which consist of Federal and State Funds, require a 50/50 match of local funds and/or donated services.

Ft. Harmony – Karen Platt

Karen stated that they need access to the Fort – There are 60 acres around the Fort – they would like to trade/swap property, about 40 acres, with the LDS Church – outside of New Harmony. The Church would like property with water rights. Karen said they drilled a well and found water at 2000’.

The mission of Fort Harmony Historical Society is to establish and operate a multiuse site; to preserve and restore Fort Harmony; to safeguard and share the significant heritage found in Harmony Valley, through entertaining, educational and engaging experiences of discovery.

What do we know about Fort Harmony?

- 1854 Brigham Young and Parley P. Pratt chose and marked the site
- Completed drawing and instructions provided by Truman O. Angell
- Home to about 300 individuals from 1854 to 1862
- Birthplace of Washington County
- Headquarters for the Southern Indian Mission

Progress in the Preservation of the Fort

- 2007 archaeology dig of southwestern corner; funded by Utah Division of State History
- Continued collection of information (histories, interviews, and research)

Historical Benefits

- Opportunity to recover more heritage
- Provide an environment for safekeeping of artifacts

Fort Harmony continued

Educational Benefits

- Hands on classroom for students in the study of archaeology
- Point of interest for elementary children and others studying Utah History

Community/Visitors

- Safeguard land from deterioration/development that would diminish Fort Harmony
- Destination for understanding the traditions, hardships and culture of a people beginning anew
- Economic possibilities in culture, tourism and business

Youth Family Camp – the Platt’s

The LDS Church has 4800 acres of land for sale. They turned down \$80,000,000. Would the developer build homes – approximately 600 homes? The challenge is who has the “stewardship” once the property is sold? They could make Old Harmony a Historic District.

Archaeological Dig at Ft. Harmon – Lyman Platt

Lyman told about the above Archaeological Dig at Fort Harmony. It will be held the week of June 13-18, 2011. They have opened the “Dig” up to the Community for volunteers to help out.

Jennifer Kohler – Gail Bunker – Children’s Museum Board

Jennifer has volunteered to be on the Children’s Museum Board. She has been to two meetings. She volunteered at the St. George Arts Festival. She has also been working on Grant Proposals. Jennifer would like to be a Representative of the early Pioneer History at the Children’s Museum.

Jennifer said the more the WCHS Board puts themselves out into the public, the better it is for WCHS.

The Chamber of Commerce is expanding, with the addition of the Elks and Rotary groups. Does WCHS want to join the Chamber of Commerce? We could probably enhance our membership.

Scott Sato – Help with the WCHS Website –

Scott volunteered to help out with the “Items for sale” on our WCHS Website. He would keep a list of the things that are for sale on the WCHS Website, and research for new items that could be sold on the WCHS Website. He could bring the inventory reports to the monthly meetings.

Rockville – Jim Harlan

Jim stated that the City of Rockville is looking for (or has?) a Grant so they can have the money to insulate the old Church. He also told about Maxine Pace – in her home in LaVerkin, she has the real Virgin Press. If you put a bar of lead into the machine, it will melt and make different letters. She would like to donate the machine but doesn't know who would take the machine.

George Cannon - Lynne Clark's Photography

Lynne Clark has a large collection of photographs from all over Washington County. George thinks her pictures should be in an Archive where a person could have access to them for copies. Lynne needs the money. What about a fund raising activity?

Notes of Interest

- Valerie Reeves – believes “promoting businesses while promoting historical events”. Would she be a good speaker for one of our meetings?
- St. George does not have any rules to stop the tearing down of the old homes
- Since the “Granary project” was done four of the Granaries have been torn down
- Doesn't St. George have a Historical Preservation Committee

Respectfully Submitted
Lynne Johnston