

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Board of Directors' Meeting
October 26, 2011
"Final"

Dick Kohler opened the meeting at 10:05 AM. Those in attendance were Carol Christensen, Milt Hokanson, LoAnne Barnes, Jennifer Kohler, Eric Fleming, George Cannon, Richard Kohler, Susan Crook, Elaine Tyler, and Lynne Johnston.

MINUTES – Lynne Johnston

The Minutes from the June and September meetings need to be approved. The October Minutes need to be approved also.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Carol Christensen

Lynne Johnston did give Carol copies of all the checks which had been deposited over the summer. She returned the Statements, Checkbook and the Mailbox key.

GRANTS – Elaine Tyler

Elaine asked Dick to finalize the situation with Washington City Historical Society/George Staheli and the Washington City Historical Society. They need to turn in the receipts and paperwork for the \$1,000 Grant Money given to them. She suggested Dick give George a final date to have it all turned in vs. return the money.

1870 PLAT MAP (ANNOTATED) – Dick Kohler

Dick found an 1870 Plat Map of St. George – drawn by Anthony Ivins and Scott Prisbey. He has a xerox copy, the original being in Davis County, UT. Ron Whitehead is the Washington County Surveyor – Public Works Department.

SILVER REEF MUSEUM and THE ADAMS HOUSE FIELD TRIP– Eric Fleming and LoAnne Barnes

They have known for a long time about a trail from Silver Reef Museum to the Adams House. They would like to find and re-furbish the trail, and identify the old mines so that people could walk thru and appreciate what is there. A meeting was held – objective being to have a trail from the Museum to the Adams House. Utah Oil and Gas, Bill McMurrin, Rick Sant and a BLM representative Lynn Scott came to the 1st meeting. At one point the intent for the Adams House was to develop 200 acres into a motor home park. A trail biking group, horse people, mountain bike groups could benefit from improved trails.

Silver Reef Museum and the Adams House Field Trip continued

The Field trip will be on November 19, 2011 at 10 AM. Please meet at the Adams House. There will be a representative from the Kemple family at the Adams House to discuss their ancestor John Kemple. John Kemple was the person who found the silver and did the research at Silver Reef. Eric will give a tour of the Silver Reef Museum. Brian Passey from The Spectrum Newspaper has been invited to come. They could use funding for additional signage, possibly from the National Trust funds. Martha Ham has called Jud Burkett and invited him to come to the field trip.

There have been two articles recently about Silver Reef – One in the “Elan Magazine” and the other in the “Utah Historical Quarterly Magazine”.

Dick did some research and found out that the Museum Of Archaeology at The University of Pennsylvania actually has some of the Silver mined at Silver Reef.

ARIZONA STRIP – Milt Hokanson – National Park Service

Milt “entertained” the group at the meeting with his stories of the Arizona Strip. He spoke about the Grand Gulch Mine – 70 miles South of St. George. Grand Gulch Mine was a copper mine, employing nearly 80 people. There are some original buildings and mining equipment still there. Below are pictures of two of the structures. Some of the buildings are in the process of being restored.





Restoration of a building at Grand Gulch Mine

For the Arizona Centennial the Bureau of Land Management decided to have a birthday party for Mt. Trumbull. They invited Sally Bundy (an early resident) and 40 other original settlers. They invited 100 elderly people from St. George. Milt said they are in the process of writing a history of the Arizona Strip and decided the women gave the best interviews.



Milt reminded everyone that were they to visit the Mt. Trumbull area to take plenty of water – the roads are not paved and there is no cell phone service. LoAnne asked Milt when he would be publishing all of his stories.

ST. GEORGE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM – Jennifer Kohler

The State of Utah still owns the building and needs to do repair work before they turn it over to the City of St. George. Jennifer was asking for ideas that might be used for the Museum. Some of the suggestions were:

- First person stories told by the Docents who have dressed up in the appropriate attire
- Video-tape the Docents and their stories
- Pull Handcarts
- Demonstration of spinning wool
- Hoop & Stick game
- Discover all of the things made with Buffalo Hide
- Invite St. George Live to do their enactments of early St. George history
- Inter-active games, histories, and exhibits geared for Children

REIMBURSEMENT OF FUNDS TO UTAH HERITAGE FOUNDATION – Susan Crook

Lynne Johnston had Dick Kohler sign a letter acknowledging the \$1,000 reimbursement. She said she would mail the letter and the check.

TOUR OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS - DOWNTOWN ST. GEORGE – Susan Crook

Susan once again reminded everyone about the upcoming tour planned by the City of St. George and their Preservation Committee to be held on January 14, 2012. They will be asking WCHS for volunteers to help with the tour at the different buildings.

REPORT ON PIONEER HERITAGE FESTIVAL AND PIONEER WAGON TRAIN – Lynne Johnston and Others

Lynne attended the Pioneer Wagon Train for two days. She made the comments that there were things that happened on this wagon train that did not happen with the original wagon train of 309 Pioneer families who settled St. George.

- McDonald's furnished breakfast one morning
- All the food was catered
- A water truck for the people and a water truck for the livestock
- Portable Restrooms
- Trailers, motor homes and RV's for people to shower and sleep
- Refrigerated Trucks for the food
- U-Haul Truck to carry everyone's belongings from site to site

Lynne said she was amazed at the terrific job the City of St. George did in organizing the Wagon Train. There were approximately 30 Covered Wagons, 250-300 people per day, at least 30 Outriders (cowboys on horses and others who rode their own

Pioneer Heritage Festival and Pioneer Wagon Train continued

horses), at least 10 Handcarts and a good group who chose to walk – some the 100 mile trek. Kudos to the City of St. George.

As the wagon train was going through Snow Canyon to the City of Ivins, Lynne said it was a “humbling experience” – wondering what kind of feelings those stalwart pioneer women and men had as they looked out over the valley between the two black hills, as Brigham Young had prophesied. Their view was the desert – red sand, no water, scrub brush and cactus – not like we see and enjoy it today.

The parade which followed the entry of the Wagon Train on Saturday was impressive. The descendents of the 309 original pioneers had an opportunity to walk behind the wagons holding Banners honoring their family name.

The Pioneer Heritage Festival was held at Worthen Park downtown St. George. The activities were geared to the Pioneer era. The wagons, horses and riders were there for people and their children to visit. There was a program and fireworks in the evening.

FLYING REBEL MEDIA – Ian Crowe

Ian stated that he did not get too far with CMI – the intermediary for the 501C. They needed and did not have the minimum \$300 to file – they have been stuck at that point.

The Historical re-enactment went as well as Rebel Media had planned. They had acquired some pictures from Lynne Clark.

WEBSITE – George Cannon/Dick Kohler

It was suggested that an Intern from Dixie College could help out indexing the WCHS archival material – they could earn credit for doing so. They could post things for sale on the WCHS website. They would need to be able to fill the orders and then ship the order to the person buying the article. It was suggested that they not get the student until there was more to sell.

George told about the new things that have been posted on the website. He has posted pictures of the Arrowhead Hotel on the website.

WCHS LECTURES

It was suggested that WCHS hold the Lectures again. The Dixie Academy Building – third floor is open for various uses. The meetings could be held there. The frequency – three times a year. WCHS could charge \$3.00 per person or \$10.00 per family. The Bureau of Land Management could work with us on speakers for the lectures.

FIELD TRIPS – Dick Kohler

Dick canceled the November field trip to Springdale, Zion Park (Tunnel/Bridges/Lodge), Arrowhead Highway, Tourist Maps, and Utah Parks Company. The following future field trips were suggested:

- Water Tour – Dick
- Old Power Plant located on the West side by Hurricane and the Confluence Park
- Hurricane Canal
- Santa Clara Hydro's

Dick told about the Washington Water Conservancy who doesn't want to be a separate entity. The LDS Church doesn't want anything to do with WWC and the LDS water nor does Rockville want anything to do with the WWC. Water is "enmity" for Southern Utah.

Water wheels raise the water from one field to another. The Virgin Ditch brought water to St. George.

"ST. GEORGE OUTPOST OF CIVILIZATION" –Dick Kohler

Dick told about the difference in different Publishing Companies for his new book with the above title. Arcadia Publishing Company would take all the photographs and his story, but would not put the photos with the right story or in the right order. Flying Rebel Media would do the opposite. (I had written in my notes – more than 50, but less than 100 – Dick what was this about?)

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

- Elaine Tyler has a contact at the Bloomington Country Club who does embroidery work on hats and shirts
- There will be no meeting in December
- The next meeting will be held on January 25, 2012 at the St. George Library
10:00 AM

Respectfully Submitted
Lynne Johnston