

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Board of Directors' Meeting
January 29, 2014
"Final"

The meeting started at 10:05 AM. Those present were Ron Cundick, Pat Cundick, L. Karen Platt, Lyman Platt, Michael Heaton, Josh Wallis (Silver Reef TV Show), Susan Crook, LoAnne Barnes, Don Hartley (Utah Division of State History), Dick Kohler, Jennifer Kohler, George Cannon, and Lynne Johnston.

Dick ask everyone to introduce themselves to the group, as there were visitors who were there for the first time.

MINUTES – Lynne Johnston

Lynne would like approval for the Minutes of the September 25, 2013, the October 30, 2013, and January 29, 2014 meetings. The Minutes of those meetings have been sent out to the Distribution List for their review and corrections, etc.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Elaine Tyler

The Treasurer's Report dated November 1 – December 31, 2013 was approved by the Board. The 2013 Annual Treasurer's Report was also approved by the Board.

**WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE – Dean Cox -
County Administrator – Dick Kohler**

Dick talked to Dean Cox in regard to the Historical Society's from each town, i.e., Silver Reef/Leeds, Ft. Harmony, Grafton – turning in an Annual Report to the County Commissioner's office. This might facilitate a dollar contribution to each group. On the report they should list their Board members' names and addresses, and physical repairs needing County money. It would be up to each group if they want to list their financial information. The report should be sent to the County Commissioner's office, care of Dean Cox.

SILVER REEF MUSEUM – COSMOPOLITAN BUILDING – Ron Cundick

Ron talked about the following:

- February 22, 2014 – there will be a "Walk on the Red Cliffs" – please meet at the Cosmopolitan Building at 10 AM
- Al Matheson gave a lecture at the Cosmopolitan and there were approximately 100 guests.
- There is a need for chairs to be used for lectures, etc. held at the Cosmopolitan

SILVER REEF TV SHOW – Presentation by Josh Wallis

Josh Wallis, a student from Dixie State College gave a presentation about an upcoming TV Show on the town of Silver Reef. The stories will be about the following:

- The Discovery of Silver in Sandstone – John Kemple
- The Silver Rush and Development of Silver Reef
- Charlie Parkhurst – the Stage Coach Driver
- The Lawlessness in Silver Reef
- Mormon Culture vs. Mining Culture
- China Town and How it Influenced Silver Reef
- Silver Reef Fire – the Death of Silver Reef
- Dick Kohler and George Cannon might be able to attend the class for Josh Wallis

GRANTS – DIFFERENT GROUPS

- The Cosmopolitan – needs chairs
- The Boilers (501C is now done) – needs \$1000.00 Grant
- DUP Roof – make a contribution
- Need to have a fundraising committee – WCHS can spend the money but doesn't have much money coming in
- Have an “Event” for a Membership Drive
- Covington House was bought by the City of Washington. They are doing the restoration of the house
- Beckham Ashe Foundation cannot contribute the \$1000.00 donation at this time
- Grafton – needs paint
- George Cannon expressed the concern that we have been spending a lot more money than we have been bringing in. The spending has been for very good causes, but we need to remain fiscally responsible and not just live off of the money those before us left.

SUSAN CROOK

- Each town should
 1. have a Preservation Ordinance
 2. have a Preservation Committee
 3. organize and have a Youth Preservation Group to do the work

LYMAN PLATT – ELAN MAGAZINE

- Told about an article in the Elan Magazine he had submitted
- Elan Magazine would like to publish Historical articles

SILVER REEF FOUNDATION – LoAnne Barnes

LoAnne presented a request for additional funds to support the Silver Reef Museum. She gave the following information in the request:

“Silver Reef Foundation is now a newly formed (501c3) and we would like to thank you, the WCHS Board, for your support in reopening the Silver Reef Museum. Your support and support of Leeds community has given the Museum a new beginning.

Washington County owns only one historical museum, and it is within the town bounds of Leeds, Utah, (<http://www.leedstown.org>). This 115 year old building has some structural concerns. Don Hartley, Architect with State History Dept. has helped us identify stone foundation concerns as well as the need to do some preservation on the wood floor (estimated to be 100 years old). We hope to work with Washington County in addressing these concerns.

The Museum was built in 1877 and was placed on the National Register of Historical Places on March 3, 1971. The Museum’s present condition is thanks to Jerry Anderson and his maintenance as an Art Gallery since the 1980’s.

Silver Reef Foundation is in need of operational and routine maintenance funds.

We are requesting your support of \$2,500.00 to be used at the Museum during 2014.”

LoAnne suggested that the Board could give a Grant for \$1000.00 of the money and give a \$1500.00 donation to the Silver Reef Foundation.

Usually for Grant money, a vote is given in April and the money is given in May.

Dick thought the WCHS should support the Silver Reef Foundation with their request.

DON HARTLEY – Utah Division of State History

Don gave a presentation on Certified Local Government (CLG). A Certified Local Government is a city or county that has been “certified” as eligible to apply for federal grants for historic preservation. He handed out an information sheet for those who are interested in historical preservation for their community. The following topics are discussed on the information sheet:

- What is a CLG?
- How to become a Certified Local Government
- CLG Grants
- Preservation and planning
- Networking with other CLG’s
- Useful Information Links on the Internet
- Need More information, Contact – Barbara Murphy (801) 245-7251

WEBSITE – George Cannon

George Canon reported that he now has the capability to watch activity on the website in real time (how many people are on the site, what towns they are located in, and what webpages they are looking at – no other personal information). We are getting about 5,000 visitors a month with 1,000 of those visitors coming back more than once and about 15,000 page views. Hits are coming from all over the country and some from even around the world. We also get quite a few (maybe one every other day or so) queries or comments that come in through the website, so people are making use of it.

There is a new feature of the website that allows people to easily give feedback (additions, corrections, comments) on whatever page they are on. They just have to click on the “Page Feedback” link on the left side of every webpage. That brings up a form where the comment can be entered and then sent with just a click. The hope is that this will encourage more people to provide inputs so the website will evolve even faster.

THE NAME OF KOLOB – BONES FOUND AT Ft. Harmony - Karen Platt

Karen has been doing some research on the origination of the name Kolob. She has found out the following:

- The word Kolob is found in the Book of Abraham
- W.W. Phelps was sent to this area in 1849 and named the Kolobs (mountains by Harmony)
- Parley P. Pratt named the town of Harmony

Karen and Lyman took the bones they found at Ft. Harmony to the Utah State Historical Society. They were under the assumption that the bones belonged to the children who lived at the Fort. Now they think that the bones may be Native American.
_____ will be coming in February to discuss their find.

The meeting ended at 12:05 PM.

The next meeting will be held on February 26, 2014, at 10:00 AM at the St. George Library.

Respectfully Submitted
Lynne Johnston