

**Washington County Historical Society's Meeting**  
**November 30, 2016 – 10 a.m.**

Present: President, Richard Kohler; Treasurer, Elaine Tyler; Lynne Johnston, excused; interim Secretary, Sidney Creer, Keith Cannon, Kelton Hafen, Susannah Nilsson, Bob Nicholson, Megan van Frank (History and Museums Program Officer, Utah Humanities), Kathleen Broeder, Pat Cundick, LoAnne Barnes, Susan Crook, Doug Alder, George Cannon, Karen L Monsen (Dixie Archaeological Society), Ian Crowe, Jennifer Kohler.

The October 2016 minutes were approved. George made the motion and it was seconded by Susan.

George reported 6 or 7 vehicles brought visitors to the DI Ranch on the November 19 field trip.. Mo Dalitz's daughter, Suzanne gave a lecture at 10 a.m. at the old Dixie Academy building. She showed family home movies in the background. Only 59 people attended; 150 chairs were set up and \$300 paid to rent the hall. Pat Cundick submitted nice articles to the Spectrum, St. George News, and Senior Sampler, but only the Senior Sampler published it. The Beckham/Ashc Foundation gave financial support. It was interesting to hear Suzanne's childhood memories as she saw the place for the first time in 54 years.

George also mentioned an e-mail request from a fellow who saw on our website that some copies of our "Historical Buildings of Washington County, Volume 2" are still available and he would like to buy one. If a copy is not located, both Volume 1 and 2 are available for downloading on the website.

LoAnne said the Arts to Zion event is coming up at Silver Reef; more information will be available on the website.

Karen opened up discussion regarding the Proposal for an Archaeology Park in St. George. The location is at the confluence of Virgin and Santa Clara Rivers, South of the Dixie Center and adjacent to the Crosby Family Confluence Park. The parcel is for sale (price from 2.5 to 5.2 million dollars). Mayor and City Counsel favors the project. An appraisal is forthcoming; sale price is prohibitive; suggestion made that the landowners could gain a considerable tax deduction by donating the parcel and or conservation easement. Ian volunteered to search for filing information at the County offices. Unanimous agreement the archaeological sites need to be protected and the historical Native American and Pioneer Heritage can be appreciated. WCHS will support project planning. St. George City involvement will require landowner cooperation.

Susan Crook received the final grant report from Susanah Nillson for Santa Clara events. Motion was made by Susan and seconded by LoAnne to accept the report.

Long Valley HALS (Historic American Landscape Survey) will be done by Susan's landscape design firm. It will be only the sixth HALS done in Utah to date. The Washington County Commission and Utah State Legislature are at odds regarding use of land north of Green Springs development. Land exchange is taking place that involve Long Valley. One concern is the need to pursue soil conservation efforts to improve agricultural needs.

Kelton Hafen reported on his efforts to complete the documentary on the historical oil well explosion where 10 people were killed. Kelton is eager to have a plaque put on the site where it happened. The plaque should have "the photo" reproduced on it. A paved road provided entry to the site, followed by a short dirt road. Would like to have this accomplished by March 2017 (anniversary month). Dick suggested the total cost for plaque is approximately \$2000. Kelton thinks he could enlist family members of the deceased to come up with \$1000. Dick will propose matching grant of \$1000 in January meeting. Dick will investigate permission from landowner (SITLA) before January meeting.

Megan van Frank reminds us of the exceptional opportunity in September 2017 for Southern Utah to have the Silver Reef Museum be one of seven national sites for the Smithsonian exhibitions designed to *mentor American Work History*. Megan "envisions a large County celebration."

Megan invites the WCHS to support her efforts to enlist participation in the 2017 *Museum Interpretation Workshop Series*. The Utah Humanities and the Utah Division of Arts and Museum are co-sponsors. The workshop program is a series of 5 full-day linked workshops. Space is limited and application form is to be submitted by January 6, 2017. LoAnne mentioned the DUP Museum on Main Street most certainly would have an interest in participating.

Kathleen Broeder, Dixie State archivist, regarding a copies of Kelton's videos for the Library Archives .

Doug Alder suggests that "everyone present should have read the "History of Washington County" by Brooks and Alder. But wait, this historical narrative is updated every 10 years, and the latest version will soon be available.

Bob Nicholson commented on the Santa Clara Heritage Committee's efforts to complete the Draft for guidelines on Requirements for Preservations of Historical Main Street Homes. They represent homes built in the 30's, 40's and 50's. Purpose is to retain the structures and encourage parking to be in rear of homes. "We want the residents to "buy in" to the pride of the community." A comment was made that the Green Gate Project is supporting this concept as well.

Elaine presented the treasurer's reports for September and October. Motion to accept treasurer's reports was made LoAnne and seconded by Doug and passed. Elaine read an extended gratitude for the grant from Ken Baldrige for the CCC Statue and Plaque. Dedication of the CCC Statue happened on September 26th at the Zion Park Visitors center. Elaine noted the following treasury report: September Credit: \$1,215; Debit: \$1,101. October Balance: \$21,764.24

Dick and Doug initiated discussion of the *Juanita Brooks Statue*. (501.e3) Where to have the statue? The Town Historical Square? Dixie State University Campus? Keith Cannon will chair a committee to raise funds. Susan Crook, Susie Nilsson, Ian Crowe, Bob Nicholson, Doug Alder, Jennifer Kohler will be committee members and Doug will invite a Brooks family member also. Jerry Anderson estimated cost to be approximately \$50,000 which does not include the base. Some funding sources are: RAP tax Washington County, Gary Sanders with the St. George Arts Commission and RAP Tax; Dixie State University, O. C. Tanner Foundation and other private donors. Sidney made a motion to approve Keith's committee members. It was seconded by Doug and passed. Elaine expressed that she wants the

sub-committee to do all the bookkeeping required for this fund raising activity including getting the "solicitation permit" from the State. It should have a separate bank account and report to Elaine.

Field Trips: Much discussion ensued for the 2017 year. Pat Cundick suggested Schunesberg near Memorial Day in May; Enterprise in April; The DUP Museum; Perhaps a driving tour January 21st to Long Valley and Washington Fields Dam.

Meeting Adjourned: 12 p.m.

**Next Meeting: January 25, 10 a.m.**