

Washington County Historical Society
(WCHS)
Executive Board Meeting – Minutes
March 5, 2008

The meeting was called to order by our President, Connie Blake, at 8:30AM. Connie welcomed and thanked all those who came to the meeting.

Those in attendance were Bob Olsen, George Cannon, Lynne Johnston, Elaine Tyler, Emma Fife, Bill Fife, Phyllis Lawton, Lewana Hale, Rolaine G. King, Lucia Christensen, Laura Cooper, Joyce Whittaker, Anna P. Shaw, Tricia Nelson, LoAnn Barnes, and Dr. Douglas Alder.

The Board members were asked to read the minutes from February 6, 2008. A motion was made to approve the Minutes with the necessary corrections. The motion was seconded and the Board approved them.

Jeanne Bates, our Treasurer, was not present, but Joyce Whittaker stated she spent \$105.90 for the mailing of the Newsletter. There were also checks for new memberships. The Total we have in our checking account is \$7384.89. There are two Certificate of Deposit accounts – one at Sun First Bank and one at Village Bank. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report as read. The Board approved the report with an "Aye."

When our new President, Connie Blake was elected, changes had to be made on the Signature Cards at both Sun First Bank and Village Bank. A motion was made and seconded to do the following:

At Sun First Bank, Russ Behrman's name was taken off the Signature Card. Joyce Whittaker, Connie Blake and Jeannie Bates signed a new Signature Card.

At Village Bank, Fred Armbruster's name was taken off the Signature Card.

Joyce Whittaker's name remains. *Connie & Jeannie to be added -*

All of the Board members approved the above actions with an "Aye."

The General Membership Meeting will be held on March 27, 2008 at the old Courthouse on St. George Blvd. at 12 Noon. Lyman Hafen will be the guest speaker. He will discuss his book on the history of the Arizona Strip.

A representative from the Southern Utah Paiute Indian Tribe approached Connie Blake – wondering if the WCHS would like to make a donation to help out with their Southern Utah Paiute Pow Wow in June. It was mentioned that in order to receive a donation/Grant, they would need to have a representative serve on the WCHS Board. Connie agreed to let them know what our policy is.

Community Reports:

1. DUP – Laura Cooper
There have been some recent thefts at the DUP Museum, a new and better Security System has been installed. They have offered extra training for all the Docents. Their Tri-County Convention will be held on April 19, 2008. Bette F. Barton, the new International President of DUP will be the Speaker. They are holding a “Jubilee and Awards” luncheon on May 19, 2008. The Artifact for the month of March is about Thomas Davenport, a potter.
2. Hurricane – Phyllis Lawton
They applied for a \$2000 Grant from CLG from the State. They were awarded \$8000 but they have to match with \$8000. They need \$16,000 to do the projects and will be asking for donations, grants – possibly from WCHS, etc. The city of Hurricane will then make up the difference. The money will be used to replace the boarded up windows and the roof (the existing roof is over 50 years old). There should be enough money to pay for the labor and to hire 3 employees. A representative from Sunroc Construction came and talked to them about the new road. They are going to be making a bid on the job. They wondered which would be better – to do one block at a time or one side of the street and then the other side – as far as an inconvenience was concerned.
3. Ivins – Emma and Bill Fife
Emma and Bill brought a Newsletter from Ivins – “Making Life Better” which is the “focus” of the Ivins City Staff and City Council. One of their goals is to provide better communication with the citizens of the town, as an example, what services are provided by the City. They are in the process of upgrading their storm drains – the first phase is known as “Central Ivins Storm Drain.” They are actively involved in using the internet as a means to register recreation activities, such as sporting and art activities for both adults and the youth. They are also offering CPR classes to the public.
4. LaVerkin – Lewana Hale
Family activities such as an “Easter Egg Hunt” are being offered. The Egg Hunt is on March 22 at 9AM. There will be a “Mayor’s hike” at 10AM on March 15. Mayor Carol Wilson was recently given the “Business Man of the Year” award. A play “Rumpelstiltskin” will be going on – March 21, 22 – 24. Art Classes, Water Colors, Oils, as well as Drawing are also being offered.
5. Connie Blake - mentioned that she would like to go on some of the hikes that are being offered in the different towns. Rolaine King mentioned that the New Harmony Heritage (members only) – were going on the “Snowflower hike” soon.

6. Silver Reef/Leeds - LoAnn Barnes

LoAnn told about the 2nd Phase of the UDOT Grant – CLG (City and Local Government), Reconnaissance Survey of Homes, restoring the cemeteries in Leeds - \$39,000 did not go very far. It was suggested that Martha Ham writes Grants.

7. New Harmony - Rolaine King

On March 22 at 11AM there will be a Conservation hike – meet at the big pine tree in New Harmony. There is a proposal to use the old church building as a museum in “Old Town – the Historical District”. Doug Alder suggested that Rolaine talk to Bob Nicholson of the St. George Planning Commission – he has 20 years of experience. New Harmony is the first town in Washington County. New Harmony has a web page – NewHarmonyHeritage.com. They have a nice Public Library – good place for meetings.

8. St. George – Dr. Doug Alder

Dr. Alder passed out a “Flyer” advertising The Annual Juanita Brooks Lecture to be held Wednesday, March 12, 2008 at 7PM in the Tabernacle. The lecture is open to the public, free admission – Tabernacle Weekly Music and History Series. Veda Hale will speak on the Biography of “Maurine Whipple and Her Giant Joshua.” It was suggested that the WCHS Board go on a field trip with Dr. Alder. He said he does the hike/walk during the months of June, July and August. The fee is \$3.00 per person. A tentative date of June 4, 2008 was suggested.

9. Toquerville – Robert/Virginia Olsen

Toquerville is getting ready for their “150 Years Happy Birthday Celebration.” They are having a “Design the Pin” Contest. That would be a pin depicting the 150 year anniversary of Toquerville.

10. Virgin – Lori Rose/Evonne Spendlove

They have been working on the different ideas for the restoration of the old Church building. They were asking for suggestions on who to contact – a historic architect to come evaluate what needs to be done – repairs that won't change the the front view of the historical building. They could call Don Hartley – Kim Campbell or try lrose@infowest.com

11. Elaine Tyler – Grants

The receipts haven't been turned in yet for the Grants which have been given to Leeds and Santa Clara. The Grants start in September. The Awards are given at the May meeting.

12. George Cannon – Website

The website is up and running. If you have any problems finding the website, call George and he can help you find it. George has posted very interesting articles and pictures on the website.

13. The Cottam/Abbott home was supposed to receive the “Certificate of Commendation” for a job well done in restoring their home. They did not come to the February meeting (probably a lack of communication). They did come to the March meeting and were grateful for the Certificate.

14. Connie Blake – Southern Utah Cultural Center

Connie did go to the City meetings in regard to this property. It lies between the Santa Clara Cemetery and Jacob Hamblin’s memorial home. The Church is trying to sell the property.

15. Publicity – Trish Nelson

Joyce Whittaker was going to give Trish Nelson a picture of the Cottam/Abbott Home so she could an article and the picture in the newspaper.

General Membership Meeting – George Brooks came to the February meeting and gave a great talk on the early days of St. George. Lyman Hafen will be the speaker for March.

The next WCHS Board meeting will be April 2, 2008 at the Opera House, at 8:30 AM.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 AM, by Connie Blake.