

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
APPROVED MINUTES OF THE AUG. 9, 2023 (SEP. 13. 2023)
10:30 A.M. AT THE PIONEER COURTHOUSE

Board members present: Brad Bennett, George Cannon, Susan Crook, Ian Crowe, Teresa Orton, Linda Shogren, Jesse Stocking, Jeanine Vander Bruggen, Loren Webb
Others in attendance: Richard Kohler

Ian Crowe conducted the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Jeanine Vander Bruggen announced she no longer wishes to take minutes of meetings. Ian Crowe asked if Loren Webb, a board member, would agree to take minutes for this Aug. 9, 2023, meeting only. Loren Webb agreed.

Minutes July 19, 2023 – Jeanine Vander Bruggen

The motion was made by Teresa Orton, and seconded by Ian Crowe, to approve the minutes of July 19, 2023. The motion was approved unanimously.

Minutes July 26, 2023 – Jeanine Vander Bruggen

Motion was made by Teresa Orton, and seconded by Linda Shogren, to accept the minutes of the July 26, 2023, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. Dick Kohler said LaRene Cox (not spelled Lorene Cox) is a member of the Washington County School District, not a member of the Utah State School Board. Dick Kohler said there were two handouts distributed at the July 26 meeting - a committee form and a WCHS grant application form were not included with the original minutes. Corrections will be included in the final minutes.

Teresa Orton changed her motion to approve the minutes of the July 26, 2023, meeting as amended. The motion was seconded by Brad Bennett. The motion was approved unanimously.

July Financial Reports – Teresa Orton/Susan Crook

Teresa Orton said she wanted to send out a financial report that was easy to read and acceptable to everyone. George Cannon had said the format was Ok, but he had questions about data in the report.

Teresa Orton said from December to June the reports are accurate on all three checking accounts as far as beginning and ending balance. She said Treasurer Susan Crook takes the data from the checking accounts then inputs categories and then Teresa Orton pulls the reports. George Cannon wants to know transaction details. Jeanine Vander Bruggen said there is backup for every single item that is inputted. She said everything is accounted for.

Susan Crook said the Quickbooks accounts are linked to all of the accounts. She verifies what the categories are, and the bookkeeper puts those transactions into the various categories.

George Cannon said he wanted more explanatory details on the statements. Susan Crook agreed with that, going forward, but because of health concerns, she said she did

not have the energy to provide explanatory details on previous months financial reports.

Susan Crook said she would continue to do the Treasurer duties to the end of the year, but the board needs to think about who will take over this assignment in 2024.

After further discussion, George Cannon made a motion to approve the Budget vs Actual Year To Date report and Statement of Activity Report, pending the transactional reports for December through June which would be due by the next meeting. Motion was seconded by Teresa Orton and approved unanimously.

Board of Directors Meetings – Ian Crowe

Ian Crowe clarified that these meetings held the second week of the month are board meetings open to board members only.

Committee Chair Assignments – Ian Crowe

Discussion centered on Committee Chair assignments. Those who have turned in their completed Committee Chair assignment forms are George Cannon, Teresa Orton, Linda Shogren and Jeanine Vander Bruggen. Susan Crook said all of the Committee Chair assignment forms can be placed on WCHS Google workspace non-profit account. Ian Crowe reminded members that tutorials could be found to assist anyone struggling to know how to use the Google program. Teresa Orton said she will maintain physical copies of the Committee Chair assignment forms.

Motion was made by Teresa Orton to use the Google Work Space (for non-profits) to store WCHS working documents and in the future the board will create a policy for storage of WCHS documents. Brad Bennett seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

WCHS Grant Application Form – Susan Crook

Susan Crook explained that the revised WCHS grant application form is for committee chairs to use as a tool in working with others to identify projects for which WCHS can provide funding (\$1000.00 limit).

End of the Month Meeting – Jeanine Vander Bruggen

Jeanine Vander Bruggen asked how the end of the month meetings will be organized and who will be leading the discussions. The Board members suggested the meetings could be an opportunity where committee chairs can report on their responsibilities. Brad Bennett said WCHS could use the distribution list to reach out to members to let them know about the meeting as well as put a notice on Facebook. No decisions were made regarding structure. No assignments given.

Chamber of Commerce Membership – Susan Crook

Susan Crook made a motion to renew the WCHS membership fee of \$150 with the St. George Area Chamber of Commerce, which funds would come out of the WCHS general account. George Cannon asked if Keith Cannon could continue to represent WCHS to the Chamber. His willingness to do so was not verified. No assignment given. Brad Bennett seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Future of Pioneer Courthouse – Jeanne Vander Bruggen

Jeanine Vander Bruggen said there has been some talk among WCHS members about separating the Pioneer Courthouse from the WCHS. As a result, she said she has not applied for any new grants. Brad Bennett asked who had suggested separating the Pioneer Courthouse from the Historical Society. He said it seems like a huge burden to put on one person - Jeanine Vander Bruggen.

Teresa Orton explained that the WCHS took over management of the courthouse, which is owned by the City of St. George, in December 2019, working with the Sons of Utah Pioneers Dixie Encampment Chapter, the Daughters of Utah Pioneers, and the Arts to Zions organization. Additional volunteers are needed to maintain the operations. Susan Crook suggested that we set this item to be part of the WCHS annual strategic planning meeting. Ian Crowe asked if a courthouse committee could be formed to help Jeanine.

Request by Mathew Godfrey Share Information with WCHS on 10-25-2023 – Jeanine Vander Bruggen

Mathew Godfrey, senior research historian from the LDS Church History Department, wants to provide information on resources and products to support Washington County. Mathew has agreed to come to our end of the month meeting on October 25, 2023. No details were discussed, nor was any decision made on how to handle the visit.

Strategic Planning Board Meeting

The board set Wednesday, Sept. 13 as a planning meeting for 9:30 a.m. at the Pioneer Courthouse.

Smithsonian Display – Jeanine Vander Bruggen

Jeanine Vander Bruggen announced she has completed a new Smithsonian display in the basement of the Pioneer Courthouse. She said the Smithsonian exhibit in Southern Utah will be held March 9 to April 28, 2024, in the Silver Reef Cosmopolitan Building. There are a total of 8 exhibit locations in the state of Utah, beginning in September 2023. Jeanine invited Board members to visit the display. She stressed that the display is to be a springboard for members of WCHS to work with communities in preparing displays/lectures for their communities relating the effects of change.

Linda Shogren said she would contact all of the museums in the county to let them know about the Smithsonian program entitled: *Crossroads: Change in Rural America*.

The meeting adjourned at 12 noon.

Next WCHS Committee meeting is Aug. 30 at 10 a.m. in the Pioneer Courthouse.