

Approved
Washington County Historical Society Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 10, 2024 - 10 a.m.
Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum Meeting Room

Board members present: George Cannon, Ian Crowe, Richard Kohler, Teresa Orton, Maureen Parks, Jesse Stocking and Loren Webb

Board members absent: Brad Bennett, Chad Bennion.

President Ian Crowe welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Secretary Report - Loren Webb
 - a. George Cannon said Richard Kohler was present at the 3-14-2024 meeting but not listed in the minutes. Motion was made by Teresa Orton to approve the minutes with the correction. Motion was seconded by Maureen Parks and unanimously approved.

2. Treasurer's Report - Teresa Orton
 - a. Motion was made by Maureen Parks to approve the March 1-31, 2024 financial report. The motion was seconded by Jesse Stocking and unanimously approved.
 - b. Treasurer Teresa Orton said the ending checking balance of \$2,212.23 at the end of March did not take into account \$500 that was paid to transcriber Susan Mower from the \$960 WCHS received from Utah Humanities to pay for transcribing oral history interviews. Loren Webb has requested Utah Humanities (UH) release \$240 of the remaining \$1,200 UH grant. We need to pay Susan Mower for three remaining transcripts of oral history interviews which will be covered by the St George City RAP Tax Grant.
 - c. Richard Kohler said he was awarded \$1,000 from Utah Humanities for videotaping his roundtable discussions and field trips. He signed the contract and has still not received the \$1,000. Teresa Orton said she checked the WCHS post office box and no check has been received. Teresa asked him to submit a copy of the Grant Application for Washington County RAP Tax he submitted in October 2023 and a copy of the Utah Humanities Grant Application he submitted.
 - d. Teresa said a change in Utah State Laws no longer requires us to get a Charitable Solicitation Permit. We will submit a copy of our 990 when we renew our business license.
 - e. Teresa has filed the 990 taxes for 2023.
 - f. Teresa has renewed and paid \$565 insurance for the WCHS board of directors. George asked for a copy of the Directors insurance policy that we can review.
 - g. Regarding the John Whitmer Historical Society tours tentatively planned for Sept. 13 in St. George, in which the WCHS has offered to provide two

tours, George Cannon said he wanted to clarify that the Washington County Historical Society does not have liability insurance. Teresa said she told Cheryle Grinter with JWHS that WCHS did not have liability insurance.

- h. On WCHS bylaws review, Teresa said she has not heard back from Tony Allen or Chad Bennion, both of whom previously offered to provide legal assistance on the bylaws.
3. Website Updates - George Cannon
- a. George said in the 3-14-2024 Board meeting minutes, there was a motion to approve the renewal of the \$99 annual Termageddon subscription for the legacy part of the website. The motion should be corrected to specify \$99 with auto renewal. That correction was approved.
 - b. George said the website needs to be modified for new membership categories which had been approved by the Board. He has contacted Austin Pickett regarding his willingness to make these changes. Austin charges \$50 an hour and estimates up to 12 hours of work in connection with new membership categories. A motion was sent by email to the Board to authorize a 2 hour meeting with Austin to discuss the changes we need. The motion passed with 5 Yea votes and 4 no response. George is to set up a meeting with Austin and Teresa.
 - c. George reported that he has met with our intern from last year, Justin LeClair, and he has agreed to take on selected jobs for us as his time and schedule allows and as we mutually agree to. Teresa said she would like to see an outline of what everything would cost. George said he is unable to do that. But what he can do is get approved for fairly limited amounts of funds, manage Justin's work using those funds, and report to the board on what was accomplished and its cost. Some of the things that were - discussed:
 - Fixing the forms reporting for Page Feedback and Contact Us.
 - Correcitng and adding to the pull-down menus on the landing page.
 - Making improvements to the news window on the landing page.
 - Adding photos to the landing page slideshow.
 - Some possible substantial summer projects if funding can be found.
- A motion was made by George Cannon and seconded by Ian Crowe to authorize George to hire Justin LeClair for up to 20 hours at \$20 per hour. The motion passed unanimously.
- d. George said he had conversations with retired dentist Richard Whitehead who is raising funds for a statue of David and Wilhelmina Cannon in

connection with the Sego Lily story. Whitehead has a commitment from local sculptor Jerry Anderson to do the statue. George said he has invited Richard Whitehead to attend the next WCHS Community meeting.

4. Newsletter Updates - Maureen Parks

- a. Maureen said the second WCHS newsletter will come out June 20. She said she worked about 60 hours on completing the first issue. Maureen suggested that board members Brad Bennett, Chase Bennion and Jesse Stocking, who did not have their bios in the first newsletter, could still put their bios in the second newsletter by June 13. George Cannon said he would write an article about the WCHS website. Dick also said he could write up a narrative recap with photos of his monthly field trips and roundtable discussions.
- b. Maureen mentioned that Desert Market Company organizes event series. She became aware of it through her membership with the Daughters of American Revolution. She said there is one event on Memorial Day in downtown St. George. Another event is scheduled for Labor Day. She said it might be something the WCHS might be interested in putting up a booth and soliciting for new members.

5. Oral History Program Update - Loren Webb

- a. Loren Webb said the oral history panel was held March 27 with six individuals. He has completed all of the requirements of the Grant and submitted the transcriptions and audio/video files to the appropriate people. There are 3 interviews that have not been finished and we will need to pay for the transcriptions which will be between \$600 and \$800 and should come from the \$1,500 previously allotted for the transcriptions by the WCHS.

6. Special Projects - Jesse Stocking

- a. Jesse said he has been working with Chloe Batt, Utah Tech University archives librarian, to develop a proposal to professionally preserve the giant St. George City Plat map from the 1870s that is currently in the City Offices.
- b. Jesse also said the WCHS Facebook website has been receiving several phishing warnings and/or copyright threats/scams for the past year alleging the Facebook site is in non-compliance. Jesse said the best practice has been to ignore the warnings. Teresa asked if Jesse posts weekly WCHS events on the WCHS Facebook site. Jesse said he has been posting a number of events about the Smithsonian Exhibits, but he has not had a regular routine of posting local events. Teresa offered to help Jesse set up a schedule of postings on Facebook.

7. Field Trips and Roundtable Discussions - Richard Kohler

- a. Dick said the new St. George Musical Theater is being built on south Main Street across the street from the old movie theater. He said Tony Allen,

who is on the St. George Musical Theater Board, wants to see a history of entertainment in Washington County written. Dick also said when Dick and Ian met with City officials Marc Mortensen and Shawn Guzman, the city officials said the WCHS will have a role with the city, but what that role will be is pretty vague.

- b. Teresa Orton said City employee Peyton Lee had advised her that the Historic St George Live program was canceled by the City for the summer. Dwindling numbers of attendees and difficulty getting volunteers to participate were the reasons for the cancellation. Dick suggested that WCHS board members go to St. George City Council members and ask them to allocate sufficient funds to keep St. George Live going.
- c. Dick said one thing driving new members was the hope of WCHS members to participate in a booth at the Washington County Fair set for April 12-20. Dick said he sent an email to Kurt Ivie expressing his disappointment that WCHS representative Linda Shogren was not notified until March 26 that an inside booth at the fair was not available. Jesse said the location at the County Fair that didn't work out well for the WCHS is called the Pioneer Corner that includes tractors and farm animals.
- d. In connection with the County Fair, Jesse said it would be great if the Lynne Clark poster boards, with historic photos, could be located and displayed at the County Fair. George Cannon's hope is that the Lynne Clark photos could be preserved publicly. Loren Webb said he talked with Lyman Hafen during a Heritage Research Group meeting about the Lynne Clark photo collection. Lyman said he planned to talk with Lynne's son Matt Clark to see how the photo collection could be made public. Jesse said he has also talked with Matt Clark about the same issue. But it is a complicated issue because copyright is involved. Ian Crowe said it would be great if the Lynne Clark photo collection could be digitized and available to the public. George said most of the Lynne Clark photos, (although the family is claiming copyright), were originally obtained from private donors who intended their contributions to be made public. In most cases, there was no documented transfer of copyright. George said one option might be to have a fundraising effort to pay for the photos. He said another option might be to enlist Stephen Wade's help in purchasing the photo collection. Richard said the Washington County Water Conservancy District paid a lot of money for the rights to thousands of Lynne Clark's photos. St. George City also purchased a number of Lynne Clark photos as well. Dick suggested the WCHS contact Lyman Hafen Thursday and let him know the WCHS is willing to be a supportive resource and would be willing to fundraise in order to purchase the Lynne Clark photo copyright.
- e. Dick said the Juanita Brooks symposium will be held April 18-20 at Utah Tech University.
- f. George said there is a house on Tabernacle Street reported to have been owned by Clark Gable. He said the Snarr family also owned it. He said an individual contacted George about verifying that reported history. But George was only able to go back to 1986. Richard said Mike Harless in

Washington City has had success in going through the physical records in the Washington County Recorder's office. Ian Crowe said if he is given the ID number he would go in and find the necessary information. Loren Webb recommended going through "Dixie", a County Recorder employee who has been willing to help with those early records.

8. New Business

- a. Loren Webb reported Tuesday he received a call from Cheryle Grinter from the John Whitmer Historical Society in Independence, Mo., to include the Juanita Brooks home included in the Sept. 13 downtown tours. She suggested calling Sharla Brooks Moody. Loren called her and Sharla said a tour could start from Brooks Pond then go to the Wilford Cox/Erastus Snow home, the Orval Hafen home and the Juanita Brooks home. Tour guides for that tour could be Sharla Brooks Moody, Darin Brooks, Shawn Guzman and/or Rick Atkin. Loren said he would send the proposal to Ms. Grinter.
 - b. A discussion was held regarding missing Board members and the need to have Board members input on current issues and the importance of regular attendance.
9. The WCHS Community meeting will be held April 24 and the next WCHS board meeting will be Wednesday, May 15 at 10 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.