



County Historical Society

Executive Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, September 29, 2021  
10:00 AM– Pioneer Courthouse  
Approved Minutes

Attended: George Cannon, Keith Cannon, Susan Crook, Susannah Nilsson, Jesse Stocking, Jeanine Vander Bruggen, Loren Webb, Sharee Webb

Welcome and Call to Order – Loren Webb – 10:00 AM

- I. Approval of Meeting Minutes for August 25, 2021 – Jeanine Vander Bruggen  
*Moved to Approve:* Jesse Stocking    *Seconded:* Susan Crook
- II. Approval of Monthly Financial Report as of September 29, 2021 – Susan Crook  
*Moved to Approve:* Keith Cannon    *Seconded:* Jesse Stocking
- III. New Business
  - a. Approved Treasurer's Reports – Do we want the treasurer's reports as a shared document when we archive documents from the Executive Officers and Executive Board meetings? Do we keep them on the WCHS website or some other permanent file (Dropbox?) – to be deferred to Officers' Meeting  
(George Cannon's comments: The treasurer reports and certain other documents are not on the website but kept in a separate WCHS Private File that George Cannon has maintained. Those are things that should not be on the website which is available to the public but should be in Dropbox or a similar cloud file that could be accessed by all authorized people.)
  - b. Membership page – Susan Crook – to be deferred to Officers' Meeting in response to the discussion about doing away with memberships. It was suggested that a Membership Committee be created. Susan Crook volunteered to head and to bring a proposal back to the WCHS Executive Committee.  
(George said he wanted to be on the record that he thinks that doing away with memberships is not a good idea.
    - That would end an almost 40-year tradition of allowing people to be recognized for supporting the WCHS while getting little or no other benefit for their contribution.
    - Being a member allows them to feel attached to the organization. He used to get frequent requests for "How do we join?" without any discussion of what do they get for joining? And being part of the organization might make them feel more vested and more likely to participate.

- The fact that there has been little recent participation is mostly due to not getting reminders of the opportunity even once a year. There used to be a large list of members.)
- c. Jane Whalen's request for WCHS to take a position in support of existing Washington County Administration Building to save the building was deferred until more information is available.
- The Washington County Commissioners need to be convinced of the retention of the current County Administration Building. Discussion will be deferred until more information is available. The St. George Historic Preservation Committee should be the lead in the discussions. WCHS are not decision makers.
  - During the discussion about possible preservation to the old County Administration Building, Susan mentioned a long list of features of that building that make it worth preserving and that would make it a slam dunk for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. George commented that we should have that list on <https://wchsutah.org/buildings/washco-admin-building.php> where everyone can have access to it. Susan said she would supply that list to George. Jesse Stocking asked that Jane Whalen be contacted by Loren Webb to notify her that the WCHS is not the appropriate agency to lead on this issue, it is the St. George Historic Preservation Commission. Loren agreed to contact Jane.
- d. Proposal for an Archaeology Park in St. George, Utah – this is an issue to be redirected to appropriate leaders, not the WCHS. WCHS should not be the lead and is not involved at this time. However, we have given a letter of moral support in the past and we could reissue that if it would help.
- e. Talking points for 10-4-2021 Meeting with Washington County Commissioners. This meeting is to request ongoing funding from the Commissioners to support the WCHS website which is the holder of a vast quantity of historic county data available to the public. Loren Webb, Susan Crook, George Cannon and Jeanine Vander Bruggen will attend the meeting at 2:30. Jeanine was asked to prepare material for presentation. Other members are to submit data to her to help in the preparation. The WCHS RAP application was amended at the request of County Commission Assistant Cheyenne Bentley to request specific funds for website maintenance. The RAP application was increased by \$5,000. Depending upon the outcome of the meeting, the website committee will work with Michael Gburski, a consultant who has previously prepared a written assessment of the WCHS website, to set direction.

#### IV. Updates:

##### a. Community Contacts/Field Trips – Loren

Loren gave a report on the field trip to LaVerkin. Four participants got to see the remains of a tunnel section of the LaVerkin Canal. They also toured the old LaVerkin Bridge, the new Powerplant City Park overlooking the old power plant situated near the Virgin River, and a site with historic plaques overlooking Confluence Park where Ash Creek, La Verkin Creek and the Virgin River converge. George commented that he was really impressed that they have a city councilman, Chuck Hardy, who oversees historical issues, including the formation of a Historic Preservation Commission (HPC). George is trying to get him involved in developing the LaVerkin section of the WCHS website, including the history subjects in LaVerkin

##### b. Committee Chair Reports

###### 1. Pioneer Courthouse – Jeanine

See attached summary of past activities for September and planned activities for October

###### 2. Website/social media – George

Covered in discussion regarding meeting with Washington County Commissioners

###### 3. Special Projects – Jesse

Jesse shared photo of steps being taken in the production of the Juanita Brooks statue. We are still a few months out to completion. Work is progressing on developing the wording of the plaque to accompany the statue.

###### 4. Publicity/Promotion/Community Outreach – Susannah

a. Swiss Days attendance was excellent. A panel of 10 women having lived the longest in Santa Clara were interviewed and a video was shown. There was a display of items owned or used by the women. Some Swiss Days participants had an opportunity to weave the May Pole. There were puppet shows, and many other activities. Susannah reported that a silent auction was held where \$10,000 was raised.

b. Randall McGee – storyteller and paper cutter will be presenter in Santa Clara on October 7 @ 6.

c. Susannah will continue to supply updates to the Swiss Days section of WCHS website.

###### 5. Membership/Fundraising - Sharee

To date, approximately 100 tickets have been sold for the WCHS fundraising dinner at the Hela Seegmiller Barn in Little Valley. Cookies and

Cupcakes will be available for sale. Susannah Nilsson will assist Susan Crook in taking tickets at the door. Cori and Phil Theobald and Cori's sister and husband will be conducting tours at the event. Jeanine Vander Bruggen will be setting up a display including Lynn Clarks photos, handouts of upcoming Pioneer Courthouse events, and several items from the Courthouse for view. Jeanine is also setting up a mini gift shop to introduce items now on sale at the newly opened gift shop. She will also bring posters of Juanita Brooks to set up for display so the project can be highlighted. Annette Everett will also be there to talk about the Juanita Brooks Statue.

6. Walking Tours – Susan

A meeting is to be set to determine when to hold our walking tours in December. There has been a suggestion to hold more than one on a given day.

c. Other

1. Loren reported that Sharlene Pickett has a scrapbook of Washington County World War II veterans who died or were wounded in the war. It was requested to scan the information and put it on the WCHS website. Loren had the 17 pages scanned and submitted to George for placement

2. Tech Ridge

Jesse reported attending an open house at the new office buildings at Tech Ridge. There is a desire to place a historical marker at this location commemorating the original airport on the ridge and the Temple Quarry Trail.

3. DAR Award Given WCHS for Historic Preservation

Related to the WCHS award from the DAR, George mentioned that we have a place to highlight historical awards that have been received in the county: <https://wchsutah.org/awards/awards.php>

And there is a whole webpage for the DAR award:

<https://wchsutah.org/awards/dar-wchs-award.php>

George has a 5-minute video of the award presentation. He will put that up on the website if/when he learns how to get it off his iPhone.

Next Meeting – Executive Committee (Executive Officers and Committee Chairs)  
October 27, 2021, 10:00 AM, Pioneer Courthouse

Questions? Contact Jeanine Vander Bruggen 435-632-1215 [garyvb44@aol.com](mailto:garyvb44@aol.com)

PIONEER COURTHOUSE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

9-2-2021 – Lecture by Jim McArthur  
9-8-2021 – RISE Summit – Dixie Center  
9-9-2021 – Open Gift Shop  
9-9-2021 – Leadership Dixie – 40-member tour  
9-11-2021 – Zion Native Flute Group  
9-11-2021 – La Verkin Field Trip  
9-13-2021 to 9-18-2021 – Ironman70.3 – open 6 days  
9-13-2021 – Set up Constitution Week Display  
9-14-2021 – DAR Chapter Meeting – WCHS Award given  
9-14-2021 – Foodie Food Tour Group  
9-16-2021 – Foodie Food Tour Group  
9-17-2021 - Bell-ringing Ceremony – 250 participants  
9-20-2021 to 9-23-2021 – Constitution Week Display  
9-20-2021 – DAR Book club  
9-20-2021 – Foodie Food Tour Group (2)  
9-22-2021 – Submitted amended Washington County RAP Application  
9-23-2021 – Arts Commission Summit Conference  
9-24-2021 – Foodie Food Tour Group (2)  
9-27-2021 – Music Program – Oompah Band  
9-30-2021 – Fundraiser

Upcoming Activities for October

10-2-2021 – Courthouse closed due to road closures for the Marathon  
10-4-2021 – Courthouse opened 5 days a week (closed Wednesday)  
10-4-2021 – Meeting with County Commissioners  
10-5-2021 – Foodie Food Tour Group (2)  
10-7-2021 – Lecture – Patricia Kent  
10-8-2021 – Foodie Food Tour Group (2)  
10-9-2021 – Zion Native Flute Group  
10-9-2021 – Potential filming in Courthouse  
10-16-2021 – Shootout  
10-16-2021 – ala cARTe Evening 5PM-7PM  
10-20-2021 – City Women’s Connect Tour – Museum and Courthouse  
10-23-2021 – Springdale Field Trip -- Cancelled  
10-26-2021 – Leadership Academy (youth) – 30 participants  
10-26-2021 – Music Program  
10-27-2021 – 10-29-2021 – UMA Conference