

APPROVED

Washington County Historical Society Community Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 29, 2024 - 10 AM

Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum Meeting Room

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

Board members excused: Jesse Stocking

Board members absent: Brad Bennett and Chad Bennion

Others present included: Linda Shogren

President Ian Crowe welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Motion was made by Maureen Parks and seconded by Richard Kohler to approve minutes of the April 24, 2024 WCHS Community meeting. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Maureen Parks said she received an article and photos on a recent combined WCHS/Sons of Utah Pioneers field trip from Loren Webb, and an update on the bylaws from Teresa Orton for the June WCHS newsletter. Ian Crowe said he would send a "President's Pen" article to Maureen. Richard said he would send a report on the Juanita Brooks Conference he attended at Utah Tech University. He will also send an article about an upcoming Roundtable Discussion on June 19 on Enterprise and Hebron.
3. Maureen said she requested a list of community representatives from throughout Washington County that she could reach out to who could submit articles to the WCHS newsletter. Those liaisons should be invited to attend future WCHS meetings.
 - a. Teresa said notification and invitations to attend community meetings should be sent no later than seven days before community meetings. Notifications should also be posted on WCHS Facebook Page. It was decided that other members of the Board would be made administrators to the Facebook page. No motion or vote was made but it was agreed on and Ian said he would make Board members administrators.
 - b. There was a discussion of possible candidates for organizational liaisons to the WCHS. A number of suggestions were presented, including from Debra Crocker who couldn't come due to a family emergency, but sent her

list with George Cannon. George volunteered to compile a list including names contributed so far. He requested each person submit their list and then he will distribute the composite list for further discussion and refinement.

c. Maureen said the deadline for submitting articles for the June 20 newsletter is June 13.

4.

a. George said he is continually getting contributions for posting on the website. As an example, Susie Nilsson recently sent two photos about Daniel Keeler and his son, Joseph Keeler, who were called to come work on the St. George Temple. You can see these two photos and links to information about those two pioneers by going to the website home page, clicking on the "HISTORY" pull-down menu, clicking on "PHOTOS", clicking on "WCHS Historical Photo Collection", clicking on "end", and looking at WCHS-05513 and WCHS-05514. George's goal is to eventually have the WCHS website the first place anyone would go to find information about the history of anything in Washington County.

b. Teresa said Sherry Milne regularly posts historical photos on her own Facebook site. She said she will plan to contact Sherry to see where she is getting her photos. George suggested looking at the Facebook group, "Remember St. George, Utah When ...",
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/142680872482587>

5. Loren said he is proposing to hold four St. George Downtown Historic District walking tours on Saturday, Oct. 5, 12, 19 and 26. He has contacted tour guides Susan Crook, Jim McArthur and Bruce Pickett to see if they would be available for each of three of the tours which would be Green Gate Village Block, Town Square Block and Pioneer Courthouse Block. Loren said he plans to lead the tour for the Ancestor Square Block. It was suggested he publicize the events with various media, including the WCHS online Calendar, the WCHS Distribution List, and the WCHS Facebook page. Richard said Rick Atkins suggested the Society consider conducting an upper Main Street walking tour of historic homes such as the Juanita Brooks home.

6. Regarding special projects, Loren was asked by Special Projects Manager Jesse Stocking (who asked to be excused from today's meeting) to tell the board that allergies have been affecting Jesse's work and service responsibilities. However, he said he is still "onboard with what the Historical Society is doing and with what his service positions entail."

7. Richard said the next WCHS Roundtable Discussion will be Wednesday, June 19 at the Pioneer Courthouse at 5 p.m. The topic will be on Enterprise, the Enterprise Dam and on Hebron. He said Luther Windsor of Enterprise, George Jarvis Jr., of Washington and Leo Snow of Santa Clara were all local engineers who went on to stellar careers.

Windsor went to Utah State University, Snow went to University of Utah and Jarvis went to Brigham Young University. Windsor wrote about the history of the Enterprise Dam which was unique because it was built by the people of Enterprise. Orson Huntsman came up with the idea for the Enterprise Dam and for the town of Enterprise. When Richard asked for ideas for future Roundtable Discussions, Linda Shogren suggested the history of steamboats on the Colorado River. Loren also suggested looking at the history of gas stations that once operated between Beaver Dam and Castle Cliffs.

8. Richard said he would like to have Janet Seegmiller, formerly with Southern Utah University Special Collections, speak on the Utah Parks Company. He would also like to have Amanda Scott, a Utah Tech University English professor, lecture on Maureen Whipple, and Trevor Cox who has been researching the history of Utah Tech University (formerly Dixie State University) to speak on a topic of local interest.

9. Ian said a St. George Police officer called Ian on whether Richard Kohler wants to press criminal charges regarding where Society funds went. Ian said someone needs to meet with Washington County Commissioner Gil Almquist. Richard said he also needs to meet with city prosecutors.

10. Maureen reported that a recent Desert Market event that Maureen participated in, saw a lot of foot traffic. Ian said it would be great if the Society could get funds back from Washington County for a Historical Society pop-up booth. Richard asked Maureen if she would contact Desert Market to see if the Society will participate during Labor Day weekend.

11. Loren said he met recently with Washington County Library Director Alan Anderson on two different occasions, both of which were not planned meetings. Alan confirmed he received all of Loren's emails and attachments for the 17 oral history interviews the Society has conducted between 2021 and 2024. Loren said Alan told him some of the documents Loren sent him were Google documents and could not be opened. But Loren said he checked every email he sent to Alan and found every attachment he sent to Alan was a Microsoft Word document for the oral history interview transcripts and pdf documents for the signed agreements with the County Library. However, Loren will re-send the documents in question, and check with Alan to verify that he has received (and can open) all the necessary documents for the library to accept for future public posting.

12. Richard said during a recent Silver Reef Foundation Board meeting he attended, he heard that sculptor Jerry Anderson was not planning to do any sculptures in the future.

He suggested George Cannon contact Richard Whitehead to clarify the situation with the David and Wilhelmina Cannon statue.

Motion was made by Richard Kohler and seconded by Teresa Orton to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

The next WCHS Board meeting will be June 19 at 1 p.m. The next WCHS Community meeting will be June 26 at 10 a.m.