

## Approved

### Washington County Historical Society Community Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 26, 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 absent: Brad Bennett, Chad Bennion and Jesse Stocking

Others present included: Keith Cannon, Trevor Cox, Jan Duehlmeier, Linda Shogren, Todd Taylor and Richard Whitehead

President Ian Crowe welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Motion was made by Teresa Orton and seconded by Maureen Parks to approve the draft minutes of the May 29 Washington County Historical Society community meeting. Motion passed unanimously.
2. St. George resident Richard Whitehead, who is promoting a statue of David and Wilhelmina Cannon, entitled the "Sego Lily" project, sought financial support from the Historical Society board. Richard said he needs to raise \$115,000 for the two pieces of sculpture which he hopes local sculptor Jerry Anderson would create. The fundraising needs to happen quickly and Richard said he has support from Chris Merritt of the Utah State Historical Preservation Office and from State Rep. Walt Brooks. Richard would like to see the statue be located in front of the new St. George City offices under construction directly across from the Children's Museum. George Cannon suggested Richard take advantage of the Historical Society's 501c3 non-profit status to hold monies donated for the project. George volunteered to keep track of a separate fund account that would need to be set up through the Historical Society.
3. George also announced that a documentary film entitled The Conqueror will screen Saturday, June 29 at 7 p.m. in the Pineview Theater. The movie tells the story of above ground nuclear testing at the Nevada Test Site and how the downwind radiation affected cast members who participated in the movie The Conqueror starring John Wayne and Susan Hayward.

4. Loren Webb said the St. George Downtown Historic District Walking Tours in October are set as follows:
- Loren Webb will lead the Ancestor Square Block Tour on Saturday, Oct. 12 at 10 a.m. Participants will park in the Ancestor Square parking lot. - Jim McArthur will lead the Town Square Block Tour on Saturday, Oct. 12 at 10 a.m. Participants will park in the LDS Tabernacle parking lot.
  - Bruce Pickett will lead the Pioneer Courthouse Block Tour on Saturday, Oct. 19 at 10 a.m. Participants will park in the Pioneer Courthouse-DUP Museum parking lot.
  - Susan Crook will lead the Green Gate Village Block Tour on Saturday, Oct. 26 at 10 a.m. Participants will park in the LDS Tabernacle parking lot and cross the street to the north near Judd's Store.

Teresa Orton asked if Loren could create a flyer that advertises the various walking tours. Loren said he would do that and place the ad on the WCHS Facebook site, the WCHS distribution list and on the WCHS Calendar and on Eventbrite.

5. Teresa Orton requested the official name of the John Whitmer Historical Society, along with its contact information regarding Sept. 13 downtown walking tours the Washington County Historical Society will be conducting for the Missouri organization in connection with information requested by the Society's insurance carrier.
6. Ian Crowe asked who would like to be on the WCHS Facebook site as additional administrators along with existing administrator Jesse Stocking. Teresa asked that she, along with Maureen Parks and Ian Crowe be added to the list of WCHS Facebook administrators so that these board members can post upcoming WCHS events as soon as possible. Ian said he would follow up on the request to Jesse Stocking to add Teresa, Maureen and himself as additional WCHS Facebook administrators.
7. Richard Kohler said Chris Merritt from the State Historical Preservation Office would be giving a lecture Saturday at the Cosmopolitan Restaurant at the Silver Reef Museum on the history of Chinese residents who lived and worked in the mining town during the 19th century. He said a Society-sponsored field trip is planned July 13 in Veyo. He asked if Society members could help with making contact with owners of the Veyo swimming pool to see if they would share the history of the pool in connection with the field trip. He is also wanting to line up a field trip in Hildale, Utah. He said town officials there want to create a museum and may request the Society's help.. Because of the unique history of the former

polygamist enclave, Utah Tech University attracted 150 people on a recent field trip the university organized to the town. Richard said he was told the LDS Church is planning to build a chapel there - something that has not been present since the 1930s. Richard is hoping to find a Hildale resident who would be willing to serve as a liaison between Hildale Town and the Historical Society. The resident would be expected to attend Society meetings and keep the Society updated on upcoming town events and to let the Society know of any planned historical related projects.

8. In Ian Crowe's president's report, he said he attended a screening of the new Kevin Costner Horizon film on June 25. He said Costner is planning to build a Frontier Studio near the St. George Airport. He also mentioned a cabin built in 1971 as part of the film Jeremiah Johnson is still standing and is located on private land. He will check to see about getting permission for the Society to visit the historic site.
9. Todd Taylor of Enterprise, Utah has organized a two-day horseback ride from Barclay, Nevada to Gunlock, Utah to honor the memory of Mormon pioneer William "Gunlock" Hamblin in connection with the Gunlock Rodeo on July 3-4. The horse ride begins July 3 at 6 a.m. in Barclay and will consist of riding 40 miles to a camp location near Motoqua and Beaver Dam roads. A 7 p.m. program will consist of featured speaker Lyman Hafen. Taylor said between five and ten riders will make the two-day ride with the group planning to participate in the opening ceremony of the Gunlock Rodeo. Todd asked if anyone had information on a Hamblin coat of arms or flag. Teresa Orton suggested he contact Christine McDonald, who is a Hamblin descendant. Loren Webb suggested he contact the Jeremiah Leavitt Family Organization, who have ties to the Hamblin family.
10. Trevor Cox, on a two-year State Legislative grant to research the history of Utah Tech University said he is working to provide details on three main topics at Heritage Cove (Encampment Mall) on the university campus. The topics include (1) The First Peoples (2) Manifest Destiny and (3) Early Settlers.

Motion was made by Teresa Orton and seconded by Maureen Parks to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.