

Approved

Washington County Historical Society Community Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 31, 2024 - 10 am

Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum Meeting Room

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

Board member excused: Richard Kohler

Board member absent: Brad Bennett

Others present included: Trevor Cox

President Ian Crowe welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. George Cannon said he was told by Jennifer Kohler that her husband, Richard Kohler, a WCHS Board member, suffered a stroke last week and is at St. George Regional Medical Center. He suffered a setback Sunday morning with an infection that put him back into the ICU. She is hoping that once it clears up, he will be back to the progress as on last Saturday - ambulatory, eating, breathing on his own. As of Wednesday morning, he was holding steady and they were letting the antibiotics to their best.
2. Motion was made by Teresa Orton and seconded by Maureen Parks to approve the draft minutes of the June 26 Washington County Historical Society community meeting. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Teresa Orton reported that she, Richard Kohler and Loren Webb, representing the Washington County Historical Society, met Friday, July 19, with Matt Clark and his wife, along with Matt's sister, Colette Clark, regarding their deceased mother's (Lynne Clark) photo collection. The meeting, facilitated by Lyman Hafen, was held at Lyman's office.. Based on Lynne Clark's written will, the Clark family is looking to sell the photo collection, hopefully to Washington County, and the family asked if the WCHS would be willing to enter into an agreement to manage the photo collection and help ensure the photo collection would be available to the public for display and/or purchase. Teresa said there are approximately 17,000 to 20,000 negatives taking up about five cabinets. The family is hoping Washington County would be willing to purchase the collection and store it properly, possibly in one of the county buildings. Chad Bennion

asked if there is a way for the Society to get 5 or 10 percent of the financial proceeds of each copy of a photo sold. The request will be part of the discussion when the contract is negotiated. George Cannon also asked how the Society's 501c3 non-profit status would fit into the Clark family's proposals. Teresa Orton answered that it is unclear what the non-profit status would have on the arrangement. But if copies of prints were sold from the collection, that would not be covered in the Society's non-profit status.

Teresa made a motion, seconded by Chad Bennion, that the WCHS intends to facilitate the administration of the Lynne Clark photo collection on behalf of Washington County with details to be worked out. The motion was carried unanimously. Society President Ian Crowe will draft a letter to the Clark family indicating the action the Society took today on the family's request for assistance with finding a permanent home for the Lynne Clark photo collection. Ian also asked WCHS Secretary Loren Webb to help facilitate a future meeting between the Lynne Clark family, the Washington County Commission and the Washington County Historical Society Board to work toward a mutual agreement regarding the Lynne Clark photo collection.

4. George Cannon and Teresa Orton said Austin Pickett has not resolved an issue with the Secure Socket Layer (SSL) for the new promotional part of the website. Teresa said she and George thought Austin bought the SSL through GoDaddy where the new promotional part of the website is hosted, but he bought it from another source which has since expired. Austin didn't give Teresa any account or log in information to pay for it. George said if Austin doesn't follow up on this issue, he would have Justin LeClair work on the problem. George said he has also set up a text group that can send a message to the Board.
5. Regarding the status of the Bart Anderson collection and other historic documents at Utah Tech University, it was suggested that Ian Crowe contact UTU Special Collections Director Caitlinn Grimm and invite her to future WCHS Community meetings. Trevor Cox also noted that all of the Dixie College Yearbooks are now digitally available to the public at Utah Tech University. They date from 1913 to 2000, according to Loren Webb.
6. George Cannon said the City of St. George will be showing three localized movies during Dixie Days events set for Sept. 8-14, featuring "My Father's Highway," "Moonshot," and "Preservation and Progress, Director's Cut." Steven Snow will be speaking at a fireside Sunday evening at the Tabernacle. The subject will be, "A Dixie Homecoming". And there will be an exhibit of 34 framed Lynne Clark pictures.

7. George Cannon said sculptor Jerry Anderson in Silver Reef is working on the David and Wilhelmina Cannon Sego Lily Statue Project. George sent a picture of Jerry's progress to all WCHS Board members. George thinks he may be able to get permission to put Jerry's son, Dolan Anderson's book, Ten Talents; The Life & Work of Jerry Anderson up on the WCHS website. The goal is to have the statue finished about the same time as construction on the new St. George City Hall is completed. The statue would be located on the plaza in front of the city offices near the corner of 100 South Main. Estimated cost of the statue project is \$115,000. George said there is a project page and a donation page on the WCHS website that tells about the statue project. Here are the links:
<https://wchsutah.org/miscellaneous/sego-lily-statue.php>
<https://wchsutah.org/miscellaneous/sego-lily-statue-donate.php>
8. George also referred to the July 31 agenda that shows the board approved by email, a motion that the Society cover incidental administrative expenses in support of the Sego Lily Statue Project as a donation up to a \$200 limit. The Society will also donate volunteer time to the project. The motion carried with eight members voting unanimously in favor and one member not voting.
9. Regarding a criminal investigation requested by WCHS Board member Richard Kohler to investigate Society funds given back to Washington County, Ian Crowe said he received a phone call from St. George Police Det. Cleveland asking what action the board would like to take on this matter. Jesse Stocking recommended the board table the matter since Richard's health prevents him from following up.
10. Loren Webb was asked by the board to contact Sharon Snow to find how many boxes and shelf space would be needed for photos from the Dixie Photo Studios if shelf space was provided by Washington County. Could this collection be included with the Lynne Clark collection space?
11. Teresa Orton said the Society was awarded a \$1,000 grant of a requested \$3,000 from the St. George Recreation Arts and Parks (RAP) grant program. She said the Society was required to obtain a St. George business license for the Society's application to be considered. This was done at no cost. Because we didn't receive the full amount we will be short on our budgeted revenue.
12. Trevor Cox, visiting assistant librarian - Heritage, Culture and Regional History at Utah Tech University, mentioned that the first part of the Heritage Cove exhibits are now published on the university's digital collections. They include:

The First Peoples, Manifest Destiny and the name “Dixie.”

13. Loren Webb said he has an Aug. 14 at 11 a.m. meeting with Washington County Commissioner Victor Iverson where Loren intends to request \$2,000 from the county to conduct up to eight oral history interviews. The funds would be used to pay transcriber Susan Mower to transcribe the interviews. Because the Society only received \$1,000 from the St. George RAP grant program, Teresa suggested asking for up to \$5,000 from the county to help pay for four previous oral history transcripts from earlier in the year.

Motion was made by Teresa Orton and seconded by Jesse Stocking to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

The next WCHS Board meeting will be Wednesday, Aug. 14 at 10 a.m. in the DUP Museum.

The next WCHS Community meeting will be Wednesday, Aug. 28 in the DUP Museum.