

APPROVED

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 28, 2024 – 10:00 AM

Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum Meeting Room

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

Board members absent: Brad Bennett, Loren Webb, and Richard Kohler.

Others present: Linda Shogren, Todd Taylor, Suzanne Nilsson, Richard and Marti Hafen, and Judy Holly.

Ian Crowe, President, called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Teresa Orton made the motion to accept the Minutes of the Community Meeting on July 31, 2024. Motion passed.

Grants: An application has been started by Teresa Orton and Loren Webb to the **Washington County RAP Tax** for the Oral History Project. The application is for \$4,000 and will be submitted by the 9/30/24 deadline. This grant is to cover the shortfall of transcriptions already completed and new interviews. Loren has a list of eight people to be interviewed.

Sorensen Grant – could it be used for the Cannon statues? Gary Crocker is a contact person for this grant. Once a project is identified, Gary will be contacted.

Community Education Channel (CEC) will be closing; the City of St. George will be funding a studio in the new city hall building and the historical society will be able to use it.

Teresa attended the St. George Arts Summit, a requirement of grant recipients. The **RAP (Recreation, Arts, Parks) Tax** is expiring this year and will be on the November ballot to continue the tax for the next ten years. Over the past ten years, the Washington County RAP Tax has dispersed \$300,000,000. The City of St. George contributed \$30,000 for each of the ten years. Tourism dollars contribute .01 of 1% to the RAP Tax. The tax barely passed ten years ago at 51%, so it's imperative to promote positive advertising to vote in favor of the tax. We will have the opportunity to get yard signs for those willing to display them.

David H. and Wilhelmina Cannon Sego Lily Statue Project – donation information is now on the website. There is a page describing the project and the form to donate. To get more information, go to the WCHS home page and click on the announcement; follow links to related information. \$14,000 has been raised to date. Total cost will be \$115,000 for the two statues. The clay statues are complete; when at least \$41,000 has been raised, the bronzing process can begin.

Autumn Edition Newsletter – deadline for submission is September 15, 2024. The newsletter will be released September 22, 2024. Maureen sent emails on August 14 to Rosenbruch Museum and Children's Museum requesting articles for the newsletter with no response. Linda Shogren and Jesse Stocking will contact the museums to see if they would like to contribute.

Suzie Nilsson reported that **Swiss Days** will be September 26—28, 2024. Community Dinner will be on September 26 for a cost of \$7. There will be Founding Families Booths where participants can speak with the descendants of those who settled Santa Clara. On Friday, there will be kids' activities in Heritage Square. The schedule can be found at <https://www.santaclarautah.gov/swiss-days/>.

First Annual Dixie Days Celebration will be September 8 - September 14. There will be a variety of attractions, including a parade, film screenings, golf tournament, Dixie Round-Up Rodeo, a fireside, and more. The schedule can be found at https://www.sgcityutah.gov/activity/activity/special_events/dixie_days/index.php. The Whitmer Association tours will be during the evening in the same week.

Linda Shogren reported the **Washington City Museum** has been closed for a while because of construction. The city did not contact anyone from the museum but put holes in many places, everything is covered in sheetrock dust, and the Southern Utah Weaving Club's yarns have been damaged. The President of the Washington City Historical Society and museum manager, Mike Harless, is conversing with the city about repairing the damages. The Washington City Museum Director is Brooks Reese.

The City of St. George is working on the **Pioneer Courthouse**. Jesse will visit with Marc Mortensen about progress status and the possibility of the Historical Society using the courthouse.

Jesse reported on **Special Projects**. He has traveled to the Beaver Mountains, Paiute County Pioneer Courthouse, Butch Cassidy boyhood home, and Panguitch. The information gathered on this trip will be combined with his previous trip and published in the newsletter.

Todd Taylor volunteered to contribute to the society. He will find a person to represent Enterprise and possibly Gunlock who may be willing to act as **liaisons with the Historical Society**. The Hamblin Trail Ride was successful and will be held next year.

Jesse Stocking will check to see if he has a list of people who would possibly be willing to be **liaisons**. The feeling was the project would be worthwhile. If a list is made available, progress will be made by contacting those on the list and asking if they would like to contribute by attending a Community Meeting, whether it be monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, etc.

Lynn Clark Collection – discussion continues as to which organization will be responsible for what areas while being in accordance with Lynn's will. Current thinking is the county will be responsible for storing and protecting the collection, and the WCHS will facilitate the access, cataloging, and requests for copies to be purchased. The subject of purchase prices, residuals, etc., has not been settled. The family says there has been a lot of interest in getting copies of the photos, so when everything has been settled, the WCHS will need to be organized and ready to begin fulfilling customers' requests for copies.

Ron and Sharon Snow have the photos from **Dixie Photo**. They are identifying who is in the photos, etc. Susie Nilsson said there is interest in getting the Dixie Photo sign refurbished. She said perhaps the local YESCO people would be interested in restoring the sign as a contribution to the community. The Judd's sign is deteriorating, also.

Doug Alder left some money in his will for the historical society and the money will be received soon.

Teresa and Chad are continuing to work on the **Bylaws**.

A motion was made by Teresa Orton and seconded by Maureen Parks to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.