

APPROVED

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2024 – 10 a.m.

Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum Meeting Room

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

Board members absent: Brad Bennett, Richard Kohler and Jesse Stocking.

Others present: Carol Beam, Trevor Cox, Brady Fronk, Judy Holly, Linda Shogren, Ron Snow and Sharon Snow.

Ian Crowe, president, called the meeting to order at 10 AM.

1. Motion was made by Teresa Orton and seconded by Maureen Parks to accept the minutes of the Sept. 25, 2024, WCHS Community meeting without corrections. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Motion was made by Teresa Orton and seconded by Maureen Parks to accept Linda Shogren to act in Board member Richard Kohler's stead for the balance of Richard's remaining term or until Richard's return to the board. Richard suffered a stroke about two months ago and is recovering at home. Motion passed unanimously.

3. The following comes from George Cannon's written notes of his oral report on the website and related activities:

Dr. Richard Whitehead had a conflict and was unable to be here. The David & Wilhelmina Cannon Seago Lily Statue project is progressing. We are approaching the halfway point in the fund raising, but we still need significantly more money to pay off the statue. Dr. Whitehead wanted me to mention that Teresa is doing a great job preparing applications to charities.

Our intern, Justin LeClair, has researched the tools offered by our hosting company, ServerPoint, to gather statistics on usage of our website. He has generated a report showing many of the kinds of data that can be collected. One report was the number of visitors to our site over the last 30 days. There were 28,323 individual visitors that came once, 3,543 visitors came twice, 1,067 came 3 times, and 59 came 10 times. But we had 542 visitors that came more than 10 times. Very interesting results. We are continuing to get significant history contributions to the website.

Justin also did a deep dive into our promotional website (WordPress) to get an understanding of how it is put together. We will need his input to figure out how to proceed with that website.

Two major history monuments have been produced and documented. The Francis L. Daggett monument was dedicated in the St George Cemetery and the Escalante #2 Oil Well Explosion monuments will be dedicated on site Nov. 9 [at 3 p.m.]. Check the WCHS website for details.

4. Chad Bennion reported he, Teresa Orton, Maureen Parks and Loren Webb, members of the WCHS Steering committee on the Lynn Clark Photo Collection, that the committee is in the middle of discussions with the Clark family and will announce as progress is made.

5. Loren Webb provided a summary of the four St. George Historical District walking tours sponsored by the Washington County Historical Society that were held in October. There were a total of 54 participants and we felt it was a success. A former abstractor in his 90s, Ralph Lamoreaux participated in three of the four tours and contributed to the knowledge of many of the buildings visited. The tours were advertised in many areas which contributed to the success. He was able to arrange for two in house tours along the way. Loren said he sent an email to all of his tour guides thanking them for their service. Suggestions were made on when to arrange the tours for next year and other organizations/events to contact.

6. Teresa Orton said the RAP Tax is on the November ballot. We would like to encourage everyone to vote Yes for the RAP tax. Chad Bennion said he wondered why so many monetized organizations are receiving more RAP Tax funding than non-profit organizations. He said we as an organization should be present at the meetings where funding is approved.

7. Maureen Parks said the WCHS winter edition newsletter will be sent out Dec. 22. The deadline for submitting entries is Dec. 15.

8. Chad Bennion anticipates there will be a new set of WCHS bylaws to the Board by December meeting. Once the board approves the new bylaws, the bylaws will go out to the general membership prior to the January 2025 community meeting for approval.

9. Teresa Orton said Board elections will be held at the January community meeting with five board positions open. Those board positions include those currently held by Teresa Orton, Ian Crowe, George Cannon, Brad Bennett and Loren Webb. A change in the bylaws corrects the terms, so we do not have an entire new board coming in in any one year. We want to try to offset positions so it is about half and half coming in each year. For new members to vote, they must pay annual dues of \$25 per person or \$35 per couple. They can join or renew on the WCHS homepage. Lifetime memberships are \$250 per person or \$350 per couple. People can renew memberships as late as the day of the January Annual meeting held the last Wednesday of the month. The Board members need to look for nominees for Board positions.

10. Brady Fronk said the Marine Corps Ball is on Friday, Nov. 8 at 6 p.m. in the garden room of the Dixie Center at \$50 per person. Brady also said he is working with Sharla Brooks Moody who wants to reprint all local history books, including Bart Anderson's four trail guidebooks, not just Juanita Brooks books. He also talked with St. George City Information Officer David Cordero who wants to donate SWAG materials from the first ever Dixie Days week-long event in September to donate to the Historical Society. Loren Webb said Doug Alder wrote a chapter entitled *History of Washington County, 2006-2016* that is not contained in his 2nd edition *A History of Washington County*, that Alder wanted included in a later edition. Brady said Sharla Moody wants to bankroll inclusion of that chapter into a later edition and that the book be updated every 10 years. The book would be sold through the Juanita Brooks Historical Preservation Society. He said Elaine Alder wants Brady Fronk and Loren Webb to write later chapters for updated editions of the book.

11. Ian Crowe said that in 2011, Delores Anderson, wife of historian Bart Anderson, signed a release agreement of all 80 of Bart's slide show presentations to Dixie State College and to Ian Crowe. He said the Society needs to get the images, and in the agreement, it says we have the right to do that. However, he said he does not have a copy of the signed agreement from the college regarding the Anderson collection. Ian wants to share the images online. Sharon Snow said the Family Search Library can scan and digitize those images for the Society. George Cannon said he seeks permission to have a non-exclusive right to use donated materials on the WCHS website. Chad Bennion said copyright and crossover uses need to be looked at in agreements to make sure proper documentation is included.

12. Linda Shogren said Washington City Historical Society President Mike Harless informed her the Washington City Museum is closed until further notice. She also said the museum has received 12 boxes of hardcover copies of *Portraits of Loss - Stories of Hope; The 2005 Santa Clara - Virgin River Flood*. Those will be available after the museum reopens.

The next WCHS Board meeting will be Nov. 12 at 10 AM at the DUP Museum.

The next WCHS Community meeting will be Dec. 4 at 10 AM at the DUP Museum.