

Oregon Heritage Commission

April 23, 2014

City Council Chambers

Albany City Hall

333 Broadalbin St., Albany

Approved MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Eliza Canty-Jones (for the Oregon Historical Society), MariLou Diamond, Kimberly Jensen, Todd Kepple, David Lewis, Eric Martin, Carol Michael, Layne Sawyer, Jon Tullis, Irene Zenev.

Staff Present: Kyle Jansson.

Public Present: Ann Craig.

Lewis called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. Commissioners and the public introduced themselves.

Agenda: Jensen moved the preliminary agenda be approved, Diamond second. Approved unanimously.

Minutes: Michael moved the draft minutes of March 7 meeting be approved. Jensen second. Approved unanimously.

Public Comment: Ann Craig, a member of the Oregon Museums Association board of directors, presented OMA's strategic plan adopted earlier this month. She noted that the plan and the Oregon Heritage Plan have common interests. OMA is interested in having an ex-officio position for a Heritage Commission member and possible joint coordination of a conference. Commissioners said they liked the idea of fostering relations between the organizations, wondered what a position description would look like, and considered what the best ethical relationship should be.

Oregon Heritage Traditions: Tullis reported the committee had reviewed all four applications, including a second review of the Wasco County Fair and Bend Pet Parade applications at the direction of the Commission. There continues to be the two schools of thought about the Traditions: that they be selective or all inclusive. The committee recommended all four be approved and that the application be changed so that the word "ordinary" is used rather than "routine," and that a third question be added to the application.

Commissioner comments included ones that a Tradition ought to have educational value; that after 50 years any activity shows itself to be a tradition; that eliminating based only on what we consider heritage is difficult and perhaps unfair; and that it is difficult to capture in specific measures (i.e., attendance, financial impact) the value of potential Traditions.

Martin moved to replace the term “routine” with “ordinary” in the application and that the question “What distinguishes your event from ordinary events?” be added to the application. Jensen second. Approved unanimously.

Tullis moved that Clackamas County Fair application to be an Oregon Heritage Tradition be approved. Jensen second. Approved 5-3.

Michael moved that the Cannon Beach Sandcastle Contest application to be an Oregon Heritage Tradition be approved. Martin second. Approved 8-0.

Michael moved the Wasco County Fair application to be an Oregon Heritage Tradition be approved. Diamond second. Approved 6-2.

Michael moved the Bend Pet Parade application to be an Oregon Heritage Tradition be approved. Tullis second. Approved 7-1.

Jensen reminded the Commission of its interest in creating Tradition T-shirts.

Collections Commissioners heard at lunch from the mentors about their initial activities.

Economic Development/Tourism Jansson said planning is underway for a heritage tourism workshop in Eugene.

Education Jensen said the combining of the Oregon Encyclopedia and Oregon History Project websites is nearly complete.

Communication Jansson noted this committee (volunteers are still needed) will use information from this morning’s work session with the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries and the Oregon Historic Trails Advisory Council to create its communication packets. The packets will be for use by commissioners and heritage organizations in communities.

Heritage Conference Jansson said registration had surpassed 280.

Cultural Trust Funds Distribution Committee The committee of Martin, Kepple and Sawyer met with Jansson and set up a timeline for the Commission deciding on the use of funds that will become available in August. Staff will report to the committee on each of the commission’s programs, this year’s Trust projects and Heritage Plan goal status, along with its recommendations for funding. Committee recommendation will be presented at the Commission’s meeting in September.

Reports by Commissioners Diamond said Hellenic American Cultural Center of Oregon has focused on the Lovejoy Columns, including a publication about them.

Martin said he had heard Lewis interviewed on the radio about the naming of the Tilikum Crossing bridge.

Jensen said a new Grand Ronde exhibit is at the Willamette Heritage Center. Lewis said the exhibit focuses on the Lower Willamette people: the Multnomah and Clackamas peoples. The tribe's new cultural center is opening June 5.

Canty-Jones said the exhibit at OHS on Lincoln focuses on the period from issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation to passage of the 13th amendment.

Jensen said the Oregon Womens History Consortium is creating a new strategic plan.

Michael said commissioners are invited to special events planned later this spring at Champoeg State Heritage area.

Sawyer said the search is on for photographs from the 20 counties never featured on the cover of the Oregon Bluebook.

Tullis said that Mount Hood is one of the seven wonders of Oregon in the current promotion by Travel Oregon. He is also planning to hike the Pacific Crest trail this summer.

Adjournment: Chair Lewis adjourned the Commission meeting at 3:40 p.m.