

**Approved Minutes**  
**Oregon Heritage Commission**  
**May 3, 2007**  
**Pendleton Red Lion, Yakima Room**  
**Pendleton, Oregon**

**Present:** Carole Astley, Charlotte Fugate, Donald Ivy, George Kramer, Jan Mitchell, Forrest Rodgers, Roger Roper, E. John Rumpakis, Layne Sawyer, George Vogt, Scott West, Irene Zenev, Kyle Jansson.

**Guests:** Tim Wood, Jim Cox (Oregon Cultural Trust), Suzanne M.M. Warner, Doug Decker, R.J. "Bob" Brown, MJ Koreiva, Glenn Mason, Richard Engeman.

Meeting was called to order by George Kramer at 1:40 p.m. Members introduced themselves. Kramer announced that the appointment of a new commissioner was expected in the next day. He also noted that this would have been the final meeting for Pat McMillan, but she was unable to attend.

**Approval of Minutes of February 5, 2007:** Rumpakis asked that mention of 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of organized real estate in Portland be added. Rodgers motion to accept amended draft, second by Mitchell. Commission approved unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes of February 26, 2007:** Fugate motion to accept, Rodgers second. Commission approved unanimously.

**Public Comments:**

Jim Cox of the Oregon Cultural Trust said the Trust will likely give out \$300,000 more in grants this year, and that the deadline for its statewide cultural development grants program is later this month. He also stated he was part of efforts to form the Nonprofit Association of Oregon.

**Reports:**

**Museum Survey:** Jansson reviewed the results of the 2006 survey. Highlights included 86 percent of museums serve K-12 children. Of those museums, 99 percent provide instruction at their facilities with 27 percent also providing programming at schools. Four of the five most common activities of museums also were education related. The survey also compared Oregon with the national Heritage Health Index of a year ago. Oregon's collections have similar cataloging and conservation needs, but its collections environments featured a lower percentage of temperature and humidity controls.

**Oregon 150:** Kramer reviewed the organization's progress since February. He is co-chair of the community involvement committee. They are reviewing eight big ideas for their

potential, including one in which all museums would open their doors free on the same day. There could be some Commission involvement in this activity.

**Legislative Update:** Roper reported that as of this moment, a \$500,000 increase in grant funds for the OPRD Heritage Programs Division has been removed from the Ways and Means chairs proposed budget. The Ways and Means budget also contains significantly less funds than those proposed by the Governor for the CHAMP package. Vogt said the weekly meetings organizing the efforts to promote CHAMP show the effectiveness of working with partners. The CHAMP acronym and its contents are well-known in the Capitol, but it's hard to gauge where legislators are in their financial support of it. Roper talked about the anticipated task force to look at the special assessment program, the advancing legislation to create the ability to establish heritage districts, and the Oregon Trail Protection Act. Kramer also noted the budgets have partial funding for the statehood sesquicentennial.

**Heritage Conferences:** Jansson reported that registration for this conference is higher than any other Heritage Conference with the exception of the joint Washington-Oregon conference in 2000. Work on the 2008 conference will begin immediately after this conference. A preliminary outline for the 2009 conference with the Northwest Archivists is included in the commissioners' packet, with the idea that it be in the Portland area. Rumpakis said that if the conference is in the Portland area it should be in a place accessible to a MAX line.

**Heritage Excellence Awards:** Jansson reviewed awards process, including the selection committee composition. Mitchell said many of the nominees were groups she'd already heard of, and that this year's awards may have just taken some of the cream off the top of the excellent efforts. Astley noted award winners Tillamook Forest Center and Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute also received awards at this year's Governor's Tourism Conference.

## **Old Business**

**Heritage Districts:** Commissioners said the topic was already covered in the Legislative agenda item.

## **New Business:**

**Historic Properties Inventory:** Glenn Mason reported on the project to identify items in the inventory of the former Historic Properties Commission and develop a management plan for it. That commission's legislative history indicates the inventory was not intended to be a museum collection, but commission records show the work in its early years was carried out as if it were. That commission's records yield no definition of what is "historically significant." Category 1 in his written report is an effort to define what we think is the original intent of the legislation. He reviewed other categories as well, and

showed images of items in the inventory and factors relating to how they would be categorized. Mason asked the Commission to review the proposed process and if it is satisfactory, give OPRD permission to use.

Roper said this effort is to create a public benefit from the inventory. Rumpakis asked if there was any effort to estimate value of the items. Wood noted that the capital asset inventories now kept by state agencies may help locate some items. Rumpakis said any decisions regarding inventoried items should be reported back to the Commission. Kramer said he would be uncomfortable having the Commission make individual decisions about the items. Vogt said the proposed process and categories seem very reasonable. He made a motion approving the categories and criteria, and suggesting that OPRD create a committee of 2-3 people to pass final review on the assignment of objects to the categories. Ivy seconded. Vogt said it was implied in his motion that the people would be “qualified professionals.” Rumpakis asked that periodic reports be made to the commission. Motion approved unanimously.

The Commission took a break from 3:30-3:40 p.m.

**Action Plan Review:** Jansson said the 2007-2009 Action Plan proposal was made after reviewing the Heritage Plan and the 2005-2007 Action Plan progress, commissioner comments on the extent of goals at the last Commission meeting, and current goals of the Heritage Programs Division. He said some of the previous Action Plan goals are not listed because they are now part of ongoing efforts by the Commission staff and Heritage Programs staff. Vogt said some of the Action Plan goals need more detail to know what their result would be. Ivy said these goals provide a shared guide that can be communicated at the local level. Vogt said the Commission should, if it wants to move forward, prioritize a couple of goals and create measurable outcomes for them. Mitchell made a motion to approve the Action Plan, and to have the Commission and its staff determine actual steps at their next meeting. Ivy seconded. Rodgers said item #3 (studying the quantity and quality of Oregon history instruction) and item #4 are far beyond the scope and scale of the Commission’s resources and abilities. Mitchell and Ivy withdrew their motion and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Fugate made motion to delete #4 and amend #3 to say “Enhance the quantity and quality of all forms of Oregon history instruction, including that related to the history of the nine federally recognized tribes and their geography.” Rodgers second. Motion approved, with Ivy abstaining. Mitchell made motion to approve the revised Action Plan. Fugate seconded. Approved.

**Heritage Grant Program:** Jansson said he and others in the Heritage Programs Division are planning an organized rollout of all its grant programs this year. He has also streamlined the Heritage Grant application and made it similar to the Museum Grant application. He added the OPRD Commission’s language related to the statehood sesquicentennial, and left the focus the same, as previous Commission discussions have generally come down to this language. Kramer suggested the Commission be willing to consider funding histories of all Oregon counties, using a standardized outline. Zenev noted that some counties already have histories, and that a timeline would need to be developed for a county history project. Commissioners discussed how it would be

published (web or print), its intended uses and audiences, writing workshops, project technical assistance, scholarship, and time period. Ivy made a motion directing Commission staff to target the Heritage Grant program toward county histories, including standardizing content and organizational eligibility. Mitchell seconded. Roper said that was not removing the original focus. Approved.

**Museum Grant Program:** Jansson said besides streamlining the application, no major changes were made in the application. Fugate moved approval of the Museum Grant application. Ivy seconded. Approved.

### **Commissioner Reports**

Ivy said nearly every fourth grader in the Coos Bay area participated recently in a joint Indian Education project involved the Coos and Coquille tribes and the Coos Historical & Maritime Museum

### **Adjourn**

Kramer adjourned the meeting at 5 p.m.