



HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday February 28, 2024

**4500 SW Research Way, Corvallis
2nd Floor of the Kalapuya Building**

The meeting started 6:35 PM.

Those present at the meeting included:

HRC Commissioners: Nancy Taniguchi (Chair), Jay Sexton (Vice-Chair), Tanya Freeman, Bob Honneffer, Autumn Peterson, Adrienne Fritze, and Mariapaola Riggio.

Nancy Weis, Benton County Commissioner

Staff: Inga Williams, HRC liaison; Petra Schuetz, Planning Manager

Public: Rebecca Landis (PreservationWORKS), Sarah Johnson (City of Corvallis Senior Planner), Ben Adams (City of Corvallis HRC commissioner), Bruce Anderson (City of Corvallis HRC commissioner), Roz Keaney (PreservationWORKS), Joel Orton (Friends of Historic Albany), Jessica Hougén (Benton County Historical Society), Nolan Streitberger (Albany Artist), Doug Eaton (Benton County HRC Emeritus member), Carol Chin (preservation specialist)

A. Welcome & Introductions

Everyone introduced themselves.

B. Minutes Review and Approval – January 31

Joel Orton asked for two corrections to the minutes regarding the spelling of his name. A few other corrections were requested.

Minutes passed with corrections.

C. Discussion of 2024 Historic Preservation Month

a. Theme

Comm. Taniguchi started with the proposed themes, “Trails through Time”, or “Let’s Explore Trails though Time”. Roz Keaney suggested the “History Mystery Year”, or “Time Travel”. Something broad that could apply to the entire year. For symbols we could use something like Sherlock Holmes. Some other themes were suggested.

The theme was decided as “Trails through Time.” Comm. Fritze said to throw images at her regarding the theme, such as wagon wheels, for the theme illustration.

b. Scheduling

We got a message from Barbara Melton, Adair Living History, saying that they scheduled a speaker called Robert Kentta from the Siletz Tribe for May 4th.

Doug Eaton was ok with the proposed date of his tour but he is not sure what tour he is going to do. Doug mentioned that he spent the afternoon with Ross Parkerson, who drew the sketches for all the walking tours. The City's ordinance about saving sidewalk stamps was driven by Ross.

There was some discussion about the window workshop. Comm. Peterson said that she would get in touch with Chris Gustafson. Joel Orton said Chris is struggling to come up with the money for the workshop but he is thinking about doing it at the end of May.

Comm. Sexton asked for the Willamette Grange tours to be added to the calendar for 11th of May, 2 to 4.

Comm. Riggio says that she can't offer the wood assessment workshop this year as she only teaches the class every other year. But she can have it next year. Inga asked if her husband could do the virtual reality tour. She said that perhaps, we need to provide the content and they provide the technology. It must be for the college Spring session next year. He teaches about 30 students and would need to have a plan by this November. The biggest challenge is having the data. If they can access the buildings, they can scan interiors using their phones. Comm. Peterson says she can borrow a laser scanner from her friend. Comm. Riggio prefers to have her husband come speak to the committee to discuss specifics.

Joel mentioned that the Friends of Historic Albany will have their main yearly meeting on April 25th. Not finalized yet but they want to highlight the Oregon Electric Railroad Station in Albany and then do a walking tour and then finish up with their annual public meeting.

Doug mentioned that he wants to train new tour guides. If anyone is interested, he would be happy to help.

Carol Chin wants to do her paddle tour again – she would need to coordinate with Willamette River Keeper so they can use their shuttle. She uses the tour to talk about the Missoula floods, settlement patterns and landscapes. Comm. Taniguchi stated that we could provide a link to the video of the Willamette River as a Trail for people who can't physically join.

Bruce Anderson said that he would be happy to help Doug and learn how to lead a tour. Comm. Taniguchi suggested that Doug provide a tour guide training workshop. He is willing to do so. He will probably do the training in June. Comm. Freeman said that whenever we give a tour during May we could mention the tour guide training. Someone suggested having a hand out available.

Roz Keaney talked about the Van Buren Bridge presentation. There is a video being made about the bridge and the people making it said that it would be ready by May. The people making it said they would like to come and be at the presentation and maybe talk about the whole project. The story is "how to build a steel bridge" and the history of the Van Buren Bridge is only a small part of it. The video is only 15 minutes but they have committed to being entertainment at the celebration. Some OSU Engineering Dept. professors are also interested in being involved. Roz asked where we would be doing this. The Engineering Conference Room was suggested by Sarah. It is in the LaSells Stewart Center. This location would also attract some students. Sarah volunteered to coordinate with them and

get the conference room. Bruce said that there is also engineering involved in the dismantling of the bridge and Roz said that is part of it. They are taking film of the bridge being dismantled.

Ben Adams said that if we want to get the students involved in being tour guides it would be good to talk to **ASCO** about it as they tend to reach students that would be interested.

Roz brought up Jema Patterson and asked about her. Inga said that she is doing tours about Chinese, Japanese, and other stories. She went to every tour last year and then went and put together her own tours. Comm. Taniguchi wanted to mention the Filipino Camp down south of Bellfountain to her as a new tour. They helped build the railroad and she doesn't know anyone who knows about it.

Inga sent around a tour book that a class of Dr. Natchee Barnd, an OSU professor, put together. It is a tour of untold stories around OSU. She also mentioned that Jesse Ott reminded her that Crystal Lake Cemetery has a lot of people buried there that are not the typical white pioneer. He will talk to Judy Juntenan and ask if she can do the tour.

Doug asked about Mary Gallagher and if she is still open to leading the downtown tour. Inga said she doesn't know how to get ahold of her. Doug said he would follow up with her. Doug also mentioned that he is involved in renovating his old fraternity house, Sigma Nu. They are still working on it. One of his old students said she would like to nominate it for an award. This would go to the City HRC. Sarah is going to ask her HRC if there is anyone they want to award. Roz mentioned that it would be cool to recognize a mid-century, non-ranch home. Doug said that the Greek houses have never been celebrated. Roz was thinking of pulling together a tour by next year. Carol said we could always do a tour of the Sorority houses and it would be good advertisement for them. They are a unique part of our community. Ben said it would also be an opportunity to rope in the campus newspaper. Roz suggested a Main Hall tour of the fraternities and sororities. Carol said the years ago she created a brochure and talked several of the campus ministries into doing an open house. She is going to look for it and talk to the ministries to see if they would be interested in doing a tour this year.

Nolan Streitberger was asked to share about his topic. He read his artist statement. He is a photographer. He uses a technique called wet plate photography or tin type. He came across the Trail of Tears while researching the Oregon trail. He came across Indian Agent George Ambrose's journal, which was very detailed. He decided to focus on just the Trail of Tears as his wife and daughter are Native American. He used old survey maps to find the exact route they used. For the past year he has been photographing the camp locations. The photos are dark and eerie. He only tries to photograph in the winter, which is the season that the Native Americans were forced to travel. A discussion of the presentation possibilities ensued. Nolan has a slide presentation and the presentation is about an hour long. This is about the Rogue River tribes that were moved to the Grand Ronde. He has shown a version to elementary schools in Albany. He tries to be as accurate and non-biased as possible. After discussion about a date, May 19 was placed as a tentative date for the presentation. The group agreed that the Philomath Museum would be a great venue if possible. Doug mentioned the 45th Annual *latwa ina* Pow-Wow at OSU is on the 18th of May. There was hope that we may get them to advertisement for our presentation. Ben suggested using the Innovation Center at the Student Activity Center on OSU. Sarah agreed to contact them.

Roz mentioned that she was contacted by the City of Albany. They want to do a “How to Research your Historic Property Workshop”. Camron Settlemier, with the Albany Landmarks Commission, volunteered to do the workshop. They were talking about creating a brochure for Benton & Linn County. He could do it in May for Corvallis, and another one in August for Albany. The class would probably be up to an hour and one-half. She also said that she heard the Friends of Historic Albany like the idea of a year-round calendar and they want to join in with us. Roz is going to ask him what day he would like to do the workshop.

Bruce Anderson said that he is going to tour College Hill Elementary School on the 12th. He is meeting with the principal and that person’s wife is the principal of Franklin. He agreed to ask them if they are interested in providing a tour of the schools. We are looking for June or July.

Inga read out the program that Alyssa Schrems sent her. This was a program from the Forest Service who will be putting on a Santiam Wagon Road re-enactment event in August or September at Fish Lake Guard Station. They hope to have a blacksmith, wagons, and likely interpretive guide. Alyssa would like them to put together an updated driving map, which could start in Albany and go all the way up to Fish Lake. This could include going up to the Hackleman Grove. There is also interest in upgrading street signage.

Inga asked Carol when she wanted to schedule the workshop for repointing the chimney at the Commander’s House. She said it must be done when it is humid. It would need to be a daytime workshop. We decided on April 21st. Prior registration is needed. Placing it on the Tar Weed workshop schedule was suggested. Inga then asked about the Willamette Paddle Tour. Carol said you want it when it is hot, June or July.

c. Marketing

This was skipped over. Adrienne asked a quick question at the end of the meeting is anyone was interested in helping with the marketing. Roz and Carol indicated some interest. More discussion will happen at the next meeting.

D. Items from the Public – Sarah Johnson updated everyone that Benton County has applied for a Section 106 for removal of the Swick House, which is located on the Justice Center property. It was inventoried back in the ‘80s. It was not protected. Some significant decline over the years. It is currently in the City limits. She said that if anyone is interested in participating in the process to let her know and she will pass along their name to SHPO.

E. Items from County Commissioner Liaison Nancy Wyse – no items from Comm. Wyse

F. Items from Staff – Inga showed a flyer for the Kings Valley Cemetery workshop which will take place in May

G. Items from the HRC Commissioners – Jay mentioned that the Grange has submitted an Alteration application.

Adrienne showed the commissioners a logo for HRC that she had created.

H. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:36