



**Benton
County**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT**

Planning Division

Office: (541) 766-6819

360 SW Avery Ave.
Corvallis, OR 97333
co.benton.or.us/cd

**Benton HRC, Corvallis HRC and PreservationWORKS
Joint Meeting
Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was held remotely through GoToMeeting.

A. Call to Order.

The meeting began at 6:49 pm. In attendance were:

From Benton County HRC: Chair Scott McClure, Larry Landis, Cody Hull, Tanya Freeman, Doug Eaton, Nancy Taniguchi, and Jay Sexton

From Corvallis HRC: Chair Jim Riddlington, Rosalind Keeney, and Liz Olmstead (Corvallis Planning staff)

From PreservationWORKS: Rebecca Landis

Inga Williams, Associate Planner, provided staff support for the meeting.

B. Discussion about Historic Preservation Month

Ms. Williams gave a brief summary of the Benton HRC discussion that occurred in January about Historic Preservation Month. She explained that the proposed theme for the month, as suggested by Comm. Freeman, was one of Connections, i.e. locations, structures, historic meetings, etc., that served to connect people.

The attendant members proceeded to discuss possible projects for Preservation Month. Some suggestions for self-motivating tours were:

- Comm. Freeman suggested a driving tour of the Meeting halls. Said that the state's historic database can be searched by using the term meeting halls. Commissioner Sexton agreed to put together a driving tour of the Grange halls. Since people would not be able to go into the buildings, the suggestion is to take pictures of the inside of the buildings so that people can see what they look like and post those online.
- Comm. Keeney suggested a driving tour or walking tour of bridges. There are three covered bridges as well as other bridges that may be historic. Commissioner Landis indicated that there are some very nice bridges in south county, one across the Long Tom River and a nice bridge over the Luckiamute near Hoskins. Ms. Williams said she would see if Public Works could provide a list of bridges over 50 years old. This could also be done as a treasure hunt.
- OSU – connection from downtown to OSU, the Gateway walk.
- Tour of recreation places/areas around the county.
- Spotighting trails that we know of that are historic – Peavey Arboretum is historic – CCC trail on the right and the old exercise bar that still is up. Spotighting trails that we know would be beneficial

- Identify the old railroad bed that goes through the county and find out how much is available for access and make a do-it-yourself walking tour
 - Comm. Ridlington brought up Cardwell Hill trail as being pretty historic. Cardwell Hill trailhead and from the trailhead it drops down to the Mary's and there is an old railroad bridge that is Harry Potteresque
 - Lewisburg Saddle – an Old Chimney to a cabin built for George Peavy
- Do some more video tours

Comm. Keeney was asking about awards this year. Also suggested that we limit the ideas to driving tours and walking tours.

Comm. Eaton said we should be careful not to put too much time into planning something when we might not be able to pull it off, but anything that can be done individually should be promoted.

Comm. Eaton would like to make available a walking tour of chimneys.

Comm. Eaton suggested that we put out the driving tour brochures somewhere accessible to people to pick up.

Comm. Landis will contact the Historical Society to put together a tour of the new building.

Comm. Freeman made the suggestion of including the Long House at OSU in a tour. Commissioner Landis stated that all the cultural centers should be included as they are all gathering places – there are 7 of them. Commissioner Keeney said that is a great idea as it would add some diversity. How do we make those connected to history? It might pay off to order them in the way they were established. Include in the information what the name is connected to and what the impetus is for founding center.

Comm. Eaton suggested the theme name of “Bridging Time – Bridging Cultures”

Comm. Eaton brought up the Newman Center and that has connections to the Catholic Church. Comm. Landis continued with that thought - the Westminster House has connections to one or two Protestant churches - one on the corner of Arnold & 26th connected to the Lutheran Church – a number of those kinds of meeting places. The Mormons have one off of Arnold. The Episcopalians have one in that area also. And these are in historic buildings.

C. Adjournment – The joint meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.