



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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BENTON COUNTY HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION

Joint meeting with Preservation Works and City of Corvallis HRC

**Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 11, 2019**

6:00 pm, Depot Suites, 700 SW Washington Ave, Corvallis, OR

- A. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm and introductions were made. In attendance for the Benton County Historic Resource Commission were Larry Landis – Chair, Cody Hull, Doug Eaton and Patti Thrall. Members Scott McClure, Nancy Taniguchi, and Tanya Freeman were excused. Inga Williams, Associate Planner, provided staff support for the meeting and was the Staff Recorder. Chris Bentley, former county planner and current consultant, was also present to provide support.

Other present included the Preservation Works committee members and two representatives from Corvallis HRC.

- B. Discussion of Historic Preservation Month, May 2018.
Members discussed possible activities, themes, and locations for the awards' ceremony.

Awards' Ceremony

The dates of the awards ceremony will be either the 23rd or the 30th, with the 23rd being the preferred day.

Four areas were put forward as locations for the ceremony 1) somewhere in Adair, possibly the Officer's Club, 2) Bellfountain School, 3) Wren Community Hall, and 4) Bezell Education Center. Bellfountain School was chosen as this year's location. Cody Hull offered to coordinate the use of the site.

The keynote speaker was discussed and it was decided to ask Mary Gallagher to speak about the history of the area. Also, Mr. Hull brought up the book by Joe Blakely, *The Giant Killers*, which featured a story from the Bellfountain School's past.

Theme

Energizing Our Past was chosen as the 2019 theme.

Events

- Crystal Lake Cemetery – Chair Landis indicated that he would be interested in leading this tour, perhaps with George Edmonson.
- Fort Hoskins was mentioned – Ms. Williams needed to check with Laurie Starha.
- Someone put forward Gingles Cemetery for a clean-up day. So was Oak Grove but that was removed due to accessibility limitations. Ms. Thrall suggested Rick Pyburn, owner of the cemetery, as a possible award recipient.
- Mary Gallagher was volunteered for the Downtown Walk.

- Chair Landis put forward a tour of the KOAC transmitter building. The number of people per tour would need to be limited but more than one tour could be scheduled.



Photo courtesy of OSU Archives.

- Chair Landis indicated that he would like to do something related to black pioneer history, such as watch the OPB documentary at the Darkside Theatre and then drive to the locations shown in the documentary. Chair Landis was going to contact Bob Zyback.
- A question was raised about asking Scott Stursa, author of *Distilled in Oregon: A History & Guide*, to speak on the history of distilling.
- A question was raised about asking Jill VanBuren to lead a tour of the courthouse.
- The calendar was filled in with some events: Whiteside Tour, Sidewalk Marker Tour, Rayburn Addition tour, North Central Park, OSU Tour.

C. Items from the Commissioners and Staff– the three groups separated and the HRC met together in the library. Chris Bentley updated the board on the grant funds and the fact that she was going through and organizing the file. Ms. Williams gave a brief update on the Historic Revitalization Subgrant Program and why it wasn't possible to apply for it this year. Chair Landis asked that it be placed on the next agenda for further discussion. Ms. Thrall stated that she would ask the Book Bin if they would do a Historic display in their windows. The members decided that the next meeting would take place on April 8th at the Avery Building.

D. Other Business – *None*

E. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.