



HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday April 24, 2024

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

The meeting started at 6:30 PM

Those present at the meeting included:

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

Staff: Inga Williams, HRC liaison, Associate Planner Webster Slater, Jesse Ott, Interim Natural Areas, Parks, and Events Director

Public: Sarah Johnson (City of Corvallis Senior Planner), Joel Orton Friends of Historic Albany, Roz Keeney PreservationWORKS, Raffaele De Amicis Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Bruce Anderson City HRC member

A. Welcome & Introductions

Everyone introduced themselves.

B. Minutes Review and Approval

The following amendments were made to the March 27 minutes. On Page 4, change Nanci to Nancy with a Y and Will Forks to Will Fowlkes. On Page 5, instead of deconstruction it should be deconstructing and instead of Robin Hardware it should be Robnetts. Minutes were approved with those changes.

C. Discussion of 2024 Historic Preservation Month, and more

Scheduling Updates

Inga handed out a draft of the Preservation Month poster that Comm. Fritze had created. She asked the group to review it and propose and discuss changes. Roz mentioned adding a time to the How to Research the History of Your House. Inga had asked Mary Gallagher to help with this workshop and received no reply. Sarah suggested George Rorhmann. Roz said the only reason we need another person is because Camron is from Linn County and she thought it would be nice to have someone from Benton County. Sarah gave Roz his email.

Inga went through other changes to the monthly schedule.



**Benton
County**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT**

Office: (541) 766-6819

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

Mariapaola joined the meeting with her husband, Raffaele. He was invited to the meeting because of his interest in the domain of interactive computer graphics (virtual reality) and the use of this technology in the cultural heritage domain.

A question came up about the website and Inga indicated that Webster is working on getting the historic resources webpages active again.

Discussion about the poster continued. The City's website will be used for the QR code because the County's historic resources webpages are not fully functional. Comm. Fritze was thanked for creating the poster.

Roz asked to discuss the Celebration program. She was asked to put together a presentation on the Van Buren Bridge. Roz asked for suggestions for that part of the program. Sarah said she intends to reach out to faculty and students about any part of the program that has a cross reference with OSU interests. Roz said that Kirstin from ODOT will talk about the Memorandum of Understanding and the mitigation for the bridge. She can do a PowerPoint. The man who is in charge of the Utah Valley University videography department, Paul McMullen, will be here to do the presentation of the videos.

Inga had contacted the manager of the Longhouse on campus to ask if the Trail of Tears program could be presented in their events room, which holds up to 200 people. She has not yet heard back.

The group agreed to have Paul McMullen go first and then Kirsten with the other mitigation activities for the bridge part of the Celebration program.

Roz then discussed the PreservationWORKS award to BA and Lenny Beierle.

It was suggested and agreed that the program emcee should indicate that "this is the end of Historic Preservation Month but we will be having activities throughout the year" or something like that. That person should definitely mention the Fort Hoskins festival in October.

Comm. Fritze brought up the schedule of monthly named celebrations, adding on to what Comm. Honneffer had emailed out ahead of the meeting. We can fill out our year with just conversations that are around the different celebrations. Comm. Fritze said that her business is looking to set up for podcasts and maybe we could use that to have our discussions.

County award to the Historic Courthouse Advisory Committee?

The HRC agreed to acknowledge the advisory committee at the celebration event. Jesse Ott agreed with the idea.

Marketing of the program



VisitCorvallis has the Preservation Month information. The city will put it up on their website and the county will also put it up on theirs when the website is back up. Also, the Public Information Officers for the City and County will be disseminating the information through the newsletters and other avenues. The information also goes into any free online calendars.

The name “Bridging History” was chosen for the Celebration.

Comm. Sexton mentioned that the Willamette Grange has the Footwise window for May. He offered to put a movie sized, preservation month poster in the window with the Grange display.

Review Proclamation language

Discussion around amending the language took place. Comm. Fritze took exception to the term “misery” and asked if we could end on a more positive note. Everyone wanted to include bridge, bridges, or bridging somewhere in the proclamation. Sarah suggested moving the last paragraph stating the theme to the top of the proclamation instead of the end. Comm. Sexton suggested changing the theme paragraph to say, “... led through time to both misery and happiness.” Everyone agreed with the change.

Sarah said she would ask the Mayor to come to the celebration to make opening remarks.

D. Virtual Reality Tour

Raffaele, Comm. Riggio’s husband, spoke about his work. I do research and I deploy the project in the domain of historical preservation, communication or dissemination of the value of cultural heritage, and it's a very attractive technology. Each head mounted display provides the capability to the user to be immersed in this digital reconstruction of alternative reality. There are also other kinds of technology that can be used, like a very large screen or display that can be achieved with the use of projectors. In this case you might just need a very nice white wall that can project the information or the models. He asked the group what historical artifact they would like to recreate. What kind of the dissemination activity do you have in mind.

Some ideas:

- Envision Fort Hoskins when it was a working fort. The Commander’s House is the only building standing, but there were many buildings - the barracks, laundry, bakery and so on. We have an oil painting that shows what was there and it would be wonderful to put all back and to put in the sounds, the bugle blowing, the soldiers marching, horses. The point was to protect the natives from the whites and to try and get that idea across.
- Maybe the Frantz-Dunn house. It would be wonderful to put all of that back together in about 1865 which is when it was operational.
- Reproduce the Van Buren Bridge. Can use the 3D model being recorded for the National Archives. It could show the changes to the bridge through time.
- The courthouse. Tell some stories of trials, maybe the botched robbery.



**Benton
County**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT**

Office: (541) 766-6819

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

- The confluence of the rivers when the tribes would come to the confluence to trade. Give people the experience of being on the trade grounds with the goods and the people.
- The mill race, the water wheel and the log ponds and everything that was in that area

Comm. Riggio asked that all of the people who expressed a vision please draft a description of the project they propose. An important piece of information to include is when. October 2024 is too soon but October 2025 is doable. It is great to have multiple ideas so we can start to think about which is the most doable one and we can have a plan for years to come. One other thing is the data collection. The project is more feasible if we have the data. If there is a 3D model then that is great. Sometimes you want to recreate the actual reality. Sometimes there is a building that is still there and you want to have a digital representation of the object. Then we can think of different technology like laser scanning or photogrammetry to recreate this 3D model. If we have a technical drawing of the objects then we can generate a 3D model. If we have pictures or sketches this is getting a little more complicated because the model we are going to generate might be subject to different interpretation. So content is the king because without content we are not able to generate this virtual environment.

The usage scenario is a narrative that describes how you imagine the user will experience the events, the virtual reality, you have in mind. It is important to put this idea in writing. Then list the data you have at your disposal. These are the two things he needs for the moment. Further discussion ensued about how to share the information.

He has 50 helmet mounted displays at OSU. It is easy to create an event and share the devices.

Can use lidar for the confluence and the fort.

Virtual reality is different because the user will feel immersed in this environment and it is more challenging than to create a video. Don't feel creatively constrained by technology but just think about what you have in mind and share your idea.

The students are senior or graduate students. They usually have 10 weeks to finalize a project.

Can create a digital repository of artifacts. Can do a 3D scan with an iPhone. Not complicated at all. Also, he has colleagues at OSU that can 3D scan.

Comm. Fritze asked if he can layer an image over a building that exists to show what it used to look like. He answered yes, it is not really complicated but the difficulty is creating the model. Also, how to make sure the virtual object is matching the existing one. He mentioned Oculus, a viewing device.

- E. Discuss and make a Motion on the request from College of Philomath** to utilize the \$2,000 in the budget set aside for Plunkett National Register nomination to instead support College of Philomath National Register nomination.

Jay is recused from the vote due to his association with the organization in charge of the building. Comm. Freeman stated it is a great idea and we should do it. All commissioners present voted in favor of the motion.

- F. Update on Fort Hoskins Celebration** – Inga and/or Jesse and or Carol

Inga gave a very brief review of the work that is going on.

- G. Update on the Trades School** – Autumn was not in attendance so this part was skipped.

H. Items from the Public

Roz brought up the forthcoming meeting on the Swick House Memorandum of Understanding. Her idea was to ask for a multiple property listing for Italianate properties in Benton County. This would be helpful for the Henkle House. Discussion ensued about who does or does not own the property and who the consultant is working for.

- I. Items from County Commissioner Liaison Nancy Wyse** –

Comm. Wyse was not in attendance.

J. Items from Staff

Inga reminded the commission that the next meeting will include a public hearing for an Alteration of a Historic Resource for the Willamette Grange.

K. Items from the HRC Commissioners

Commissioner Fritze mentioned that she met Jane Ridley with the Oregon Film Society at the Heritage Conference and that they have a Trails of Oregon film series that they are just releasing and they want to collaborate with us. There is also money to buy buildings.

Commissioner Honneffer asked if anyone had responded to Comm. Riggio's request for a student project. No one had. Comm. Riggio stated that she would love to give her students and assignment, no high expectations, but to provide some recommendations about a real project related to preservation of county cultural heritage. They will learn about green building certification and they will learn techniques for renovation and restoration. Inga suggested the CCC sign shop at Peavy Arboretum. It is a national register structure but is being neglected by OSU and is falling apart. Comm. Taniguchi suggested the Beef Barn at the corner of Tampico and Soap Creek.

L. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.