

# Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries

## Minutes

February 5, 2021



BUSINESS MEETING: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

### OCHC Business Meeting

1. Welcome and Introductions – 1:00
  - a. Commissioners – Bev Power (Chair), Milo Reed (vice-chair), Charlotte Lehan, Sara Silbernagel, Shawn Steinmetz
  - b. Staff – Kuri Gill, Jamie French
  - c. Public – Bernadette Niederer, Cricket Soules, Steve Sprenger, Judi Jarosh
2. Approval Minutes (October) 1:05
  - a. Moved – Charlotte, moved
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Milo
  - c. Approved
3. Public Comment – for items not on the agenda 1:10
  - a. None
4. Commissioner appointments update 1:25
  - a. Will run notice again, due to limited response.
5. OPRD update 1:30
  - a. Disaster response
  - b. Staffing/planning update
6. Grant Update 1:45
7. Legislation Update & Discussion 1:50
8. Salem Pioneer Cemetery Issue – transportation path through cemetery 2:00
  - a. General discussion about this issue. Things to be aware of, etc. Old roads in cemeteries almost always have burials under them. Are there other ways to get around the cemetery? Is there another option? If there aren't then there should be studies done for before work can begin. Due diligence should be done and alternatives be examined. Pathway looks to be for convenience more than anything else. The purpose of the cemetery (importance & traditional use) is something is to reflect on, and we should be aware of the possible disruption of the purpose.
9. Cemetery Permit – James Moriarty for German Hill Cemetery 2:15
  - a. It is great anytime someone takes on a cemetery. It is good to connect people to the experience. Make it clear we have resources for them. They should be able to access the grant. One thing that stuck out – able to locate family members in Sandy. Milo happy to help people find folks related to the cemeteries. Pictures are super helpful. Look at grant rules to see if people with the permit could be eligible for this. Good job putting it together and we should support people who want to put in the effort.
10. Cemetery Stories Discussion & Workplan 2:30
  - a. Update from each commissioner on their work on this project
    - i. Lehan – Completed three related stories, 3 of the riverboat captains in the cemetery, two are brothers.
    - ii. Reed – Multnomah Library, rare book room librarian Henry E Dosh, L & C exposition organizer, looking for someone to do something on Fred Eckard (home brewing), Black United Front member, Wannell Hill
    - iii. Silbernagel – Ritter story, nearly done and will share this week
    - iv. Steinmetz – Still trying to wrap his mind around this project, working on some ideas.
    - v. Power – Story of the mausoleum and some people interred there
11. SOLVE partnership update 2:40

12. Invasive Species discussions – what action do we want to take 2:45  
 a. Sarah is working on a draft for resources or guidance on invasive species resources, grants available, there are people we could invite for conversation about this issue at a meeting. Commissioners should send resources about this. Address traditional and purposeful planning.
13. July meeting & event planning (talk about meeting days too) 2:55  
 a. Something should be done. Dates – Thursday afternoon OK, Avoid first Thursdays,
14. Commissioner action reports and issues for the commission 3:05  
 a. Lehan – This has been an active year, more burials and more plot sales. Pushes them as a historic cemetery to think about inventory. Other management issues, thinking about other income streams, cremains areas, four cremains in one plot, etc. Possible CAO conference topic (options).  
 b. Reed – Serving on the Oregon Heritage Excellence Award nominations, adjusting to a new role at the library  
 c. Silbernagel – Invasive species work started. We still need to address the GPR. Maybe come up with an outline, and then work with Shawn?  
 d. Steinmetz – It’s not only at how GPR could be used, but the other options too. Could be an information sheet with the plusses and minuses.  
 e. Power – Visit to Dunkard Cemetery and outreach. Found the someone in Seattle, never heard back from them.
15. Items for future meetings 3:15  
 a. Legislation review and thoughts about changes – review and consider protections
16. Upcoming Meetings & Workshops 3:20  
 April 23, 2021 – teleconference, Summit also online  
 June 11, 2021 – grant approval  
 July 15, 2021 – afternoon meeting, evening event  
 October 14, 2021 - afternoon meeting, evening event
- XIII. Meeting Adjourned 3:25