



## Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Oregon Heritage Commission Meeting

The Oregon Heritage Commission is a group of leaders from across the state that works collaboratively to champion resources, recognition, and funding for preserving and interpreting Oregon's past. Founded in 1995 by the Legislature, the Heritage Commission is comprised of nine gubernatorial appointments and nine ex-officio members. The Commission is designated in [ORS 358.570-595](#) as the primary agency for coordination of heritage activities in Oregon.

### Commission Members:

Anne Levant Prah (Chair); Laura Ferguson (Vice Chair); Rosemary Johnson; Todd Kepple; Kim Moreland; Chelsea Rose; Kerry Savage, Baker City, OR; Matias Trejo de Dios; Chrissy Curran, State Historic Preservation Office; Ross Fuqua, State Library of Oregon; Amit Kobrowski, Department of Education; Larry Landis, Higher Education Coordinating Commission; Mary McRobinson, Oregon State Archives; Kerry Tymchuk, Oregon Historical Society; Michelle Woodard, Travel Oregon

**Monday, January 31, 2022**

**9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**Zoom Meeting**

**link:** [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_w47-2vETQvSJQUVqDZURg](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_w47-2vETQvSJQUVqDZURg)

**Members Present:** Beth Dehn, Laura Ferguson, Ross Fuqua, Kuri Gill, Katie Henry, Rosemary Johnson, Todd Kepple, Larry Landis, Anne Levant Prah, Mary McRobinson, Chelsea Rose, Kerry Savage, Matias Trejo de Dios, Kerry Tymchuk, and Michelle Woodard

**Guests:** Lisa Craig and Yuliana Kenfield

### Meeting Notes

Meeting brought to order at 9:04 a.m.

#### 1. Business

- a. Introductions – all members present introduced themselves.
- b. Agenda Approval (ACTION ITEM)
  - i. Levant Prah moved to approve the meeting agenda. Johnson seconded.
  - ii. Agenda approved unanimously.
- c. November 29, 2021 Meeting Minutes Approval (ACTION ITEM)
  - i. Trejo de Dios moved to approve the minutes. Rose seconded.
  - ii. Minutes approved unanimously.

## 2. Public Comment

- a. Yuliana Kenfield shared her message in English, Spanish and Quechua. She thanked the OHC for their work and consideration, especially the acknowledgment that lessons learned from the past can help shape the future. She noted a common goal of including more voices joined to preserve Oregon heritage for all.
- b. No other public comment.

## 3. Oregon Heritage Staff Update – Katie Henry

- a. OPRD Staffing Update:
  - i. Henry noted that Oregon Heritage is back to pre-Covid staffing levels and welcomed Beth Dehn back to the team. Beth will focus on technical assistance, the Mentor Corps and communication.
  - ii. Other new SHPO staff include Administrative Support, a Compliance Specialist and an Archaeologist.
- b. Conference & Awards
  - i. This year's conference will be virtual which has been supported positively.
  - ii. Awards just closed last week and will be moving forward.
- c. Grants
  - i. The latest grants are now open and include a Museum Grant, Historic Building Grant, and Historic Cemetery Grant.
  - ii. Gill will be holding workshops based on the type of grants, so watch for this information to come and spread the word to your regional networks.
- d. Economic Impact Study
  - i. Oregon Heritage has hired a consultant to prepare a study.
  - ii. We will share finding once the consultant compiles their data.
- e. Commissioner Trainings
  - i. Henry thanked everyone for their time and effort with little notice.
  - ii. We will try to plan better for future training with advanced warnings, etc.
- f. Land Acknowledgment
  - i. Gill attended a meeting with the Legislative Commission on Indian Services (LCIS), the organization guiding policy and procedures for government-to-government relationship with the tribes.
  - ii. While LCIS focuses mainly on the nine federally-recognized tribes in Oregon, they try to acknowledge the non-federally recognized tribes as well.
  - iii. LCIS provided language for land acknowledgements to be used by agencies or the public. Not all tribes or tribal members agree with the language or feel it is meaningful, so they have more work to do.
  - iv. For on-site conferences, we would have invited the local tribal representatives. We will continue with that without waiting on the land acknowledgements.
  - v. Oregon Historical Society noted they are dealing with the same issues and might have some thoughts on how to liaison with the tribes.
  - vi. The Jewish Museum worked with a liaison with tribes specific to Portland to help draft land acknowledgment language that is now posted.
  - vii. The OHC noted that should they decide land acknowledgment is not appropriate for its purposes, there will have been an informed decision with abundant discussion.

- g. NW Digital Heritage currently has approximately 40,000 records.
- h. HUB – the vision and partnership has been successful and we are building a community throughout the Northwest. We want to continue to plan strategically for funding, usage and to have purposeful projects.

#### **4. Heritage All-Star Community Program Update – Kuri Gill & Beth Dehn**

- a. The ASC program is to support communities in recognizing all of their heritage resources (e.g., museums, cemeteries, tours, etc.), and to help them be successful and move forward.
- b. OHC has included grants to communities every other year with positive results in getting those communities to collaborate together.
- c. Currently, there are seven (7) All-Star Communities.
- d. The process is set up to have an initial designation process and a check-in process.
  - i. To maintain designation, ASCs must meet 15 of 23 criteria over time.
  - ii. Dehn’s role as Technical Resource will develop some program structure.
    - 1. Initial application on-line
    - 2. Once designated, annual check-in process to maintain status and develop further.
    - 3. Two months prior to the annual check in, they will receive a list of criteria.
  - iii. OH has a new criterion to propose (ACTION ITEM)
    - 1. The proposed addition is for the ASC to consult with the local tribal organization(s).
    - 2. It would be the 24<sup>th</sup> option and would not be mandatory.
      - a. In answer to questions, it was noted that since the OHC is a government entity, we would not officially communicate with the non-federal tribes.
      - b. While the city usually coordinates, if a non-profit agency is capable, it could possibly be coordinator for the All-Star Community Program.
      - c. Gill noted that getting a new criterion was a step forward. We could later help to encourage groups to see the value of such a consultation. We do not want to mandate and have the option be meaningless.
      - d. Communities would be required to meet 15 of the 24.
    - 3. Rosemary moved to add a new criterion of Tribal Consultation. Tom seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor with one abstention from Trejo de Dios.

#### **5. Value of Heritage Resources in Community Resilience – Lisa Craig**

- a. Craig applauded OHC’s steps toward preparation.
- b. She shared a presentation (see attached) for messaging disaster recovery and resilience, methodology, federal resources and disaster communication.
- c. Craig touched on promoting the value and best practices for communities
  - i. Prioritizing heritage assets – not all can be protected from disaster
  - ii. Audience and messaging to gain support
  - iii. Identify personal concerns and values at stake for the communities

#### **6. Break**

#### **7. Toolkit Committee Report – Katie Henry**

- a. Planning meeting resulted in an outline of what the committee wants to accomplish

- i. Identify what is required, recommended and reoccurring
  - ii. Preservation Plan every five years (next due 2024)
  - iii. Oregon Heritage plan every five years (next due 2026)
  - iv. Annual Report
  - v. OMS Annual Report
  - vi. OMS Network Evaluation every ten years (due 2022)
  - vii. OH Vitality Report every ten years (next due 2024)
  - viii. OH Plan Evaluation every 5 years (due now)
- b. Studies and resources identified
  - i. Heritage Funding survey
  - ii. Cost of Collections Care
  - iii. Digital Heritage Collections Survey
  - iv. Disaster Planning Model & Inventories
  - v. WPA/PWA MPD
  - vi. Upper-floor Study
  - vii. African-American MPD
- c. Topics of value include social value, volunteers, case studies, partnerships and education.
- d. Continue conversations with Travel Oregon
- e. Trejo de Dios appreciated OHC's consideration to translate items to Spanish.

## 8. Virtual Tour of Architectural Heritage Center – Stephanie Whitlock

- a. Ms. Whitlock thanked the OHC for their support with grants and mentorship programs.
- b. She presented on *South Portland and the Long Shadow of Urban Renewal*
  - i. The exhibit took root in 2019 in partnership with the Oregon Jewish Museum.
  - ii. Depicts the transformation from an ethnic conclave to a developed downtown.
  - iii. Innovative experiment for the mid-1950's

## 9. Commission Reports

- a. Landis reported the Collections Committee has exciting upcoming projects. One, submitted by the Oregon Black Pioneers and supported by OHC grant, is for a digital history. Another is for developing a traveling exhibit that the Ford Family Foundation may support.
- b. Levant Prahl described how the OR Jewish Experience exhibit was captured as a digital experience to be used primarily by Oregon Teachers for educational purposes. The goal is to make it available to everyone.
- c. Rose described her guest editor experience with *Oregon Historical Quarterly*. She continues to work with Travel Oregon on mutual interests.
- d. Trejo de Dios is planning for a book on the history of Spanish in Oregon.
- e. Kepple reported the City of Klamath Fall voted to change the name of Kit Carson Park. A new name has not been selected yet. The museum will be caretaker of the old sign. They received a sizeable, anonymous donation for maintaining the old hotel building.
- f. Tymchuk announces the museum collection portal highlights about 10,000 objects.
- g. Ferguson informed the High Desert Museum has a new exposition open. Renovation Project Phase 2 is underway working with tribal advisors on the plateau.
- h. McRobinson is preparing an exhibit for summer opening – a digitization of legislative recordings and historical records. They will have 2 interns this semester.
- i. Woodrow updated on Travel Oregon highlighting new staff in the research department to concentrate on studies; the website will feature funding possibilities and will highlight grants.
- j. Johnson reported not having the cruise ship reduced some of their tourism numbers, especially international tourists. A new exhibit is open Making of Modern Astoria. The historic Pioneer Cemetery has been renamed to former name.

- k. Fuqua shared the state library has some grant projects underway. Over 100k records were added to the digital archive. They have a mini-grant project with the University of Oregon for newspaper digitation. The State Librarian position should be filled soon.

Meeting adjourned at 11:52p.m.