

Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries

Meeting Minutes

Klamath County Museum, Klamath Falls
July 16 2010, 1:00-4:00pm

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Judy Juntunen-Chair, Dirk Siedlecki-Vice Chair, Mike Leamy, Lynn Reagan, Robert Keeler, Ken Phillips

EXCUSED: Diana LaSarge

STAFF: Kuri Gill

GUESTS AND PROPONENTS: Ken Hay (City of Klamath Falls), Dave Andrews (City of Klamath Falls), Cynthia Ross (Antioch Cemetery), Bev Hartell (Ft Klamath Cemetery), Gary Mattas (Linkville Cemetery), Carol Mattas (Linkville Cemetery), Liz Budy (Linkville Cemetery)

Call to Order and introductions

Chairwoman Judy Juntunen gave opening remarks and called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. All Commissioners, staff and guests introduced themselves.

Approval of April Minutes

All approved and it passed unanimously. Moved by Phillips, 2nd by Keeler.

Additions to the Agenda

None

Commissioner Comments/Reports

Ken Laurel Cemetery has had a change of board and many are motivated to move forward with work and grant applications. The cemetery has not needed a clean up day due two volunteers who work there regularly.

Dirk June 30 Brown Bag lunch brought 27 people, they are planning for restoration and cleaning workshops in the summer and fall. Central Point IOOF cemetery has received a lot of media coverage. Several groups are looking at it. A person from Central Point Rotary attended the lunch to learn more. The cemetery and the city are meeting to discuss shared concerns and solutions for the cemetery.

Jacksonville Cemetery asked to be a part of the Southern Oregon Historical Society and Rogue Valley Genealogical Society picnic at Hanley Farm. It was a great success. Hopes are that more cemeteries will participate if they do it again.

Dirk is working on a website for the Friends of Jacksonville Cemetery. Something that has been on the list to do. Hard work, but very worthwhile.

Lynn Discovered brand new cemetery – It is a mock cemetery created from carved tree stump in a private yard. This was to check in on an inquiry Kuri had received.

Mike He has been making the rounds in Clatsop County. He is looking into a gathering. The idea of succession is important here.

Bob Attended the AGS annual conference in Ohio. Working on several pieces for the commission including one on pet cemeteries and finding unmarked graves with Ken. During this year's sabbatical he will review the grant work of the commission to measure the impact of the grants for awarded cemeteries over time. Plans to have a gathering in Clackamas County in October.

Judy AGS has selected her for the Board of Directors. They are fun conferences. Crystal Lake Cemetery cosponsored a Fiddle Festival in the cemetery. It was a great success. The county received a grant for signs and kiosk at Crystal Lake. With another grant, they created an activity booklet.

Grant Report and Upcoming Cycle

All grant agreements are in place. Several grants are completed and all look to be in good shape. Presentation by Lynn of the work from the Westfall Cemetery grant project. Presentation of work in progress by Liz Budy with the Friends of Linkville Cemetery.

Results from OCHC planning session

Emphasis will be on organizational support – volunteer management, leadership development, organizational planning, cemetery planning, etc. Several new topics for Heritage Bulletins including, dealing with and preventing vandalism, historic cemeteries as a cultural and community resource, etc. Also, will provide some good information on the various ways of locating burials.

Chair selection & Commission Terms

Dirk Siedlecki and Bob Keeler have been appointed for their second four year terms. Selection of new chair and vice chair will be at the next meeting.

Partners – Kuri attended Oregon Funeral Directors Association conference in June. We worth the time to meet people and understand their issues. Good because many of these folks do the burial for historic cemeteries. Kuri was invited to present to their board in July. Cemetery Association of Oregon is having their next meeting in Redmond, Oct. 8-9. An organization worth participating in. They are very useful and helpful.

Upcoming meetings and workshops

November 5, 2010 Meeting; November 6 workshop (need suggestions) – 1st choice Redmond, 2nd choice The Dalles This meeting will include officer selection. The workshop will be on cemetery planning.

February 2011 – conference call meeting, with room in Salem

April 2011 – Astoria, in conjunction with the Oregon Heritage Conference

July 2011 – Possibly Cottage Grove

November 2011 – Possibly The Dalles

Public Comment

None.

Meeting Adjourned

Meeting was adjourned at 3:30.