

# **Oregon Heritage Commission**

Minutes: October 8, 2018 Meeting

Klamath County Museum

1451 Main St, Klamath Falls OR 97601

**Commissioners:** Todd Kepple, Laura Ferguson, Matias Trejo de Dios, Anne LeVant Prahl, Chelsea Rose, Kim Moreland, Rosemary Johnson (phone), Layne Sawyer (phone)

**Staff:** Beth Dehn

**Public:** Paul Hanson (KFLS Radio), Kelley Minty Morris (Klamath County Commissioner), Perry Chocktoot (Klamath Tribes)

**1. Call to Order** (9:00 a.m.)

Todd Kepple

**2. Introductions**

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Ferguson motioned for the agenda to be approved; Rose seconded; approved.

**4. Approval of Minutes from July 30, 2018**

LeVant Prahl motioned for the July Minutes to be approved. Moreland seconded; approved.

**5. Public Comments**

Klamath County Commissioner Kelly Minty Morris welcomed the Commission to Klamath Falls. She noted that despite dramatic and controversial moments in the community's history, the community rallies around the museum and its rich history.

**6. Oregon Heritage Traditions**

**A. Action on Portland Rose Festival**

Dehn presented the Portland Rose Festival's application. The festival includes over 7,000 hours of volunteer service, makes \$65 million in economic impact, and incorporates multiple community events, parades, and investments.

Ferguson motioned to designate the Portland Rose Festival an Oregon Heritage Tradition. Seconded by Moreland; approved.

**B. New Application/County Fairs**

Commission continued discussion on how county fairs should be considered regarding the Oregon Heritage Tradition designation. Trejo de Dios commented that he has no doubts that county fairs are a strong heritage tradition. Kepple noted that county fairs can be viewed as an American heritage tradition, which also makes them common place. Commissioners discussed the challenge to demonstrate that a fair is unique and different from more ordinary events. Johnson suggested that fairs could have their own criteria. Ferguson stated that she doesn't feel county fairs should fall under a blanket decision; rather they should be determined on individual basis. Kepple and Sawyer noted the same conversation has taken place in previous years. Kepple

summarized the issue: the Commission wants to do what's fair and also wants to maintain the significance of the designation. Rose suggested the opportunity to create a passport and encourage incentives. A new website could have a map.

**Follow-up:** Review the minutes from Clackamas and Wasco designations and summarize. Committee will review the goal of the Oregon Heritage Tradition designation and determine how to clarify this in the application. Either create sub criteria for fairs or change language of criteria  
3. Respond to Grant County Fair.

## **7. Collections**

Dehn reported that Oregon Heritage has begun meeting with OEM and DLCD about disaster preparedness and OPRD now hosts the Cultural Resource Dashboard that was originally created in 2015. Conversation about digital heritage collections continue.

## **8. Economic Development/Tourism**

Dehn reported that the legislative concept to change wording in ORD 358.595(2)(f) has been approved by the Governor's office for introduction to the legislature and is in its second draft. Dehn is working with Carole Astley and Travel Oregon on the Measuring Visitation Workshop. Moreland inquired what constitutes an anniversary event and encouraged Commission to think of how this fits with this history of people of color.

## **9. Education**

Dehn shared that the Oregon Heritage Fellowship application is open through October 22.

## **10. Communications**

### **A. Volunteer Impact Study**

Dehn reported that on August 1 the Cultural Trust announced the dollar amount that will be distributed to cultural partners in 2019. It is about \$2,000 less than estimated when the Commission voted on the use of those funds at the July meeting. Commission agreed that staff will place the Volunteer Impact study on hold and focus on the program areas approved by the Commission.

Dehn reported that the Toolkit Committee met and discussed the long-term plan of rolling-out one major study/tool a year in order to keep the toolkit dynamic and relevant. The committee will focus on creating tools to help organizations talk about the value of heritage and advocate for themselves. Committee will work on the messaging platform, defining audience, thinking more broadly about who "we" are, and considering avenues of communication. Trejo de Dios will translate At a Glance into Spanish.

## **11. Presentation on Klamath Falls History**

Perry Chocktoot, Culture & Heritage Director of the Klamath Tribes, presented on the history of the Klamath Basin. His talk included Klamath and Modoc creation stories, the Tribes involvement with natural resource conservation, and traditional names of Klamath geographic locations.

## **12. Long Term Planning**

### **A. Discussion on 2014-19 Heritage Plan Accomplishments**

The Commission discussed progress on the goals and objectives of the 2014 Heritage Plan by reviewing a draft of accomplishments. Commissioners discussed why the Education Goal has had the least impact, noting that education is an important goal. Commissioners discussed that this is an area where they can be a strong partner but the Commission lacks authority and isn't the obvious agency to take action on many of the objectives. An alternative approach might be to provide support to museums/heritage groups to create programs that respond to existing educational standards. There is also a need to define education (K-12 or any public outreach?) and assess what the role of the Commission can be in education. Make future goals specific to the scope of what the Commission can do.

The Commission also discussed the Communications goal and the need for tools to help regular heritage folks feel well-equipped to appear in front of groups. Commissioners themselves aren't advocating. How can we create ideas for others?

Discussion of the overall plan included what worked, what didn't work, and opportunities for the 2020 Plan. Commissioners liked the idea of incorporating evaluation of the Commission's programs into the planning process and thinking how those programs can be more inclusive.

### **13. 2019 Summit**

Dehn reported that Save the Date postcards have gone out. The keynote speaker has been determined and staff is working on finalizing with a consultant to moderate the event.

### **14. Commission Bylaws Review**

Dehn briefly reviewed the Commission's work on revising the bylaws from 2013-2016. The Commission then reviewed current bylaws by section. Discussion mainly focused on Mission subsections f and g. Commissioners questioned why the Commission has responsibility for the Asian American Heritage Month and no other cultural heritage months. The Commission also discussed the need to change the wording in subsection f once the outcome of the legislative change of "celebrate" to "commemorate" is known.

Additionally, the commission discussed what being an ambassador to your community, from the "duty of commissioners" section, should look like in action. Commission then decided there does not need to be an explicit process for removal of a commissioner. They also discussed the "expectations of advisors," which includes attendance of appointed commissioners and felt advisory commissioners should be held to same standard. Chair may follow-up and encourage participation. There was further discussion of how officers are selected- that the expectation is that the vice is in training to be chair. Commissioners then reconfigured the two current committees (Toolkit and Traditions). Coordinator will run any committee member changes by Chair in future.

LeVant Prah motioned to remove section G under Mission from the Commission's bylaws. Trejo de Dios seconded. Motion will be called into question at the January meeting for discussion and approval.

Ferguson motioned to change the word “celebrate” to “commemorate” in section F of the Mission based on the outcome of bill. Rose seconded. Motion will be called into question in January or a future meeting.

**Follow-up:** Presentation on the history of e and g at the next meeting prior to the vote.

### **15. Reports by Commissioners**

**Kepple:** Klamath County Museums has a ballot measure up to vote on the levy that funds the Museums.

**Rose:** Recently completed a week-long field project at Kam-Wah-Chung.

**LeVant Prahl:** Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education is working to include non-Jewish voices in south Portland walking tour.

**Moreland-** Oregon Black Pioneers is planning their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in April. Also, OSU has agreed to manage their digital archives.

**Trejo de Dios:** Received a 34 page document of 15-18<sup>th</sup> century history from an investigator in Seville, Spain about Spanish connections to Oregon. Currently under review by experts.

**Ferguson:** High Desert Museum is working on program for 4<sup>th</sup> grade students. Project includes support from OHC.

**Sawyer:** October is Archives month. State Archives hosted an open house with over 130 people. October 10 is Electronic Records Day.

**Johnson:** Stated that she’s sorry she couldn’t attend in person, but looks forward to meeting everyone in January and April.

16. Next meeting locations

17. Adjournment (2:00)