



## 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; 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, June 6, 2022**  
**9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**  
**Zoom Meeting**

### Minutes

- **Business (9:00 a.m.)**
  - a) Introductions (Katie Henry, Kuri Gill, Anne Levant Prah, Laura Ferguson, Matias Trejo de Dios, Mary McRobinson, Larry Landis, Ross Fuqua, Chelsea Rose, Kim Moreland, Chrissy Curran)
  - b) Agenda Approval – Henry called for removing Heritage Tradition line item **Motion to approve agenda with the adjustment, Savage makes motion Ferguson Seconds, approved**
  - c) Jan. 31, 2022 Meeting Minutes Approval, Trejo de Dios and Ferguson would like amendments to their report out **Motion made by Rose with edits as described, Moreland Seconds, Approved**
- **Public Comment - none**
- **Oregon Heritage Update (Katie Henry, Information)**
  - Gill reported that Rachel Thomas was hired as the Heritage Technical Resources Coordinator
  - Gill relayed that Oregon Heritage is partnering with IPRE on applying for FEMA funding to fund disaster planning in several of the all-star community.
  - Gill reported that she would like to report on a second floor study currently being done at the Fall Commission meeting.
  - Henry reported on the 2022 Conference and Awards, good feedback from attendees especially the plenary speakers.
  - Henry relayed that future Summits will all be virtual and the 2023 Summit will be on volunteer programs. Levant Prah wanted to include virtual volunteer opportunities and had a contact for this topic if included at the Summit.

- Henry reported that the current cycle of MentorCorps is going well and ending in June and the new cycle application will be open in July
- Henry reported it is the one year anniversary of the launch of Northwest Digital Heritage and that Fuqua and Henry will be developing a plan for pilot projects in the next year.
- Henry reported that starting in August, Commission meetings will be hybrid with the August Meeting in Salem.
- Henry called for volunteers to be on the FY Oregon Cultural Trust Funds committee. Levant Prahll volunteered and Katie will do another call via email.
- Levant Prahll relayed final remarks from Kepple who termed off the Commission. Henry reminded commissioners about the vacancy on the Commission for someone representing the Southern Oregon region.

● ~~Heritage Tradition: Eastern Oregon Livestock Show (9:30, Committee, Action Item)~~

● **DLCD Update: Goal 5 – Cultural Areas Rulemaking** (Amanda Punton, Information)

- Punton relays that DLCDC is doing rulemaking for cultural areas. Rulemaking could improve communications and support implementation of existing statutes that protects archaeological sites and native American human remains and associated funerary objects. Oregon Heritage Commission may want to consider cultural landscapes. Punton asks Commissioners what the Oregon Heritage Commission might be able to recommend for rule writing.
- Levant Prahll asked clarification about process of rulemaking, Punton responds that there is a committee that will represent tribes, local government, SHPO staff, possibly state police. May have technical advisory committee. Possible separate Tribal workgroup.
- Curran commends relationship with Punton and DLCDC and emphasizes that this is an important effort.
- Moreland asks how they are defining cultural groups and Punton states she is open to what that means. Would like to focus on groups that have been marginalized and left out of documented history.
- Curran wants to make sure that we are not only thinking of groups, but also of the kinds of resources.
- Gill mentioned examples such as sites related to Chinese history, neighborhoods of communities of cultural groups, and places of things that occur that are related to cultural practices or groups.
- Trejo de Dios states that Spanish speaking groups are underrepresented and is interested in participating.

● **Break**

● **Economic Impact Study Preliminary Results** (ECONorthwest, Information)

- Sarah Reich and Joel Ainsworth from ECONorthwest presented the preliminary results of the economic impact study commissioned by the Oregon Heritage Commission. Ainsworth went over approach of the study, types of economic value, economic multipliers, and preliminary numbers.
- Levant PrahI asks about how data is compiled and will be presented. Reich responds that it will be organized regionally and at the state level but not by organization.
- Henry asked if there were interviews involved in the study and Reich said they would include stories but not direct interviews.
- Rose asked about how COVID might affect the organizations and Ainsworth said it's difficult to know. Henry mentioned influx of COVID relief funds.
- Moreland asks for clarification of output and Ainsworth describes output is the gross revenue earned by each organization.
- **Museum Grant Recommendations (Gill, Action Item)**
  - Kuri presented the committee recommendations to the Commission.
  - Fuqua expressed appreciation for the breakdown
  - Landis mentioned it was a lot of work to review them but was struck by the broad range of museums from all over the state and all had worthy projects. Would like to see increased funding for this grant program. Recommends some of the organizations make use of the MentorCorps program.
  - McRobinson was impressed by the thoughtful process and the feedback applicants receive.
  - Henry mentioned this year was easier to review applications based on changes Kuri made to the application.
  - Ferguson states that she was formerly with High Desert Museum but is no longer with the museum and can make an unbiased decision on this. **Ferguson moves to approve museum grant recommendations as put forth by Gill, Savage seconds, approved.**
- **Commissioner Reports (Information)**
  - Henry formerly apologized to Trejo de Dios for oversight in passing along information to the Commission upon his request.
  - Trejo de Dios shared photos of the Hispanic Origins of Oregon book launch at Western Oregon University
  - Rose has several projects across Oregon related to the Chinese Diaspora Project and a project in collaboration with the Japanese Museum of Oregon. Oregon Historical Quarterly is having events across the state related to its most recent issue on Chinese history in Oregon.
  - Fuqua emphasized NWDH anniversary, successfully harvested over 190,000 items from digital collections from 115 organizations across Washington and Oregon. New State librarian was confirmed recently.
  - Landis reported Benton County had a successful historic preservation month. Leticia Carson legacy project is moving forward in terms of archaeological investigation, digital collections, and traveling exhibit.

- McRobinson reported that building is open and Oregon Timeless Wonderland is online related to centennial of Oregon State Parks.
- Ferguson reported she left High Desert Museum and she will be traveling.
- Moreland reported there is a map on Oregon Black Pioneers website related to Juneteenth celebrations across the state. Mentioned photography exhibit documenting African American historic sites and her work on the statewide MPD.
- Curran reported that OPRD headquarters is open to the public but that many are still remote, East Moreland Historic District is moving forward again and this might affect capacity of staff, SACHP is meeting in person in June and OPRD is meeting in person again. Rulemaking for archaeological permit is open. Preservation Plan is opening up for outreach.
- Savage has nothing to report.
- Levant Prah reported that Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education are excited to be open and welcome back school groups, internship program is back on track. Finishing up a huge project to update database and combine museum operations into one database.
- Moreland shared that in a grant review related to the Bush House she had some concerns with the full history being told and the organization decided to convene a committee and work on incorporating the full history into their story.

Meeting adjourned 11:40am

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