

Heritage Network Meeting Minutes August 18, 2008

I. Call to Order

President De Pelan called the meeting to order at Chewelah City Hall at 9:30 a.m. Meeting began with introduction of Erica Breien, new tourism coordinator for NE WA (3 counties) and Barbara of the Chewelah Museum. Update on Lorinda's progress, slowly improving at home.

II. Roll Call and Minutes

Board members present: De Pelan, Janet Thomas, Kathy Berrigan, Joe Barreca, Jackie Franks, Bill Sebright, Karen Meyer, Judy Cornelius. Members and guests present: Elaine Clough, Grady Knight, Harold Ingram, Erica and Barbara

Minutes: Bill made a motion to accept the July minutes as corrected, seconded by Jackie; motion passed. Minutes will appear on the home page, and past corrected minutes (called "approved minutes") will replace original minutes and will be on the Website with a link.

III. Treasurer's Report

Susan sent in a printed report of the last month's HN cash flow and account balances as of 8/15/08. Income for the past month totaled \$61.55 including one new \$20 membership and \$29.45 in Web sales. Expenses for the past month were \$146.71, including \$100 for maps and \$32.70 for credit card processing fees. Total of all accounts was \$2,219.78 with no change in the Prestini fund. Note that invoices are out for Elaine's services (including \$200 in expenses) to Libraries of Stevens County for \$1700 and Lake Roosevelt NRA for \$1076.17. The separate discretionary fund collected \$45 cash.

Grady questioned whether credit card processing had been changed. Cost still seems high and apparently includes a monthly fee. There is a non-profit one available with only a fee per transaction without a monthly charge. At present the fees outpace sales. We need to pay Schott Hirsch back for covering credit card operations for the History Store.

Discussion of camera insurance: The \$4000 coverage with \$500 deductible, now exceeds replacement value of \$3000. Oddly, no ID numbers are required for the equipment listed. The cost is \$600 a year and does not cover the laptop. Note that grant money, not HN money, paid for the camera. So far it has not been loaned out, but we are paying for such coverage. Some museums have coverage for "loaned items." If Elaine does not continue after January, who will take charge of camera? Ideally there would be someone trained in its use who always accompanies it for projects. We need a storage place for HN stuff with protocol outlined for users of equipment. We could set aside \$600 in savings for replacing equipment instead of paying for insurance – cost of equipment is going down, even as improvements are made. If goals are rewritten for digital camera project, grant money might be available, too. Jackie made a motion, seconded by Bill, to cancel the current insurance on the equipment and with the refund for remaining time, start a fund for replacing equipment as necessary, which might include a laptop and scanner. In April, we would vote on the amount to put into the fund for the year. Motion passed.

IV. Committee Reports

Membership: Grady said Metalline Museum is joining the HN. Joe Vines, archeologist, recently joined.

Preserve America: Discussion of size of signs – logo takes up a disproportionate percentage of the area. Joe checked on number of local museum signs currently in place. One way to keep cost down would be to mount new signs beneath the current ones on the same poles, but a concern is possible damage from snowplows. Joe is continuing to work on the plan.

Columbia Crossroads Grant/mud maps: Lewis Lemery's suggestion is to research what happened to the native people met by David Thompson. Matching funds would be available based on the forms listing research hours for the Crossroads grant. With the deadline approaching, the USFS has been stalling on mud map money, apparently waiting on their fire protection portion of the budget. Bonneville Power (flooded towns) could be a source to tap for funds. Spokane House is not yet on the mud map.

Prestini project: Grady is getting ready to videotape during the third week in September with Spokane Preservation Advocates and starting research of buildings on Prestini's list. There are more fireplace and chimney pictures. Eve Dubois was to look at Leno's paintings in Colville, many of which are stored away.

Rural Heritage Digitizing Project: Elaine reported that Harold and Shirley Monette are going to have their pictures digitized, and Ed Dashiell is to bring his photos from the high school in Hunters to do in Kettle Falls. Joe Vines has done some digging around the Colville hospital site and will dig at Pinkney City where there was previous excavation; Elaine is to photograph his findings. Hunters and Northport are to go on the Washington State Website.

V. Open Issues

Service Learning Project: The WSU professors seem more interested in producing written materials for kiosks rather than creating the kiosks themselves. With limited funds, we could use the printed matter and photos mounted on store walls as a starting point for this project rather than simply giving up on it. Keep the dialog going with WSU with more clearly defined goals and costs. We can't commit to a vague, potentially expensive project. It is possible that banks and businesses would be willing to provide some funding. Colville could be the prototype for other towns, and a city walking tour is to happen soon. Some stores and some towns are already making an effort to showcase local history. Note that the historic photos in Town Center need explanatory labels. Kettle Falls is making an inventory of its buildings.

Save Your Pictures Workshop Sept. 20: 200 brochures have been printed so far with more to be done. After discussion about advertising (include www. on future ads), Karen made a motion, seconded by Joe, to take out an ad in the *Columbia Monthly* (cost around \$70). Motion carried. Everything has been free up to this point. We should provide an honorarium for the scrapbooking person from Spokane.

WSU is providing the folders for handouts. We could add HN stickers to the outside and put brochures inside folders. Those signing up can go to 3 of the 5 workshops, so handouts should be available for sessions missed. We could ask each presenter for a page outlining his or her talk.

Have a plan for helpers by next meeting. Have a scanner and laptop set up for old photos. How much equipment can be available? If the number signed up becomes too large for space we've asked for, we would have to pay to use additional room.

Regarding food, the food handlers permit may become an issue when we provide food for the public. Judy could provide a large veggie tray through her restaurant. Plan on providing an adequate snack that will be covered by a portion of the \$10 registration fee. No food is allowed in the auditorium. We'll decide next meeting on specific food to provide when we know the number of registrants.

NE WA Fair: Elaine has the HN banner. Joe volunteered to man the table on Thursday and Grady from noon to 6 on Friday. Plan ahead for a display next year.

Meeting adjourned for lunch and tour of Chewelah Museum.

Next meeting Monday, September 15 at Learning Center at 9:30. October 20 meeting at Loon Lake or Valley. Meet at Springdale in November.