



Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission

P. O. Box 1014

Nevada City, California 95959

info@nevadacountylandmarks.com

Minutes of February 21, 2020

Location: Board Chambers, Rood Center, 950 Maidu Ave., Nevada City, California 95959

Meeting called to order by: Chair Bernie Zimmerman at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioners present: Elinor Barnes, Joe Byrne, Barbara Czerwinski, Mike Kochis, Niel Locke, Jerry Martini, Felicia Tracy, Audrey Trauntvein, and Bernie Zimmerman.

Commissioners absent: Bruce Boyd

Guests and consultants: Cindy Anderson, Linda Jack, Jeff Thorsby, Kit Elliott - County Counsel, Chuck Scimeca, Matthew Coulter

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Niel Locke

Approval of minutes from the previous meeting: Motion by Niel Locke, second by Elinor Barnes. The minutes were approved by vote.

Commissioner's Reports:

A. Chairperson:

1. Bernie Zimmerman reported he is getting many letters from county agencies regarding safety plans and capital improvement plans and other assorted items. He will ignore them, unless they pertain to our commission.
2. Bernie, Elinor and Jeff held a meeting with Deputy County Counsel Scott McLaren in regards to the organic documents. It was also discussed that it is time to make our yearly report to the Board of Supervisors. Jeff will handle the logistics, which ideally would be in March.

3. We currently have 40 copies of our old book. Bernie suggested we donate them. Bernie will contact Scott Lay, Nevada County Superintendent of Schools, to give copies to the school principals, and Linda Jack will take some for the Nevada County Historical Society. Audrey will take some to the County Library.

B. Secretary-Treasurer:

1. Mike Kochis reported on the current financial status of the Commission. Dave Comstock sent a report on Bonanza Press sales.

C. Promotions Director:

1. Audrey Trauntvein reported that we have 774 followers on Facebook, and 1315 on Instagram. She has rack cards for distribution.

Old Business:

1. **Organic documents revision:** Jeff Thorsby reported he has no update at this time. Joe Byrne made a motion that Commission adopt the proposed Resolution Amending Resolution No. 69-102, and the new Constitution and Bylaws. Niel Locke second. Jeff suggested we wait until further clarification is received. The motion was tabled until we receive a report from the County Council. Kit Elliott, County Counsel, was updated on our questions regarding recognizing ghost towns, people, and sites as historical landmarks.
2. **Budget:** Joe and Bernie worked on a revision of our goals and achievements to be presented to the County. Our new budget will be \$3366.00 for the next year. Jeff stated that budgets are amendable if more funds are needed.
3. **Logging:** Cindy Anderson is working possible recognition of the site of the old Matson sawmill in Hills Flat, and the cone burner on the old Pendola site, now the location of the Tractor Supply store. She has reported that 1000 copies of her book are currently in print. She will be speaking at upcoming events next month. She is also working on three more volumes.
4. **Cemeteries:** Elinor Barnes has been doing research on the Cunningham Cemetery, located on the old Cunningham Ranch, off East Lime Kiln Road, in the south county.
5. **Woolman School:** The Board of Supervisors will meet to consider the application on Tuesday, February 25th.
6. **Kentucky Flat School:** The Board of Supervisors will meet to consider the application on Tuesday, February 25th.

7. **Birchville plaque:** Mike will terminate our discussion with the Utah plaque company.
8. **Lake Tahoe Railway plaque:** The plaque has been manufactured, but the location of where it will be installed in Truckee is still being discussed by the Truckee Donner Railroad Society.
9. **Pioneer plaque:** Nothing new.
10. **Truckee Freemasons plaque:** Nothing new.
11. **Ellen Sargent plaque:** The plaque was approved for placement in Calanan Park, by the Nevada City Planning Commission. Dedication is planned for August 20, 2020. Linda Jack reported that there has been repeated discussion over the wording, but it was resolved. This is specifically related to the role of Aaron Sargent in implementing the 19th Amendment, and whether he should be mentioned on the plaque. The final version includes his name.
12. **Sally Lewis plaque:** Looking for a new fabricator.
13. **May Martin Goyne:** On hold.
14. **Shebley's Pond:** Jerry Martini has had no response from NID.
15. **Idaho-Maryland Mine:** No further information is forthcoming. Bruce Boyd may have more info next month.
16. **Field Trips**
 - A. **Mule Springs:** Mike will lead as soon as the road is passable.
 - B. **Kentucky Flat:** Joe is in discussion with the daycare who occupies the building. Joe suggested holding our next meeting at the Indian Springs School.
 - C. **California State Archives:** Chuck Scimeca will lead the trip on April 21st at 10:00 am.

Potential Historic Designations:

- A. **Alexander Property:** Linda Jack gave a report on the Preston Alexander homestead, located at 330 Alexander St., in Nevada City. She will be presenting a formal application for designation.
- B. **Historic Schools:**
 1. **Lime Kiln:** Felicia Tracy is in contact with the current owners of the property.

2. **Birchville:** Nothing new.

C. **Truckee Veterans Memorial Building and Rocking Stone Tower:** Nothing new.

D. **The McGlashan Butterfly Collection:** Nothing new.

New Business:

1. **Rack card distribution:** Now available for distribution. Audrey suggested we do a future update in a different format with a better map. Further discussion on their effectiveness on sales will continue.
2. **Ethnic Community Landmarks:** Linda Jack that there are no landmarks in Nevada County dedicated to our black pioneers. She has a list of over 500 black citizens, who were prominent in the history of our county. She presented a document of possible African American sites in Nevada County that may warrant historical designation.

A discussion was held on the diversity of cultures in the county that could possibly be recognized. Jerry and Elinor volunteered to do research on the topic.

3. **Certifications and Disclosures:** All commissioners are up to date.
4. **Edwards Crossing Bridge:** The County is considering the future location for a new structure upstream from the historic bridge. Chuck Scimeca reported that he attended a cohort meeting of California State Parks, Bureau of Land Management, Nevada County public safety agencies, and other officials. The canyon has unique access problems, and the current bridge is weak and needs to be replaced. The historic bridge will become pedestrian only usage. The new bridge has two options for placement, but option number two constructing the bridge furthest upstream from the historic structure is more desirable. BLM may have interest in future plaque placements, as it is on their land. A motion was made that Joe Byrne, and seconded by Niel Locke, that commission supports option number two, for bridge construction.

Good of the Order:

1. Mike would like to see a sign made for the Wolf District location. He also gave kudos to Bernie for his wikipedia article on Lake City.
2. Joe informed the commission that he is working on the historic Nevada County portion of Camp Beale.

Public Comments:

1. Matthew Coulter informed the commission of the upcoming realignment of the historic Pioneer Trail east of Nevada City on Highway 20. He expressed concern over the removal of forty historic trees in Nevada City. He expressed concern over the destruction of historic buildings in the area, and that we could be doing more to preserve our local history.

Next Meeting: March 20, 2020

Location: Indian Springs Schoolhouse,

Refreshment responsibility: Niel Locke

Meeting adjourned at: 12:01 p.m.

Minutes approved: March 27, 2020 Note: The March 20th meeting was postponed due to covid 19 pandemic guidelines regarding public meetings.

Respectfully submitted: Mike Kochis - Secretary/Treasurer