



Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission

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Minutes of July 17, 2020

Location: Remote access through online video conferencing, or phone, due to the Covid 19 shelter in place in accordance with procedures established by Governor Newsom and the Nevada County Board of Supervisors, in regards to holding public meetings.

Meeting called to order by: Chairperson Bernie Zimmerman at 9:02 a.m.

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

Commissioners absent: Bruce Boyd and Mike Kochis

Guests and consultants: Chuck Scimeca; Lee Schegg (E Clampus Vitus, Former Commissioner), Heidi Sproat, Grace Suarez and Jeff Thorsby, County Staff.

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Bernie.

Approval of minutes from the previous meeting: Motion by Elinor, second by Felicia. The minutes were approved.

Commissioner's Reports:

A. Chairperson:

1. Received notice of construction of a proposed roundabout at the intersection of Ridge Rd and Rough and Ready Hwy. Elinor reviewed and it will not affect any known historical sites.
2. Bernie reviewed correspondence requesting comments from Public Works on the latest plans for a new Edwards Crossing Bridge. There appeared to be no change from the prior plans on which we had previously commented. Bernie will e-mail our continued preference for the upstream crossing.
3. Bernie reported that the Idaho-Maryland Mine continues through the review process. The commission would like Bernie to send another letter noting that the historical significance of the site and many of its component parts which must be considered in that process.
4. Bernie reported that former Commissioner, Fran Cole, had suggested that the Commission consider the designation of the former Wrigley Estate, also the site of The Jacks' restaurant. The commission would be glad to review an application that set forth the historic significance of the site.
5. Bernie noted that his latest book, "Ghost Towns of Nevada County" is now available for a free download on most e-book sites and youbetpress.com.

B. Secretary-Treasurer:

1. Mike Kochis was absent. Bernie delivered his report. We finished last year with approximately \$1189 unspent. Dave Comstock reported by e-mail that there are 145 copies of the new edition of the book and about \$3600 in the book account at Bonanza Press.

C. Promotions Director:

1. Audrey had no report.

Old Business:

1. **Organic Document Revision:** County Counsel is not yet ready to comment on this.
2. **Presentation To Supervisors:** The Commission's preference would be to wait until an in-person presentation could be made so long as it occurred during this Calendar Year. Jeff suggested that we request a time to be on the Supervisors Agenda as a bookmark and reminded the Commissioners that their Supervisor would be glad to hear from them at any time.
3. **Logging:** Nothing to Report
4. **Cemeteries:** Nothing new to report until libraries re-open.

5. **Birchville Plaque:** A misspelling occurred on the plaque after the plaque's proof was approved. The proof did not contain the error and the fabricator is acknowledging that it is at fault but its solution, to have the plaque returned prior to replacement would likely destroy the historic monument on which it sits. Joe made a MOTION and Niel seconded that Bernie prepare a letter in concurrence with County Counsel requesting that the fabricator resolve this issue in a manner which does not destroy the monument.
6. **Sally Lewis Plaque:** There are new personnel with the Applicant who must be updated on the status.
7. **Ellen Sargent Plaque.** Mila Johansen is putting together a film on early suffragettes including her Grandmother, Jessie Haver Butler. Unsure if there will be a dedication in August because of the pandemic.
8. **Shebley's Pond.** Nothing new.
9. **Ethnic Community Landmarks.** Linda Jack is preparing an application for the Alexander House. Jerry will work with her on this. Niel may have a contact for a link to the Asian Community during the Gold Rush. Nothing definitive found yet on the local German and Hispanic communities during that period. A discussion was had where Lee brought up ECV's efforts to landmark the Summit Tunnels with Union Pacific.
10. **Idaho-Maryland Mine.** Discussed under Chairman's Report.
11. **Potential Historic Designations:**
 - A. **Salvation Army Building:** Jerry will pursue an application with the Owner who reportedly lives in Boston.

New Business:

1. **Vacancy:** Joe submitted his resignation but will continue to serve until a replacement is named.
2. **Loma Rica Ranch.** Felicia reviewed the information that Dave Comstock had submitted and forwarded that to Bruce. The Ranch was considered a Showcase of the West. The Ranch has already received its development approvals so that only if an amendment is sought could some of the historic issues be raised.
3. **The McGlashan Butterfly Collection:** The Application was submitted to recommend the designation of the McGlashan Butterfly Collection for Landmark Status was evaluated by Bernie and Joe. A MOTION was made by Jerry, seconded by Felicia to recommend the Application to the Board. It carried unanimously with Bernie voting proxies for Bruce and Mike.

Good of the Order:

1. Bernie reported that he was told by Gage McKinney that Howard Levine has gotten a plaque for the Jones Hospital. The property is being offered for sale and placement and dedication of a plaque is uncertain.
2. Niel noted that there are additional Nisenan sites on Loma Rica which have not yet been disclosed.
3. Jerry is looking into “Deacon’s Folly”, an 1860’s attempt to establish a Ladies Seminary in a building that was never completed around Memorial Park.

Public Comments:

1. Chuck is looking into the Bent Monument which is located on Mt. Lola. May do a backpack to the site.
2. Lee reported that ECV is planning a trek from Mule springs to follow a portion of the Donner Rescue Party Route in 2022.

Next Meeting: August 21, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

Location: To be determined based on status of Pandemic.

Refreshment responsibility: Niel, if in person.

Meeting adjourned at: 11:10am

Minutes approved: August 21, 2020

Respectfully submitted: Joe Byrne

