Minutes of July 19, 2019

Location: Welcome Center Conference Room, Truckee Train Depot/Truckee California Welcome Center, 10065 Donner Pass Road, Truckee, California.

Meeting called to order by: Chairperson Bernie Zimmerman at 9:15 a.m.

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

Commissioners absent: Niel Locke, and Jeff Thorsby - County Liaison

Guests and consultants: Heidi Sproat of the Truckee-Donner Historical Society, and Dick Tracy.

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Heidi Sproat.

Approval of minutes from the previous meeting: Motion by Barbara, second by Elinor. Approved.

Commissioner’s Reports:

A. Chairperson:

1. Jerry Martini and Bruce Boyd, new commissioners, were introduced and welcomed.

2. Bernie received the application for the Truckee Freemason plaque to be placed on the old arch.

3. Bernie discussed the state of Saint Columcille's Catholic Church, now located at Malakoff State Park. The outside is in decay, and the building is closed due to hantavirus concerns. Joe will try to contact Catholic Church groups in the area to see if there is interest in overseeing the upkeep and repair of this historic building.
4. Bernie would like the Economic Resource Council and the Nevada County Cultural District to specifically reference us in their publications. Bernie will meet with each group, and Audrey will assist him.

5. Items of interest sent by Jeff Thorsby:
   a. The Birchville historic designation will be going to the Board this coming Tuesday, July 23rd. It is on consent. The Lake Tahoe Railway designation will be before the Board in Truckee on August 13th.
   
   b. The County Executive Office will be splitting the costs of the buses for the History Week event with the Superintendent of Schools in October.
   
   c. If the new members of the Commission are interested in any additional training opportunities on the Brown Act, we can arrange County Counsel to present at an upcoming meeting.

B. Secretary-Treasurer: Mike reported the invoices for two plaques have been processed.

C. Promotions Director: Audrey questioned if we are crossing lines in promotions of events on our social media pages. It was discussed that only requests for support of events by a non-profit related to a landmark will be posted on our sites. Joe motioned and Felicia seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business:

1. **Videos:** We budgeted money towards videos, and have completed two. Do we want to continue with the project? The cost is expected to rise to approximately $300 each. Audrey will report on the number of times the videos have been viewed on YouTube.

2. **Wolf Plaque:** Felicia reported that she had talked to Don Sweet regarding the dedication of the plaque. It was decided to hold a BBQ/Potluck on Sunday, October 6th, from 5 to 7 pm. A videographer, or one of the commissioners, will video an interview with Bernie and Don Sweet. Felicia will coordinate the event.

3. **Jones Hospital:** Howard Levine has postponed the dedication to a future unknown date.

4. **Local History Week:** Bernie, Mike, Niel, and Dan Ketcham from the Historical Society met with Scott Lay, Nevada County Superintendent of Schools to finalize the program for fourth grade students. A final meeting will be held in September.

5. **Logging:** Nothing new to report.
6. **Cemeteries:** Elinor reported there has been no progress after her initial meeting with Matt Melugin, of the Nevada County Cemetery District. An application will be submitted for the North San Juan Protestant Cemetery.

7. **Woolman School:** No progress.

8. **Birchville:** A sketch was finalized, and payment was sent by the County to the foundry. Awaiting contact from the foundry.

9. **Lake Tahoe Railway:** Payment was sent by Union Pacific Railroad to the foundry. Awaiting contact from the foundry.

10. **Pioneer Plaque:** Bernie has had conversation with State Parks District Ranger Matt Green. There is a potential timeline of mounting the plaque in 2020, but the commissioners have doubts that this will occur, as funding appears to be lacking.

11. **Truckee Roundhouse Plaque:** Barbara reported that the Holliday Development Company will pay for the plaque, as it was removed by “accident”. The verbiage on the old plaque was inaccurate, and Barbara is updating plaque verbiage in conjunction with the Truckee-Donner Historical Society and Truckee Donner Railroad Society.

12. **Ellen Sargent Plaque:** Bernie reported that Linda Jack of the Nevada County Historical Society Searls Library, states the library has the minutes of the Suffragette Movement meetings, and their possible locations, one being the Kidd & Knox building in Nevada City. Bernie attended a meeting of the Native Daughters of the Golden West, in Sacramento, where they expressed an interest in the project.

13. **Mule Spring field trip:** Mike will pick a date for a site visit for those interested.

14. **Potential Historic Designations:**
   
   A. **Historic Schools:** Mike reported that he and Jack Stillens, of Kentucky Flat School trustees, will be making a presentation to the Grass Valley School Board, owners of the Kentucky Flat School, in early August. regarding the application.

   B. **Chinese Cemetery:** Nothing new.

   C. **Truckee Veterans Memorial Building:** The application is under review.

   D. **Butterfly Collection:** Heidi Sproat reported she is waiting on information and approval from the McGlashen family and two other groups before moving forward on the project.
E. **Ski Museum**: Questions as to who is in charge of the museum, and if it is still moving to another location outside of Nevada County were discussed.

**New Business:**

1. **May Martin Goyne Plaque**: Elinor has met with the Miners Foundry group. They will pay for the plaque. A draft of the language is being worked on.

2. **Sally Lewis Plaque**: Waiting for response from our foundry, regarding payment received.

3. **Barlow train layout**: Bernie will schedule a visit after the conclusion of our August meeting.

**Good of the Order:**

1. Barbara presented each member with a Golden Spike Sesquicentennial Passport for Truckee venues.

2. Bernie reported on finding two plaques in the Donner Summit area that are not in our book. One titled “The Donner Party” and the other “The Great Summit Tunnel”.

3. Mike reported that two new plaques will be dedicated by the Native Sons in August. One will be on Idaho-Maryland Road commemorating the Eureka-Idaho-Maryland Vein, and the other is the Willo Steakhouse on Highway 49 in Nevada City.

**Public Comments**: None.

**Next Meeting**: August 16, 2019, 9:00 am.

**Location**: Chamber Meeting Room, City Hall, 317 Broad St., Nevada City, California 95959. Following the meeting, we will visit the residence of Dick Barlow to view his model railroad. Lunch will be at the Happy Apple Restaurant.

**Refreshment responsibility**: No one for this meeting.

**Meeting adjourned at**: 11:25 am.

**Minutes approved**: August 16, 2019.

**Respectfully submitted**: Mike Kochis, Secretary/Treasurer