



Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission

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Minutes of September 18, 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: Chair Bernie Zimmerman at 9:01 a.m.

Commissioners present: Bruce Boyd, Barbara Czerwinski, Mike Kochis, Jerry Martini, Chuck Scimeca, Felicia Tracy, Audrey Trauntvein, and Bernie Zimmerman.

Commissioners absent: Elinor Barnes, Niel Locke.

Guests and consultants: Scott McLeran - Assistant County Counsel and Jeff Thorsby- County Liaison.

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Chuck Scimeca.

Approval of minutes from the previous meeting: Motion to accept by Bruce Boyd, second by Chuck Scimeca. The minutes were approved by vote.

Commissioner's Reports:

A. Chairperson:

1. Bernie Zimmerman and Bruce Boyd received an email from Matt Kelly, of the County planning department, stating they received the commission's comments regarding the proposed opening of the Idaho-Maryland mine, and that the comments will be forwarded to the EIR consultant and Rise Grass Valley Project for review.
2. The new edition of the e-book is on hold until next spring, pending the placement of plaques.

B. Secretary-Treasurer:

1. Mike Kochis reported on the current financial status of the Commission.
2. Book sales are moving slow

C. Promotions Director:

1. Audrey Trauntvein thanked Chuck Scimeca for the videos he has made for dedications, and has posted them to our media sites.

Old Business:

1. **Organic documents revision:** Scott McLeran asked if we are interested expanding the scope of the bylaws. He is willing to assist the commission in reviewing and amending the bylaws. He believes they are skimpy in their current form, and need to be fortified. Jeff Thorsby reported that the bylaws have been amended in the past, but echoed the need to update, specifically in the area of the designation of individuals. The May Martin Goyne designation was challenging, in that the Miners Foundry is already landmarked, so what we were landmarking was unclear, thus a need for a new scope. The McGlashan Butterfly Collection was deemed historically significant, and worthy of landmark status, but is located in a building not historically landmarked, thus could be moved to a new location at any time. Jeff wants us to develop criteria to meet the recommendations of updating and amending the bylaws. Bernie reported that most every significant historical site in the county has been marked, so the issue of designating individuals and cultural resources has now arisen. Bernie will work with Scott on the revision.
2. **Presentations to Supervisors:** Jeff Thorsby reported that the Supervisors will hold its first hybrid meeting on the next scheduled date, but with limited presentations. The Alexander home application will be on the Board of Supervisors consent calendar for next week. We will be informed when the commission can report to the Board at a future date.
3. **Birchville plaque:** A small unveiling ceremony was held, due to COVID restrictions. A video of the ceremony was made by Chuck Scimeca, and is viewable online.
4. **Sally Lewis plaque:** No Report
5. **Ellen Sargent plaque:** A small unveiling ceremony was held, due to COVID restrictions. A video of the ceremony was made, and is viewable online. A public dedication ceremony will be held when restrictions on public gatherings are lifted.
6. **The McGlashan Butterfly Collection:** Further action is awaiting the outcome of our bylaw revisions.

7. **Alexander homesite:** Discussed above.

8. **KNTV/NCTV:** Chuck stated that the County has been a member in the past, but the County has not reapplied to be a member recently, nor paid member fees. Bernie suggested we not pursue teaming with them, but Jeff will follow up with them, as he may acquire more info regarding our decision.

9. **Ethnic community landmarks:**

A. **AME churches:** Linda Jack and Bernie Zimmerman have been working on this project, and have done site visits.

B. **Chinese rail workers:** Bernie Zimmerman sent an email to Lee Schegg, but has not received a response.

C. **St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery:** The application has arrived, but needed additional information. Bernie Zimmerman and Jerry Martini have added photos to the application, and it will be reviewed again for approval.

10. **Potential Historic Designations:**

A. **Historic Schools:**

1. **Lime Kiln:** Nothing to report.

2. **Indian Springs:** Nothing to report.

B. **Truckee Veterans Memorial Building and Rocking Stone Tower:** Nothing to report.

C. **Salvation Army/Bookstore:** Nothing to report.

New Business:

1. **Wolf District rock wall:** A property owner on Wolf Road in the Wolf District, approached the commission regarding possibly historic rock walls along Wolf and Garden Bar Roads, which may have been built by Chinese labor in the late 1800's, and could be up for relocation, or demolition, due to a proposed public works project. Mike Kochis contacted the owner, and visited the site. Unfortunately, there is no documentation in regards to who may have constructed the walls, and when. Felicia Tracy felt the walls should be protected, as these walls are found throughout the county. Chuck Scimeca reported that rock walls have been an issue with the State Parks, specifically, at Bridgeport, which are well constructed, but as to who built them is unknown. There are very little resources available on this topic. Bernie Zimmerman will write a letter to

Trisha Tillotson, of Nevada County Public Works, regarding our concern with the preservation of these historic walls. Jeff Thorsby stated that Trisha Tillotson would be willing to attend any meeting. Felicia Tracy will pursue local contacts in the Wolf area for more info. Chuck Scimeca and Bruce Boyd both stated that these walls, as other walls in the county, are an important cultural resource.

Good of the Order:

1. Barbara Czerwinski proposed that our next meeting be held in an outdoor setting, with social distancing, at the Sierra Mountain Cemetery gazebo, in Truckee. It was deemed a great idea, if permitted by future health regulations.

Public Comments: None

Next Meeting: October 16, 2020 @ 10:00 a.m.

Location: Sierra Mountain Cemetery, 10370 East Jibboom St., Truckee, California.

Refreshment responsibility: Barbara Czerwinski; and members will bring their own drinks.

Meeting adjourned at: 10:25 a.m.

Minutes approved: October 16, 2020

Respectfully submitted: Mike Kochis - Secretary/Treasurer

Addendum:

A cultural resource, the McGlashan Butterfly Collection is a portable display site. Currently, the Collection is housed in the Truckee-Donner Recreation & Park District (TDRPD) Community Center, 10981 Truckee Way, Truckee, CA. This Collection has been bandied about Nevada County for over a 100 years from McGlashan's Rocking Stone Tower, the Nevada County Courthouse, to the Donner Memorial State Park Emigrant Museum, and now the TDRPD. The Collection is to remain in Truckee, and if moved from the TDRPD must have McGlashan Family approval.