

Whitman County Historical Society Board Meeting

May 17, 2023 at the Pullman Depot – Meeting began at 7:00pm

Board members present: Carol Larsen, Val Gregory, Donna Potts, Greg Partch, Denise Mahnkey, Kathy Meyer, Krista Boyd, Mark Clinton, Jon Anderson, Jeff Pietila, Linda Hackbarth. Guests: John-Mark Mahnkey, Aaron McMurray and Ernest Henderson (Innovia foundation)

The consent agenda including, including the minutes, finance report and monthly reports were moved and seconded by Kathy Meyer and Greg Partch. The board approved.

Old Business: Volunteer of the Year – Jim Fitzgerald and Nancy Rothwell won the award for 2022. This will be announced at the Perkins House Ice Cream Social on June 17th. Greg Partch will get a new plaque and a plaque that is presented to Jim and Nancy at the event.

Depot Platform Project - It was discussed that 2 months ago the board gave permission to John Mark Mahnkey to run with the project and to work with the guys from McGregors. McGregor employees have already visited the location and are working on a plan and bid for the project.

Old Mill Project Update- The Old Mill Project does not need to use the WCHS as their fiscal agent. The project is being run through the Innovia Foundation. There is already an Oakesdale Community Fund set up and people have been donating to that fund. Aaron McMurray spoke with the board about the project. Innovia and a committee from Oakesdale is working directly with Mary Jane Butters to purchase the location. Aaron asked if we had any names of people who could help financially or get involved in the project to send those names to him. Valoree will send the list to Aaron.

Monument Dedication: The dedication ceremony is on Monday, May 29th at the Colfax Cemetery between 11 and 11:30am. Val put ads in the Gazette, Daily News, facebook and on our website. Donna thought she knew someone who could play the bagpipe. She will send the information to Greg. Carol reported that the Posse will be at the event and could help with parking if they need it. John Mark will be speaking at the event. It will be a dedication for the monument but also honoring all service people.

Valoree signed the Depot MOU between the Depot and the Trumps. The landscaping project at the depo was approved months earlier.

New Business: Perkins House will have the Ice Cream Social on Saturday, June 17th. About 29 Perkins family members will be attending this year. It will run from 1pm to 3pm. There will be music, tours, ice cream sundae bar, yard games and selfie station.

The annual meeting is set for Sunday, October 8th at the Steptoe School. The Steptoe School is the oldest continually running school in the State of Washington. We will have Kathy Meyer and Donna Potts talk about the Schoolteachers on the Palouse and then we will give tours of the historic school. The event starts at 2pm.

Depot naming rights policy: The board approved the naming rights policy.

Items from the Board:

*The next newsletter will go out in June.

*Linda asked if Val can send donor names with the primary and partner/spouse name from now on. Right now the reports only show the primary name. Val will run a special report for the depot each month with primary and partner/spouse included.

*We should be getting reimbursed soon from the Heritage grant. All of the receipts and paperwork has been submitted.

The next meeting is June 21 at the Archive at 7pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

Minutes taken by: Valoree Gregory