

Sept. 18, 2024 Whitman County Historical Society Board minutes

Roy Chatters Newspaper and Printing Museum

Board members present: Pat Flansburg, Carol Larsen, Greg Partch, Linda Hackbarth, Mark Clinton, Krista Boyd, Janet Barstow, Val Gregory, Director.

Guest: Alex Otero

Consent agenda approved with addition to August minutes to show that WCGS pays \$188.30 of the total monthly rent of \$564.30 at Gladish.

Old Business:

Reducing number of board members – bylaws show that the board can make this change without waiting for the Annual Meeting. This will be voted on at the November meeting. One-time term adjustments may be necessary to get the board back on track of having only a third of the terms expiring each year. Currently, due to adjustments made during COVID and various retirements, about half of the positions expired this year. Mark Clinton and Val Gregory will work on potential adjustments needed, and this will be voted on at the next Annual Meeting. It was noted that the past president position is a one-year term.

Annual Meeting will be Oct. 13 at Roy Chatters Newspaper and Printing Museum. The museum will be open at 1 for tours, with the Meeting to begin at 2. The program will honor Volunteer of the Year Allison Munch-Rotolo, and retiring members Ed Garretson, Kathy Meyer and Greg Partch.

Krista Boyd reported the School House was fully booked during the fair, with 14 sessions (15 minutes each) hosting 325-350 third grade students. Many came back on subsequent days to show their parents. There was a lot of interest throughout the fair in the map and pictures of former schools in the area. The Blacksmith Shop received a lot of visitors as well.

Greg Partch reported the director of Whitman County Library has resigned, so efforts will begin again to finalize the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the Cashup Davis display when the new director is hired.

New Business:

Ed Garretson has retired as editor of the Bunchgrass Historian after 25 years in that role. Katy Whelan has accepted that position.

Janet Barstow showed the group the rapidly deteriorating bricks on the east wall, probably due to water damage. She will have Dean Prewitt of Specialty Coatings (Colfax) inspect.

Alex Otero mentioned there have been problems of the newsletter not being received. Mailing lists will be reviewed.

Other Items of Interest:

Greg Partch reported that the Oakesdale Mill has formalized the transfer of property from Innovia Foundation to the Port of Whitman County. The Port has applied for grants to cover feasibility studies. Most of the equipment has been moved by previous owner to storage.

There will be no regular board meeting in October.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Barstow, Secretary