

# Minutes of Oak Lodge History Detectives

October 12, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Mike Schmeer at 7:00 pm. Mike distributed an agenda, a list of Board and volunteer position descriptions and a copy of the June 9 minutes. He reminded members that this is the Annual Meeting of the organization.

He also reminded members that there was no general membership meeting in September but a well-attended event sponsored by the OLHD and Metro was held at Rose Villa entitled "Reminiscing the Past and Assisting the Future." Historic research had identified the locations of past businesses at each address as well as current use. This is part of a "Brownfields" project grant to determine the existence of toxic waste sites. Mike estimated 90 attendees.

The Treasurer was not in attendance but Mike reported a balance of \$2,213.87 (less \$1,000 website reserve – see June minutes.) He asked the Secretary to collect any dues offered at the meeting.

The Secretary read the June 8, 2017 minutes. Mike invited corrections/omissions. The revised minutes are to be attached to the October 12 minutes and forwarded to all members.

Mike reported he has notified members who have outstanding dues. He reminded members that dues are due on the anniversary of joining the organization.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

The Oak Grove July 9 fest was a success. The OLHD staffed two information tents. He thanked the volunteers.

The Brush & Pallet building received historic landmark designation on July 13. The recladding of the building will be completed this fall.

The demolition of the Oatfield house was approved by Clackamas County on April 17. No further action will halt its destruction.

Pat Kennedy will bring copies of 'Chronicles of Old Oak Grove' to the next general meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

At a meeting of the Clackamas County Commissioners it was announced that Gladstone has dropped its suit against the County concerning library funding and there will be two libraries funded and operated by Clackamas County: one in Gladstone and one in unincorporated Clackamas County. Many members of the OLHD had supported this effort and applauded the Commissioners for their decision.

- The Chair has met with Jennifer Burns, Clackamas County Heritage Project Manager. He thought we should keep in touch with her.
- Mike purchased a copy of the 1960 Oak Grove Garden Club Cookbook with the thought of having it scanned for the OLHD website. There was a question of publication ownership. Mike

was particularly interested in the names and addresses of recipe providers in the book. Several members stated they also had copies and that there was a second edition.

- The Clackamas County Heritage Council is organizing for the 2018 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Oregon Trail. The OLHD needs to think of how it might participate.
- Trolley Trail

The Oak Grove Historic Trolley Trail Association is planning to work with the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation to make improvements to the trail (i.e., signage) as part of its revitalization of old Oak Grove. Can the Oak Lodge History Detectives join or supplement their effort? Others have interest in this work: Intertwine and the Clackamas County Arts Action Alliance. There is a Master Plan already in place. It was noted Scott Archer should be involved. Grant money would likely be available for signage costs. There was discussion on whether signage should primarily be interpretive or directional and if it could include historic properties identification. There was general agreement that the OLHD should be involved for at least the portion of the trail passing through Jennings Lodge.

Jan Lindstrom's husband is planning a documentary on the Trolley Trail. Thelma Haggemiller has two boxes of trolley trail T-shirts. It was thought any funds raised could be used as matching money for grants.

**IT WAS MOVED and seconded that the Chair prepare a letter of support from the OLHD for the creation of the documentary on the Trolley Trail. Motion carried.**

- Lucy & Jonathan Meyer House. There is a proposal to divide this six-acre property for development. The house is on the Historic Landmarks list. Members were reminded that the Historic Review Board meetings concur with the OLHD meetings. It is hoped that conflict might be resolved.
- Oak Grove is sponsoring a Halloween Fest for community children on October 28 at the Oak Grove Methodist Church. Mary Piper and Jan Lindstrom will represent the OLHD.
- It was reported that Linda Preisz, Clackamas County Planning, will retire at the end of the year.
- Interviews. Mike has had an interview with Al Schmidhammer which was videotaped. Should more interviews be taped and put on the website?

## **ANNUAL ELECTIONS**

Mike opened the discussion by explaining that Pat Reinert has agreed to an additional two-year term as Treasurer. Mary Piper is beginning her second year as Secretary. The position of Chair is open. The position of Co-Chairman is open but Mike agreed to continue to serve in the capacity of Co-Chairman if needed.

**IT WAS MOVED and Seconded that Pat Reinert be elected Treasurer for a two-year term. Motion carried.**

These volunteer positions are suggested and open: OLHD Digital Archivist, Membership Chair, Jennings Lodge Subcommittee Chair (Lisa Bentley), Oak Grove Subcommittee Chair (unfilled), Programs Chair, Public Relations Chair, Volunteer Coordinator.

**Baldwin Van der Bijl volunteered to be membership chair.** His responsibilities will include maintaining the membership records, sending dues members, welcoming new members.

There followed discussion of combining some of the positions:

- Have one working subcommittee for both Oak Lodge and Jennings Lodge
- Should other communities in unincorporated Clackamas also be included: i.e. Oatfield Ridge, North Oak Grove?
- Could Volunteer Chair and Membership Chair positions be combined?
- Could the Program Chair and Public Relations Chair positions be combined?
- Lisa Bentley suggested there be an At-Large position on the Board so there will be five positions rather than four in case of tie votes. This would require a change to the By-Laws.

Mary Piper was nominated as Co-Chair. She declined the nomination.

#### **DUES SCHEDULE**

Some of the members were confused or unsure how the dues-year was structured. Although not in the By-Laws, the tradition had been that the month in which a person joined was established as their annual renewal date. This spreads out renewals throughout the year. Some members thought there should just be an annual dues date regardless of when the member joined. This makes it easier for members, but makes it harder on the membership and Treasurer when there are many members renewing at the same time.

Dick Smith offered to bring two proposals to the November meeting: one describing how the current system works and one using an annual date (Jan 1? Sept 1?)

Meeting adjourned 9:05 pm

Respectfully submitted

Mary Piper, Secretary