

# Oak Lodge History Detectives

February 8, 2018

## Minutes

The Chair, Mike Schmeer, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Fifteen members and five guests were in attendance.

Pat Reinert gave a Treasurer's Report. There is \$1,448.87 available plus \$1,000 website reserve.

The minutes of the December 2017 meeting had been distributed by email. There being no corrections nor additions, the minutes were approved.

The Chair gave a membership report with approximately 48 members. The board will be restructuring membership records to convert to annual dues.

### Old Business

- The Chair invited nominations for vice or co-Chair. Gary Blair and Thelma Haggemiller volunteered for the position. The two candidates spoke briefly about their background. There followed discussion about the feasibility of having both serve on the Board.

**It was moved that Gary Blair and Thelma Haggemiller be elected to serve as co-chairs of OLHD jointly as vice or co-Chairs. Seconded. Motion carried.**

The Chair will meet with the Board to look at any By-Law changes that might be required.

- The Oak Grove Garden Club has agreed to allow their out-of-print cookbooks to be added to the OLHD website. There will be no charge to users.
- Mike Schmeer reported that the January 29th new Oak Grove Library meeting was not well attended. This was an opportunity for the residents to express what they want in the proposed new library. The County will continue to survey on-line with the "Next Door" site and newspaper notices. The OLHD will also distribute the survey to its mailing list, The Concord Community of Stakeholders groups (CCS - (Mike Schmeer represents the OLHD on one) will meet at Rose Villa on February 21. There are plans to produce a documentary on the history of Concord School.

### New Business

#### Trolley Trail

- Thelma Haggemiller distributed a proposal to place Themed Bicycle Racks along the 20-mile "Three Trail Loop. She asked for letters of support from OLHD members. She presented a sample sign logo for the trolley portion. (copy of proposal attached to minutes)

### Interurban Electric Railway Corridor

- Pat Kennedy made a presentation on the rationale for seeking historic status for the Interurban Electric Railway Corridor. The parameter participants of the corridor would include Sellwood's SMILE office, the Milwaukie Historical Society and the Gladstone Historical Society. The corridor would terminate at that point. The focus of the project will be identification of notable and eligible building sites spanning the effective life time of Interurban Electric rail service between 1890 and 1968. It would include eligible homes or businesses of 50 years in age which are not yet added to the Clackamas County Historic Inventory initiated in the 1980s. She described possible funding sources and the local leadership required. She stated that one of the most essential needs in this project will be to gain community-wide acceptance, participation and support. (Pat's February 8 Draft Notes are attached to the minutes).

### Lawsuit concerning Fair Oak Development

- Mike Schmeer gave a slide show about an ongoing litigation for which he has been gathering information. This concerns a development platted by Alice T. Campbell called Fair Oaks. The law suit concerns a narrow strip of land recorded in every Fair Oaks deed that was intended to allow access to the river. Newspaper ads and articles show that Mrs. Campbell originally intended to create a moorage but it isn't known if it was built. Currently an adjacent property owner is claiming adverse possession of the easement. Mike will be testifying at a hearing on February 15.

### Update on Jennings Lodge Camp Ground Section 106 process

- Lisa Bentley provided an update of the Section 106 process being conducted concerning the fate of the Jennings Lodge Campground. The OLHD continues to be a consulting party. She reviewed and illustrated what will be lost if the development is granted. Since the December OLHD meeting there have been several developments:
  - The US Army Corps of Engineers recognized the importance of Campground Trees;
  - The US Army Corps of Engineers sent a letter to consulting parties on December 28, 2017 stating it is not possible to avoid damage to buildings and trees while building the applicant's housing development on the camp property;
  - The North Clackamas Parks and Recreation sent a letter on January 25, 2018 to the US Army Corps of Engineers agreeing to consider owning and managing a portion of the Camp property. This letter also served as notification that it desires to engage in a conversation with the applicant about the possibility of a park on the property to preserve trees and historic structures consistent with the historic district;
  - The American Council on Historic Preservation sent a letter on January 29, 2018 expressing concerns about the Corps' reliance on background information supplied by the development which contained errors of fact.

Lisa outlined possible outcomes:

- Could lead to a small park
- Could save one of the three groves of trees

- Could result in saving/restoring two or more historic building from the Camp
- Possible placement of one or more of saved buildings on National Register of Historic Places
- Could provide a place for community events

#### Trolley Trail

Thelma Haggemiller requested a motion in support of the previously mentioned trolley trail bicycle racks.

**It was so moved and seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

The Chair announced the meeting calendar for spring is April 12 and June 14, 2018.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Piper. Secretary