

**Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission**

**P. O. Box 1014**

**Nevada City, California 95959**

**info@nevadacountylandmarks.com**

**Minutes of May 20, 2021**

**Location:** Outdoors at Pioneer Park Tennis Courts, Nevada City, California.

**Meeting called to order by:** Chair Bernie Zimmerman at 9:01 a.m.

**Commissioners present:** Elinor Barnes, Bruce Boyd, Barbara Czerwinski, Mike Kochis, Niel Locke, Jerry Martini, Chuck Scimeca, Felicia Tracy, Audrey Trauntvein, and Bernie Zimmerman

**Commissioners absent:** None

**Guests and consultants:** Ed Czerwinski

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Mike Kochis

**Approval of minutes from the previous meeting:** Motion to accept by Niel Locke, second by Jerry Martini. The minutes were approved by vote.

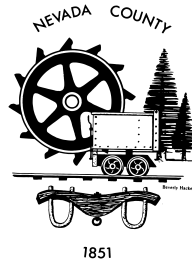
**Commissioner's Reports:**

**A. Chairperson:**

1. Bernie Zimmerman reported that the Commission received an application from Sally Knudson and Mary Barker White, who would like us to consider landmarking the Ben Taylor homesite, located on Linden Ave, in Grass Valley. Jerry Martini will start the process.

**B. Secretary-Treasurer:**

1. Nothing new to report.



**C. Promotions Director:**

1. Audrey Trauntvein reported all is status quo.

**Old Business:**

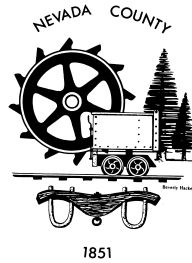
**A. Organic documents revision:** Bernie Zimmerman reported that Barbara Czerwinski and he had a Zoom meeting with Supervisors Hall and Bullock regarding the Commission's recognizing of individuals. He and Barbara explained the need for recognizing individuals, stressing the obstacle the Commission faced in trying to honor May Martin Goyne. The supervisors seemed to get a better sense of our position. Towards the end of the discussion, Supervisor Hall stated that because of a concern about the lack of diversity on the Commission, the supervisors would not place the pending A.M.E church application and Kentucky Ridge mine site application on their agenda until the applications had been reviewed by Color Me Human to see if "we missed something." Supervisor Hall also requested that we remove the words "slave colony" from the Kentucky Ridge mine site application.

Thereafter, Bernie contacted Tracy Pepper, the head of Color Me Human, and sent her both applications to review. He has not received a response. Linda Jack has worked with the organization and will follow up with Pepper.

**B. Presentations to Supervisors:** We are awaiting the resumption of live board meetings.

**C. Ethnic community landmarks:**

1. **AME churches:** Discussed above.
2. **Kentucky Ridge mine site:** Discussed above.
3. **Chinese rail workers:** Bernie Zimmerman will attend a ceremony being conducted by the NCHS Railroad Museum tomorrow, and is hoping to discuss the proposed plaque placement with them.
4. **Hirschman's Pond:** Bernie Zimmerman attended the recent council meeting of the City of Nevada, where our application was on the agenda. There was opposition by members of the council to some of the language in the plaque, to which Bernie suggested an edit, to their unanimous approval. Bernie and Niel Locke will meet with Parks and Recreation director Dawn Zydonis at the conclusion of this meeting to discuss plaque placement at the site. It was moved



and seconded that the application be forwarded to the BOS with a recommendation that the site be registered as a county landmark. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **Chinese miners:** Further review of the plaque language for political correctness has been requested by Supervisor Hall.
6. **North San Juan Protestant Cemetery:** Elinor Barnes and Jerry Martini have reviewed the application, and have recommended it for the Commission's approval. The vote of approval was unanimous. Mike Kochis motioned that the application be forwarded to the BOS with a recommendation for landmarking. Chuck Scimeca seconded the motion. A vote was held with unanimous approval.

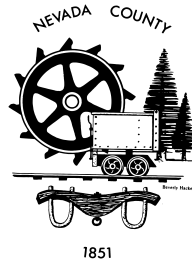
**D. Rice's Crossing:** Chuck Scimeca reported that he recently attended a cohort meeting of various agencies involved with the South Yuba State Park. There is a concern by State Parks about the increase of usage of the park, resulting in illegal parking and other safety concerns. Rice's Crossing spans the county line, and is controlled by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, and thus, we would need their approval for a plaque at the site. It was discussed that a site can be recognized for landmark status without installing a plaque.

**E. Truckee Veterans Memorial Building:** On April 30, 2021, the California State Historical Resources Commission (SHRC) reviewed the Truckee Veterans Memorial Building (TVMB) and Rocking Stone Tower (RST) nomination and approval was granted. TVMB & RST nomination has now been submitted by the California SHRC to the National Park Services in Washington, D.C. for final review and listing by the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places. The National Park Service will make a listing decision within 45 days.

**F. St. Paul's Lutheran Church plaque:** Elinor Barnes has finalized the wording of the plaque and is moving forward in getting estimates on fabrication. She is hoping to get a better quality photo of the church, from the Grace Lutheran archives, as the current photo is in poor condition.

#### **New Business:**

- A. **Elections:** The annual election for positions on the Commission will be conducted at the June meeting.
- B. **Jewish headstones:** After extensive investigation, the headstones that are located on property outside Nevada City appear to have been moved there many years ago. There is no conclusive



evidence of human remains at the site. The headstones may have been moved there from the Grass Valley or Nevada City Jewish Cemeteries. A discussion was held in regards to paying \$250 for a historical property title search of the site. A motion to do so was made by Niel Locke, with a second by Bruce Boyd. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**C. Mule Springs field trip:** A visit will be scheduled in June.

**Good of the Order:**

A. Elinor Barnes was contacted by the local German-American Club, regarding if we had any information on Herman Joerschke, a local landowner who died in 1920. We have none to offer.

B. Niel Locke presented Jerry Martini with the Commission's scrapbook for updating.

C. The McGlashan Butterfly Collection will be available for public viewing after June 15, 2021 at Truckee-Donner Recreation & Park District Community Center at 10981 Truckee Way, Truckee.

**Public Comments:** None

**Next Meeting:** June 18, 2021

**Location:** City Hall, Nevada City, California

**Refreshment responsibility:** Chuck Scimeca

**Meeting adjourned at:** 11:02 a.m.

**Minutes approved:** June 18, 2021

**Respectfully submitted:** Mike Kochis - Secretary/Treasurer