

Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission

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Minutes of June 18, 2021

Location: Chamber Meeting Room, City Hall, 317 Broad St., Nevada City, California.

Meeting called to order by: Chair Bernie Zimmerman at 9:00 a.m.

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

Commissioners absent: Bruce Boyd

Guests and consultants: Grace Suarez and Lee Schegg

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Elinor Barnes

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

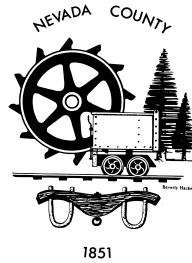
Commissioner's Reports:

A. Chairperson:

1. Bernie Zimmerman reported he received an email from Lynn Schugren, seeking a docent for the Grass Valley Museum.

B. Vice Chairperson:

1. Barbara Czerwinski reported that the Truckee's Vigilance ("601") Committee plaque on the sidewalk in front of 10096 Donner Pass Road, has been completely removed, stone pedestal and all. Lee Schegg informed us that he is in possession of the plaque. It was removed due community



concerns over the historical language on the plaque. It will be rewritten by the Clampers to reflect current cultural norms.

2. The Lake Tahoe Railway & Transportation Co. plaque paid for by the Union Pacific Railroad will be permanently housed in the Museum of Truckee History, Amtrak Station, 10065 Donner Pass Road, Truckee, CA 96161
3. The Round House plaque has not been placed.
4. The Stampede Circle of Stones, 10600 Brockway Road, Truckee, CA 96161 (Truckee River Regional Park) is to be relocated to its original site in the Stampede Valley. The Washoe Tribe, headquartered in Gardnerville, NV, is facilitating this move.

B. Secretary-Treasurer:

1. Mike Kochis reported that an invoice for \$250 was submitted for a historical title search.

C. Promotions Director:

1. Audrey Trauntvein reported on social media followers. Instagram: 1648, Facebook: 1183

Old Business:

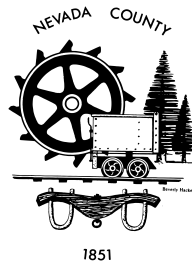
A. Elections: A motion was made by Chuck Scimeca, with a second by Felicia Tracy, that all officers remain in their current positions by acclamation. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

B. Organic documents revision: We are still waiting for communication from the BOS.

C. Presentations to Supervisors: It is looking more like late this summer.

D. Diverse landmarks:

1. **AME churches:** The application is on the BOS consent calendar for next week. Linda Jack and the Grass Valley Historical Commission is responsible for the language and funding.
2. **Kentucky Ridge mine site:** The application is on the BOS consent calendar for next week. There have been some questions regarding the capitalization of the word "black" in the plaque wording. After an extensive discussion, the wording will be kept as written in the application. It was also



agreed that Bernie Zimmerman would also add to the Kentucky Ridge plaque text the name “Chasey”, the wife of Isaak Sanks. Audrey Trauntvein will do a press release.

3. Hirschman’s Pond: There has been no response from the BOS. The plaque language has been approved by the City of Nevada City Council. The plaque will be paid for by the Cement Hill Neighborhood Association.

E. North San Juan Protestant Cemetery: Elinor Barnes submitted the application to the BOS last month, but it is unknown when it will be placed on their consent calendar.

F. St. Paul’s Lutheran Church plaque: Elinor Barnes showed us a mock up of the plaque. The church will provide funding for the plaque. The church plans to hold a dedication at the original site in Chicago Park on July 25th.

G. Mule Spring trip: A recap of our trip was discussed. Mike Kochis, Jerry Martini, Chuck Scimeca, and guest Torbin Eriksen, traveled to Dutch Flat to access Lowell Hill Road to see if the site was accessible. Upon finding the correct road, and after a short walk, the spring was found. We continued on to highway 20, then traveled to Bear Valley to view the tribal grinding stones.

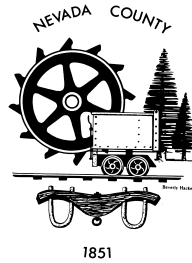
The next week, Mike and Jerry, along with Bernie Zimmerman and Gage McKinney, met up with Lee and Kathy Schegg in Dutch Flat. The route was the same, but with stops at Camel’s Hump, the remains of the Liberty Hill reservoir, and a walk along the Towle railroad right of way. A visit to Ziebright mine in Bear Valley was not available at this time, but the caretakers extended an invitation to visit at a later date.

Bernie suggested marking Mule Spring as a historical landmark, without a plaque at the site, due to vandalism concerns. Lee Schegg will take the lead on this project.

H. Jewish headstones: Current research offers no conclusive evidence of why they were moved to the property. Bernie Zimmerman will explore whether the stones should be removed to one of the Jewish cemeteries.

I. Potential Landmarks:

1. Chinese rail workers: Bernie Zimmerman met with John Christensen of the NCHS, to discuss placement of a plaque at the railroad kiosk in Nevada City. Bernie will meet with the railroad museum board to present our proposal.



2. Rice's Crossing: Moved to next year's agenda.

3. Chinese miners: There has been no more progress in gathering further information.

New Business:

A. Ben Taylor home: Jerry Martini and Mike Kochis reviewed the application, and found it favorable. A motion was made by Niel Locke, with a second by Chuck Scimeca to approve the application submitted by Sally Knutson to landmark the Taylor home, and have it transmitted to the BOS with a recommendation for landmark designation. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

B. Loma Rica development: The developers seem unaware of all the historic sites located on the property. Bruce Boyd was appointed lead in developing a plan. Felicia Tracy will assist.

C. Summit tunnel: A discussion was held regarding placing a plaque at a suitable site, in recognizing the Chinese laborers in construction of the tunnel and railroad. Lee Schegg proposed the vista overlook, on eastbound Interstate 80, above Donner lake. Chuck Scimeca will contact Caltrans to seek permission. Bernie Zimmerman will work on plaque language.

D. 309 Mill St.: This is an issue with the GV Historical Commission, and we have no desire to get involved

Good of the Order:

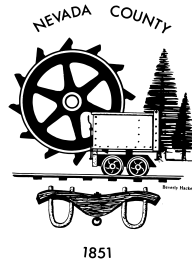
A. Barbara reported on the National Register.

B. Sierra County has changed the name of a street named Jim Crow.

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, CA 96161, 530-582-7720.

Public Comments: None

Next Meeting: July 16, 2021



Location: Sierra Mountain Cemetery, 10370 East Jibboom Street, Truckee (More info below)

Refreshment responsibility: See below.

Meeting adjourned at: 11: 20 am

Minutes approved: July 16, 2021

Respectfully submitted: Mike Kochis - Secretary/Treasurer

Additional notes for July 16, 2021 meeting:

Location:

Sierra Mountain Cemetery (AKA Truckee Cemetery)
10370 East Jibboom Street
Truckee, CA
Time: 9 a.m.

Directions:

Interstate-80 eastbound exit 188A, right at stop sign then first exit on round-about. Parking available inside the cemetery. Meeting in the gazebo area.

Notes:

Bring your own chair and beverage of choice. Individually wrapped snacks will be provided. Walking/hiking shoes advisable. Port-a-potty available. Cemetery tours available after the meeting by cemetery personnel.