



Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission

P. O. Box 1014

Nevada City, California 95959

info@nevadacountylandmarks.com

Minutes of August 21, 2020

Location: Remote access through online video conferencing, or phone, due to the Covid 19 shelter in place in accordance with procedures established by Governor Newsom and the Nevada County Board of Supervisors, in regards to holding public meetings.

Meeting called to order by: Chair Bernie Zimmerman at 9:02 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: Dave Comstock and Linda Jack

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Audrey Trauntvein.

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

Commissioner's Reports:

A. Chairperson:

1. Bernie Zimmerman welcomed Chuck Scimeca to the Commission, who has replaced Joe Byrne. Joe is willing to stay on as a consultant. Chuck has been active with the commission as a consultant.
2. We received correspondence concerning the Idaho-Maryland mine, seeking our input. Bernie Zimmerman has sent a letter, to which they acknowledge its receipt.

3. The Jones Hospital plaque was installed by Howard Levine. Jerry Martini will forward a copy of the text to Bernie Zimmerman for inclusion in the electronic edition.
4. Bernie received a letter from Hank Meals, regarding the current construction on Commercial Street in downtown Nevada City, and its effect on the historical aspects. There was another concern regarding the removal of the first up hill house next to the New York Hotel building. Both topics were denied by the Nevada City Planning Commission at its recent meeting. The Nevada City Council will take up the topics for a final decision. Bruce Boyd will draft a letter with our concerns.

B. Secretary-Treasurer:

1. Mike Kochis reported on the current financial status of the Commission.
2. Dave Comstock reported that book sales are slow. Dave will ask Cindi Anderson to follow up with stocking local outlets with the book.

C. Promotions Director:

1. Audrey Trauntvein had nothing new to report.

Old Business:

1. **Organic documents revision:** No Report
2. **Presentations to Supervisors:** No Report
3. **Cemeteries:** Chuck Scimeca and Bernie Zimmerman visited Moore's Flat cemetery, and found it to be in need of upkeep. They then went on to explore Orleans Flat, Buck's Ranch, and Snow Point. They found limited access to the German Bar area due to locked gates and poor road conditions.

Elinor Barnes reported that Felicia Tracy has sent her contact info regarding the Cunningham cemetery, located in the Lime Kiln District.

4. **Birchville plaque:** Chuck Scimeca fixed the error in the mounted plaque. Mike Kochis will return the replacement plaque to the fabricator, as they requested.
5. **Sally Lewis plaque:** Niel Locke had no new information regarding the timeline of its placement.
6. **Ellen Sargent plaque:** The Ellen Sargent plaque was installed by Steve Fry and Chuck Scimeca in Nevada City's Calanan Park. Bernie Zimmerman wrote a very nice article, which was published in the Union and Sierra Sun. There will be a small ceremony with the other participating groups at a later date.

7. **Ethnic Community Landmarks:** An application was received for the Preston Alexander home in Nevada City. Jerry Martini and Audrey Trauntvein reviewed the application, and found it favorable. Felicia Tracy motioned to approve the application, with a second by Audrey Trauntvein. The motion was passed by vote. Bernie will prepare a transmittal letter to the County Clerk's office.

Linda Jack reported that she would like feedback on the criteria used for recognizing individuals of ethnic groups who did not rise to the social status of those who have been recognized in the past, i.e., lawyers, politicians, etc. Chuck Scimeca gave kudos to Linda Jack on her excellent research.

There were two African Methodist Episcopal churches, one in Grass Valley, and one in Nevada City, which we propose to landmark. Linda Jack reported that the Grass Valley church was older, and is no longer in existence on South Church St., but a site marker might be considered. The owners of the Nevada City property are interested, but space for a plaque is an issue.

Niel Locke spoke with Shelly Covert, of the Nisenan Tribe, who is interested in recognizing Belle Douglas. A discussion was held as to who Belle was. Bernie Zimmerman stated there was some issue with recognizing individuals at this time.

8. **Idaho-Maryland Mine:** Discussed above.
9. **The McGlashan Butterfly Collection:** We are waiting for Jeff Thorsby to continue the process.
10. **Potential Historic Designations:**

A. Historic Schools:

1. **Lime Kiln:** Nothing to report.
2. **Indian Springs:** Nothing to report.

B. Truckee Veterans Memorial Building and Rocking Stone Tower: Nothing to report.

C. Salvation Army/Bookstore: Jerry Martini has received no response from the property owner.

D. St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery: Elinor Barnes reported that she has been in contact with Debbie Bierwagen, who is the liaison with the church in Chicago Park. They are on board with designation, and Elinor has sent her an application.

New Business:

1. **Preston Alexander Application:** Discussed above.

2. **NCTV:** We were approached by NCTV to use their services, at a cost of \$200 annually. Bernie Zimmerman suggested that there might be some value in NCTV covering our dedications. Chuck Scimeca reported on their function, as he formally served as a vice president for the organization. It is a 501c non profit organization. Chuck and Bernie will do further research and bring it up at our next meeting.

Good of the Order:

1. Elinor Barnes thanked Niel Locke for sending an article regarding Confederate monuments in California. Niel will forward the link to the members, for our reading.
2. Chuck Scimeca asked Bruce Boyd about the blocked access points in the Moore's Flat area. Bruce did not have any information in regards to it through his local contacts. Chuck will contact Matt Melugin, of the Nevada County Cemetery District, regarding the status of the upkeeping of the Moore's Flat Cemetery.

Public Comments: None

Next Meeting: September 18, 2020

Location: A virtual meeting will be scheduled.

Refreshment responsibility: TBD

Meeting adjourned at: 10:44 a.m.

Minutes approved: September 18, 2020

Respectfully submitted: Mike Kochis - Secretary/Treasurer