

Oregon Cultural Trust Board Meeting Minutes



May 20, 2021

Teleconference

Board Members Present: Nicki Price, Chair; Sean Andries; Theo Downes-Le Guin; Nathalie Johnson; Bereniece Jones-Centano; George Kramer; Myong-Hui Murphy; Gayle Yamasaki;

Board Members Absent: Gustavo Morales; Chuck Sams; Chris Van Dyke

Staff Present: Brian Rogers, Executive Director; Kat Bell, Grants & Office Coordinator; Raissa Fleming, Trust Assistant; Carrie Kikel, Communications Manager; Aili Schreiner, Trust Manager.

Partners Present: Eliza Canty-Jones, Oregon Historical Society; Chrissy Curran, State Historic Preservation Office; Adam Davis, Oregon Humanities; Kuri Gill, Oregon Heritage Commission

Others Present: Anis Mojgani, Oregon State Poet Laureate

Welcome and Call to Order

Price called the meeting to order at 9:08 am.

Minutes

Kramer moved approval of the minutes from February 25, 2021. Seconded by Yamasaki. Motion passed unanimously

Cultural Trust Partner Updates

Davis said Humanities' most recent magazine came out on the theme of "possession". They are doing online programming. They are also doing some hiring and thinking about how to come together again in person. They are waiting for criteria from the National Endowment for Humanities regarding the American Rescue Plan. They expect it will go out in the fall as general operating support.

Rogers said the Oregon Arts Commission will received \$805,000 in ARP funds to distribute. They plan to give some to Operating Support recipients, some to Small Operating recipients and some to traditional artists. OAC will discuss with Oregon Humanities and the Western States Arts Federation so they can complement each other. There are two open positions, the Arts Learning and Visual Arts Coordinators. OAC is getting started with

the Arts and Economic Prosperity Study 6. They are working on a “bridge” strategic plan that will cover the next three years.

Curran said that the State Historic Preservation Office is down five positions but are busy trying to keep up the current service level. They are thinking about restructuring as before they bring new staff in as funding becomes stable. At the June Parks Commission meeting, they will bring forward the work they have done with the National Register about rule making.

Canty-Jones said the Historical Society is assessing how they did during the pandemic year and they learned that the online work they have done has shown an increase in use by people outside the Willamette Valley. They expect they will continue online programming as they return to in-person services. There is a special issue of the quarterly coming out about the Chinese diaspora. The research library renovation is almost finished.

Gill said the Heritage Commission the Historic Cemeteries Bill passed. It changes the designation date from February 14, 1909 to 75 years before the current date. They are developing a value statement about the value of heritage resources for disaster recovery. The Oregon Heritage Summit was a success. They have been working for over a decade on digitizing heritage resources to have them available online. This work has been conducted with the Oregon and Washington State Libraries.

Executive Director Report

Rogers presented report.

Grant Programs

Schreiner presented report.

Conversations with Funders

Schreiner presented report.

Licenses Plate Redesign

Kikel presented report.

Anis Mojgani, Oregon State Poet Laureate

Mojgani introduced himself, discussed his appearances and presented a poem.

Joint Committee Update

Price introduced the report. Kramer said the Cultural Trust is unique. Downes-Le Guin said he is stepping off the committee because the scope of the assignment is now too large. Price said she is anxious to hear the bottom line during the discussion. Kramer said whatever comes out of this process has to improve the situation for the two agencies. He

feels like the Cultural Trust and the cultural community are in a good place right now. Downes-Le Guin said he now recognizes how the arts are the primary discussion point to the detriment of heritage. Johnson asked if they were “for” this transition. Downes LeGuin said there is not an outlined outcome yet to be “for” or “against”. Discussion followed.

Rogers talked about Travel Oregon’s ability to become a quasi-state agency and the steps needed in the legislature to make it happen. Davis said if the Cultural Advocacy Coalition is involved they would want the best for all parties. Yamasaki said that now it is the Arts Commission and would other agencies want to be part of this merger. Downes-Le Guin said part of the discussion address how low funding is in Oregon compared to other states. Canty-Jones asked if part of the discussion is further combination and if they discuss the further separation. Price said she thinks about this often. One of the problems of the combination is that the Trust Board does fundraising and whether the Arts Commission would be a part of that. She likes the idea of having something for the next legislative session because the admin cap needs to be fixed.

Yamasaki will now sit on this committee.

Preliminary Budget Concept

Rogers presented report.

Yamasaki moved approval of the Murphey seconded the 60/40 split.

Planning Process Update

Rogers presented report.

Board and Staff Updates

None

Public Comment

None

Adjourn

Price adjourned the meeting at 12:06 pm.