

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Community Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

McQuarrie Memorial Museum

Minutes

1. Called to Order at 10:04 a.m. by Chad Bennion, President.
2. Board Members Present: Chad Bennion, Loren Webb, Maureen Parks, Teresa Orton, George Cannon, Karl McMullin, and Linda Shogren
Brad Bennett was excused; Jesse Stocking was absent. A Board quorum was present.
Community members attending: Ron Carberry, Trevor Cox, Vivian McMullin, Brady Fronk, Ian Crowe, Ron Snow, Carol Beam, Judy Holly, and Joe Collet.
3. Pledge of Allegiance led by Teresa Orton, Treasurer.
4. Minutes of Community Meeting on February 26, 2025, will stand as written.
5. Committee Reports:

Standing Committees

- a. Administrative – Teresa Orton. Working on Policies & Procedures document; continuing to talk to city employees about St. George LIVE!, there is a video of the entire tour which she will obtain for reference; no communication with Story Corps which will be in St. George April 24 – May 23, 2025; need a Mission Statement for grant submission, the one the society has now is too old.
- b. Membership – Linda Shogren. Wishes to be involved in activities promoting the society when she is able. Brady Fronk suggested the Warbird Museum Hangar Dance may be a good venue for advertising the society.
- c. Website – George Cannon, Webmaster. Purchased the digital storage device for the Chris Caldwell Photo Collection, and 400,000 photos are on the storage device.
- d. Finances – Teresa Orton. St. George RAP Tax Grant is due on Monday, March 31, requesting \$10,000. The Utah State Historical Society grant for up to \$7,500 per request for digitizing photo collections is due April 15, possibility of using the grant for the Dixie Photo collection.
- e. Historical Organizations – Karl McMullin. Karl will contact Mr. Iverson (son of Ron) about the Ron Iverson Foundation, donated funds will be used to honor veterans. Karl will write a document explaining the procedures and processes to donate to foundations that wish to involve the society for collecting donations because of the society's 501(c)3 status.
- f. Marketing – Brad Bennett. Chad will talk to Brad to delineate the categories assigned to the Marketing Committee, i.e., Communication, Social Media, Website, etc. It was determined that meeting minutes be disbursed through distribution@wchsutah.org to educate members and others interested in the society.
- g. Regional Updates. – Jesse Stocking. Loren will send contact information of those involved in the Foster Farms renovation to Jesse so Jesse can contact them.

Special Projects Committees

- a. Lynn Clark Media Collection – Chad Bennion. The Steering Committee continues to meet with the Clark family, and they are nearing the final stages of planning procurement of the collection.
- b. Historic Antiquities Preservation – Chad Bennion. Is in conversation with the State Stewardship Director about the petroglyphs removed from the Stephen Wade property and the Federal Antiquities Act. Carmen Clark, Shivwits Tribe, will eventually be involved in the conversations.

- c. Chris Caldwell Photo Collection – Loren Webb. Needs a Memo of Understanding for the collection.
- d. Gala will be held in October. Linda Shogren suggested the newly renovated Heritage Hall in Washington City for the venue and having a Silent Art Auction due to several galleries closing.
- e. Logo. Brad Bennett is working on the logo which will be the WCHS official logo.
- f. “History of Washington County” Class – Brad Bennett & Loren Webb. Loren has contacted Reuben Wadsworth as a potential instructor.
- g. Bart Anderson Collection – Loren Webb. Trevor Cox, Utah Tech University Library, explained that the collection is housed at the University, where the public can access and view the items. There is an issue about copyright violations for items/articles because Bart did not concern himself with such matters, so items will probably not be allowed to leave the University.
- h. Dixie Days – Loren Webb. Sons of Utah Pioneers has been asked to develop field trips for September 16-17, 2025.
- i. Field Trips – Loren Webb. Waiting for response from Dick Kohler’s wife as to whether there are records available for the field trips that Dick led.
- j. Historic Walking Tours – Loren Webb. Scheduled for October 11, 18, and 25 with four guides.
- k. Oral Histories – Loren Webb. Interview scheduled for April 15 with Gary Esplin, retired City of St. George Manager.
- l. Lectures – Teresa Orton. In discussion with Jeanine Vander Bruggen who may be interested in facilitating lectures.
- m. Markers – article in the newsletter has the contact information for the Utah Historical Society to which anyone can submit marker information.

Community Members’ Updates on Projects

- a. David & Wilhemina Statue Project – Received RAP Tax Grant for \$5,000. Statues cost \$115,000; \$68,740 has been collected.
- b. Dixie Photo Collection – Needs Memorandum of Understanding showing ownership of items.
- c. History of Relocation of Silver Reef Saloon to St. George – Ron Carberry is continuing research and has enlisted Brady Fronk and Loren Webb for assistance.
- d. Webb Hill – Joe Collet. Webb Hill is preserved. Chad would like a letter from the City of St. George saying it has acquired the property.
- e. Veteran Activities – Brady Fronk. Collecting items from the Veterans’ Drill Team and is also looking for military artwork. Suggested the society have a Standing Committee – Library because he has 18 bins of local history, and the bins of Military/Native American History he has number at least 200, and he would like to donate it all. When the WCHS has a central location, the subject will be revisited.
- f. Lecture – Trevor Cox. History of Zion National Park on Thursday, April 24, at the Springdale Library/Community Center.

The next Community Meeting will be held Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., at the Pioneer Museum.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

/s/ Maureen Parks, Secretary