

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Community Meeting

Wednesday, April 30, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

McQuarrie Memorial Museum

Minutes

1. Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chad Bennion, President.
2. Board Members present: Chad Bennion, Loren Webb, Maureen Parks, Teresa Orton, George Cannon, Karl McMullin, Brad Bennett, Linda Shogren, and Jesse Stocking (via phone). A quorum was present. Community members present: Vivan McMullin, Ron Carberry, Brady Fronk, Trevor Cox, Ron Snow, Sharon Snow, and Susie Nilsson.
3. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by George Cannon, Webmaster.
4. The Minutes of the Community Meeting on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, will stand as corrected.
5. Committee Reports:

Special Projects Committees (who need not be WCHS members to participate)

- a. Membership – Linda Shogren – Positive response at Cotton Days for Washington City Historical Society, not so much for the Washington County Historical Society, according to Loren. Both organizations need to purchase items for pop-up tents. *Linda and Teresa will collaborate on this research which will be discussed at the May Board Meeting.*
- b. Regional Update, Jesse Stocking – Washington City officials have let a Request for Proposal (RFP) for developing seven acres by the Washington City Museum. UDOT is spending \$20,000,000 to install fiber optic cable from LaVerkin to Mt. Carmel junction.
- c. Lynn Clark Photo Collection – Chad Bennion – Steering Committee is continuing to meet with the Clark family.
- d. Historic Antiquities Preservation – Chad Bennion – Petroglyphs are being stored inside Wade facility. *Chad will draft letter to Stephen Wade outlining the tax credits available if the petroglyphs are preserved and in public view.*
- e. Chris Caldwell Photo Collection – Loren Webb, George Cannon – Need to have a MOU with Chris for WCHS usage of images. *Chad will send a sample MOU to George that can then be adapted to the Caldwell Photo Collection.*
- f. Gala – Brad Bennett – Brad and Chad are exploring venues.
- g. Logo – Brad Bennett – Logo is finished. It will be presented to the Board for approval at the meeting on May 14, 2025.
- h. “History of Washington County” Class – Brad Bennet, Loren Webb – No instructor yet. Discussion ensued about various avenues of securing multiple lecturers for the semester rather than one lecturer. Loren will take this under advisement.
- i. Field Trips – Loren Webb – Talked to Jennifer Kohler explaining he would like the list of field trips hosted by Dick Kohler as well as the list of potential field trips Dick had planned.
- j. Historical Research – Loren Webb – Currently researching St. Thomas, NV.

- k. Oral Histories – Loren Webb – Interviewed George Esplin and Larue Dannelly. Has a list of possible interviewees. The CEC studio closes June 30, 2025.
- l. Markers – State of Utah Request – Maureen will devise a form to be used when Board Members and community members document plaques, sculptures, and markers.
- m. Lectures – No determination made.

6. Community Members' Updates on Projects

- a. David & Wilhemina Statue Project – Dr. Richard Whitehead – Waiting on the Eccles Foundation grant.
- b. Dixie Photo Collection – Sharon Snow – Needs to have an MOU with WCHS for use of the images. Teresa will submit a grant in August for digitizing the images that will include working with an archivist.
- c. History of Relocation of Silver Reef Saloon to St. George – Ron Barberry – Working with Loren and Brady and continuing to research.
- d. Markers in Washington County – Susie Nilsson – Susie and Carl have identified markers, plaques, and statues within Santa Clara City and currently have 100 items on the list. *Maureen will ask the Ivins City Planning and Zoning personnel if a list exists of these items and continue from there. Maureen will contact Jewel Stratford who lives in Brookside to request she identify these items in and around her area. Chad will ask the City of St. George Planning and Zoning personnel if such a list exists for the city.* We were reminded to begin with the WCHS website because it has lists of these items already identified. This project also includes identifying locations that need plaques, markers, and/or statues.

6. Ongoing Business

Chad will draft a letter to the WCHS legislative representatives asking them to support reinstating funding for Utah Humanities to continue to provide grants to non-profit organizations, including the Washington County Historical Society, for community-oriented projects. He will email the letter to the Board members for signatures.

7. Next Community Meeting will be Wednesday, May 28, 2025, 10:00 a.m., Pioneer Museum.

8. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

Maureen Parks, Secretary