

Oregon Cultural Trust Board Meeting Minutes



October 28, 2021

Teleconference

Board Members Present: Niki Price, Chair; George Kramer, Vice-Chair; Theo Downes-Le Guin; Nathalie Johnson; Myong-Hui Murphy; Chris Van Dyke; Gayle Yamasaki; Rep John Lively; Sen Bill Hansell

Board Members Absent: Sean Andries; Bereniece Jones-Centano; Gustavo Morales; Chuck Sams

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: Chrissy Curran, State Historic Preservation Office; Adam Davis, Oregon Humanities; Liora Sponko, Oregon Arts Commission

Others Present: Christine Miller

Welcome and Call to Order

Price called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

License Plate Update

Kikel presented report.

Action: Share the license plate lesson plan

Fall Campaign Update

Kikel presented report.

Schreiner presented the Powerpoint to be shared with boards.

Minutes

Downes moved approval seconded by Kramer

Cultural Trust Partner Updates

Sponko said the Arts Commission is working on a bridge plan and a DEI plan. They are launching the Artist Resilience Program. It will help artists that have suffered losses during the pandemic. They are partnering with the Oregon Folklife Network on a traditional artists program where the artists create new work. They are recruiting communities to do the Arts and Economic Prosperity Study VI. Travel Oregon will be a partner on this project. They are exploring a Cultural Districts program Business Oregon is helping get a contractor to do this work. Oregon Department of Education was awarded a grant to do a STEAM program and the OAC is working with them.

Davis said Oregon Humanities is celebrating their 50th anniversary. They are distributing about \$750,000 to small and mid-size nonprofits as part of ARPA. He said they are working on a radio show/podcast and should be live by January.

Curran said that the State Historic Preservation Office had a meeting of the State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation, about 45 minutes into the meeting someone anonymously started putting vile, racist, homophobic comments in the chat and they eventually had to shut the meeting down. She said that they got staff back after the layoffs last year plus an extra compliance officer.

Curran said that the Oregon Heritage Commission has two new officers the Chair is Anne Levant Prah. Beth Dehn has returned to Oregon Heritage in the outreach position she will be largely supporting Main Street and the Mentor Corp program.

Canty-Jones said the Oregon Historical Society is finalizing budget for FY22. They are finalizing work on Oregon Historic Weekly articles on the Chinese diaspora. The new OHS Quarterly will include a story about China Town in Salem. The exhibit "Nevertheless They Persisted" has been extended.

Joint Committee for Governance Structure

Price presented report. She called attention to the three questions on page 22 and asked board and partners to send their answers to Kikel by November 3.

Canty-Jones asked whose decision is it to combine the board and commission. And she commented that she think it's working now and doesn't see the need to change things. Price said that Canty-Jones should channel those questions/comments into answering the survey questions. Kramer said the goal of the governance structure committee was to see how to combine the boards not whether it was a good idea or not.

Yamasaki said it's important to keep in mind not to give the impression that they have made a decision.

Canty-Jones asked if the survey answers will determine what the next steps are. Yamasaki said that the committee is not sure. They are not ready to put any kind of proposal forward.

Murphy asked what the benefit to the trust board if they combine. Kramer said that they committee hasn't contemplated the idea. Downes-LeGuin said the conversation had been what's in it for Oregonians, not how it would help either organization.

Davis asked in the chat if it would be possible to put the survey questions into a platform that allows for anonymous responses (along with a question about whether each respondents is a board member or partner). Downes-LeGuin said he doesn't think the survey should be anonymous. Price agreed. Davis said that he thinks it should be two stages, an anonymous stage and then later getting everyone's opinion. Discussion followed about anonymity. Price said the survey is not going to be anonymous and partners don't have to complete the survey if they are not comfortable.

Yamasaki said it would be great if Price would reach out to those board members not present to get them to complete the survey questions. Price agreed.

Van Dyke his feedback will include whether this is a good idea, even though it doesn't appear that is specifically asked.

Schreiner asked whether the responses will be available to all to view. Kramer said the governance committee will craft a response after considering all the comments which will be available to all.

Planning and Listening Sessions

Rogers and Schreiner presented report.

Yamasaki said that she heard during the sessions that organizations need technical assistance. Kramer said he was amazed during the donor session about how engaged they are.

Price asked how we are engaging those that don't attend session. Rogers said we have lists now of many organization that applied for relief funding.

American Rescue Plan Act

Schreiner presented report.

Ad Hoc Committee Discussion

Rogers and Schreiner presented report.

Sean Andries said he would be on the DEI committee. Others that want to participate should contact Rogers or Schreiner. Downes-LeGuin suggested sending an email the board so that those not able to participate today.

Murphy asked what the time commitment is for the committees. Rogers said the advocacy ad hoc would meet monthly until they get close to the session maybe every other week. Schreiner said the DEI and grants ad hoc would meet every other month for a couple of hours.

Executive Director Report

Rogers said he is participating in many Business Oregon meetings. There was a tour yesterday of the Mid Town Arts Center. They did receive legislative funding.

Public Comment

None

Adjourn

Price adjourned the meeting at 12:23 pm.