

May 8th, 2024

Uintah County Heritage Museum 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

1. Welcome
 - a. Attending is Lana Fullbright, Roger Perry, Christine Cooper, LeeAnn Denzer, Amber Koski, Marety Hill, and Alycia Luke.
2. Approval of Minutes:
 - a. Minutes from September 2023, motion to approve by Christine, approved by the board.
3. Best time for Commissioner Norton to have this meeting:
 - a. Commissioner Norton was not able to attend this meeting, she was out of town.
4. Board member terms/ Combining with the Preservation Board:
 - a. We've had a couple of meetings, they wanted to combine us with the library board, but we didn't want to do that as it is a governing board. It won't work for us. Nothing has been done yet. We're pretty sure Preservation and us will be combined.
5. Deaccession plans:
 - a. We were requested by the USU extension to move the thresher from outside their building so they have room to do their activities and grow boxes. We did our due diligence to find a museum or other educational places to give it to, but we reverted back to the family. It was given to a family member of George Long, Wayne. They took possession of it last Friday. (May 3, 2024).
 - b. We need approval to go through with this.
 - c. It has a cool history, in the 1930s it was purchased by the Merkleys and used until 1956. George Long got the machine in 1994 and restored it.
6. NAGPRA Update - Judson Finley and grad students need our help -
 - a. We had a panic moment with Sam when the NAGPRA law changed. We reached out to a few people, Judson Finley at Utah State University is one of them. He and two of his grad students are coming out next week to do some research and associate the Leo Thorne collection with the location. And again for 10 days this summer. They got funding from the REDD center and they are calling the project "Caves of Vernal Revisited". They will go through everything we have in our archive and visiting the caves, putting things together the way they need to be. We will be doing some

NAGPRA repatriation if we need to and other things. NAGPRA wants us to connect the items to the space they were found to see what property they come off of whether it's BLM, Forest, Private, State, Federal, etc. We're lucky we have so many records. We have to do the best we can. We are supposed to work with the tribe, but they are currently in turmoil, so we're unsure how they will work with us. Maybe we go through Glenna instead of directly through the county to contact the Ute tribe. They are supposed to reach out to us from there. Glenna is in the process of getting to retire.

- b. One of the grad students will be working on studying and carbon dating our corn and some of our other materials.
 - c. Hopefully, we will be able to determine what needs to come off of exhibit.
 - d. We don't have interpretation on the Thorne collection. We shouldn't, the tribe needs to create the interpretation themselves.
 - e. Most of the Ute stuff came from the Thornes and the Pickups. Freely given is okay. We now have a new NAGPRA deadline... 2 years. Everyone should have been working on it the whole time. The tribe doesn't have a curator of their own. Their school library has stuff.
 - f. Want to have a good relationship with the tribe. Someone will work with us and then the elders tell them they can't come help anymore.
 - g. Betsy Chapoose is super busy so it's hard to get a hold of her.
7. Updates on exhibits and displays:
- a. Marety and Alycia are doing the exhibit design workshop and working on an exhibit about how horses were essential partners. They were essential for transportation, economy, and entertainment. The exhibit's due date is next Friday (May 17th).
 - b. At the conference center, there will be an exhibit on Bronc Riding. Lana is working on that exhibit. Earl Bascom invented the current bronc saddle and he's from here. A lot of photographs.
 - c. Marety is working on the World War II exhibit and the centennial of the Doughboy celebration. Hoping to have the exhibits done by November, preferably October. We learned about a medal that was given to the mother of one of the soldiers. We will possibly be able to use the medal for the exhibit for a month.
8. Staff reports:

- a. Hoping to post a job for the new part-time person. Alycia is the new full-time person. We hope that happens by the end of this week. Alycia got sick on her 1st week and struggled with not having PTO. The new position is out of the museum budget. It's nice to grow in staff and be able to get more stuff done.
 - b. We have been doing school tours, 2 last month and 3 this month. We mostly had 2nd grade. For our activities, the 3rd graders did a weaving one. We talked about the 1st peoples and inventions. With the 2nd graders, we talked about the Utes and Fremont and did the picture rock activity.
 - c. We haven't lost our other room upstairs. We still have the storage area upstairs for art and archives. Lana's office was given to the state.
 - d. The city wants to take our offsite storage space across the street. The downtown alliance wants it. We don't know what or if they will compensate us for it. Lana is ready for the fight. It is nice to have our storage right there close so we can check it and go work in it.
9. Board member reports: Christine will be doing an internship in the summer working on traveling trunks/ museum in a box for us... Fremont stuff. She did this before back in Pennsylvania.
10. Gift shop discussion: The gift shop is going great. Jamee is now in charge of it and she's doing a great job with it. Sales are up, visitation is down. We are making more money per person than we have. We had a bad Christmas, but ended the year okay.
11. Public comment (Groups must designate one spokesperson and are limited to three minutes each unless additional time is granted by the meeting chairperson).
12. Set the next meeting date: Alycia will talk to Ellen Daley about when we can meet next and contact the board.
13. Adjourn