

Thompson's Mills Preservation Society Board Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 6:06PM by President Spencer Lewis. Present were Spencer Lewis, Treasurer Ron VanOrden, Secretary Donald Lyon, other Board Members Jim Ballard, Patti Lynn, Larry Thompson and Don Ware. Also present were Tom Parsons, OPRD Head Ranger for Thompson's Mills, TMPS member Rebecca Bond. Carl Browning was absent.

Minutes of April 18, 2017 were approved with several corrections-- Regarding paragraph Highway Signs--the name is Julie Whalen. Tom Parsons stated that he had contacted new District Manager Dennis Lucas by e-mail and that others should not contact Lucas. A final correction was that salaries saved by having up to date fire suppression equipment could possibly be applied to hiring summer staff to do maintenance (rather than applied to fire suppression project).

Treasurer's Report was presented by Ron VanOrden. A Financial Summary for January 1-May 16, 2017 was provided to each member--opening balance of \$23,423.96 and closing balance of \$16,976.83. \$13,453.87 has been committed to spend during remainder of year and \$3522.96 remains uncommitted. Ron stated that there was a small increase in membership bringing in some income.

Highway Signs: Spencer Lewis spoke with Marie Kennedy at DOT Signs and learned that policy was to have signs providing notice and direction to Parks only close to the actual sites since there were so many parks. There was some discussion pointing out that other parks, such as Champoeg and Willamette Mission had freeway signs. Spencer indication that he would persevere with DOT. Aim is to have Thompson's Mills signs at exits 216 and 228.

Food Handler's Cards: Don Lyon reported that Board Members participating in the Cider Making could obtain free cards which are valid for a year. It was agreed that we should delay application until August when Lyon will apply for the free promotional codes for Board Members (excepting Spencer Lewis) and Tom Parsons. Tom Parsons indicated that he had been advised by his superiors that there seemed to be no additional obstacles to the cider project though County Codes should be examined to see if there were potential restrictions. Tom will call a meeting of the Cider Committee (Tom, Carl and Don Lyon) in the near future. (Topics to cover: 1) dates for public pressing, 2) materials to be acquired, 3) publicity).

Thompson Mills Society member Rebecca Bond (Albany Visitors Association) shared the posters promoting TM tours which she had printed. These were admired by the Board. Rebecca will print additional posters.

School Tour News: Jim Ballard reported that additional school tours were being booked. He had talked with OR Parks and Rec Tammy Baumann about the need for an audio system for the tours and that she had indicated that Parks and Rec would

provide the funds. Tom is looking into the type of system desired and the estimated cost. Smeed in Eugene being one possible source of information and equipment.

Cider update: Tom said that he was awaiting a final OK from the new District Manager.

Membership Committee: Larry Thompson mentioned the Membership Cards that had been discussed at the last meeting. Ron is getting a quote for printing. He also stated that 7 new memberships had come in since January 1, and several others in the autumn. It was noted that Thompson's Mills State Heritage Site is the official name of our park. Contact cards, applications, all forms and advertizing need to be coordinated. Such documents should show the website. E-mails should be collected for members and potential members (such as visitors). Spencer suggested Premiums for donations. A nice presentation of the TM Tours poster might be offered at one level of donation and Tom Adams' book for donations of \$75 -\$100, for example. Spencer Lewis provided copies of a letter he proposed to send to past and present members encouraging them to maintain membership and provide their email. Don Lyon emphasized that emails were vital to retaining members and promoting events.

Rebecca Bond mentioned that a Tandem Bike Rally would be visiting the Park on July 3. This would a good photo and PR opportunity.

Tom Parsons mentioned the recent Photo Workshop at the Mill with the Brownsville Art Association (Cheryl Haworth) and Eugene photographer James Baker (or Blakely?). The Art Association promised to provide access to some of the images created--for a hanging at the mill or possibly making the images available for publicity purposes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02. September 19 will be the next meeting. Minutes submitted by Donald Lyon.