

**FORT DALLES MUSEUM
ANDERSON HOMESTEAD
April 2020 DIRECTOR'S REPORT
May12, 2020, Museum Commission Meeting**

A financial report taken from the daily logs for the months of April:

Visitors: No paid Visitors. Museum Bookstore made \$0.00. There was a \$300.00 donation from Gloria Schultens. There was \$415.00 in Friendship renewals. A reminder letter was sent out and that helped to bring in more memberships. Total Volunteer Hours for April ____ .

- 1 The Chamber of Commerce did a live “sneak peek” video of the Surgeon’s Quarters and the Vehicle Building. It got lots of notice and some good publicity for Fort Dalles Museum. The last number reported was 3000 viewers.
- 2 Self-Guided tour signs for the grounds around the Surgeon’s Quarters are being made up.
- 3 We are also updating Anderson Family pictures and information in the Anderson House.
- 4 Gretchen has been working at the Anderson House. She went through 8 textile boxes. She inventoried everything to determine what had been accessioned, Made a list of un-accessioned items. She and Mary will make recommendations of what should be added to the collection. They also determined some articles that need to be deaccessioned.
- 5 Jan Leonard made a curtain to cover storage area under the display case and also made a curtain for the bed in the ladies bedroom
- 6 The grounds are looking great. It would be nice to open up the grounds once we have the self-guided tour signs in place. Building would remain closed.

There has been one issue that I have put off reporting to you in the hope that I could also present a solution. Several months ago the large parlor clock fell off the wall. The gentleman who has been working on the clock hung it and it was put into place in the same way that it had been originally installed. There was nobody in the room when it fell. I wrapped up all of the pieces had hoped to take it down to Portland and get a couple of repair estimates so that I could start a fundraising event to “Fix the Clock” I was not able to get into Portland to get any numbers. Eric asked about the clock recently and I knew it was time to say something solution or not.

Fort Dalles Museum and Anderson Homestead Commission Meeting
Tuesday April 14, 2020
Via Conference Call-Non voting informational only meeting

Members present Elizabeth Wallis, President Eric Gleason, Vice President, Daliea Thompson Secretary/Treasurer, Donna Lawrence,

Members absent and excused Loyal Quackenbush

Members absent and not excused Mike Wacker

Wasco County Staff Matthew Klebbs Wasco County, Mike Middleton Fiscal Director Wasco County, Cal McDermid.

Elizabeth is going through all the past documents of the Commission and is putting them on the cloud so that we can access it from our homes.

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Cal talked about alarm codes, and are we sorted out on who is able to access alarm codes. Cal can make an access code for each person. It may be time to change it. For people to have individual codes it creates a record of who comes in and out of the museum. Cal asked people who need to access the museum to send him a 4 digit code that they want to use and the alarm company program the new codes.

Elizabeth reported that Loyal was working on the siding of the vehicle building, but he realized he could not do the job and keep 6 feet away.

Eric reported that the gutters and work on the Anderson House is looking great. They look original and extend about 6 feet, we will have to put a rain barrel to collect the water that comes off. The gutter project is wrapped up. Loyal is looking to do the back end of the structure.

We need to do some work on the porch. There needs to be handrails and some base work done. To be up to code it needs to have rails. The current ones have more than a 4 inch gap on the uprights. We can bring it up to code and also use the posts to support the porch so the porch stays square.

If we do any modification it has to be done to the newer code. The thought is if we can make something that is up to code and also helps the porch. There are also some exceptions, since it is a historical structure. The original structure was lower on the grade, there used to not be stairs originally and it might be a good idea to have hand rails.

Eric has been in contact with Mike Byrne about the kitchen chimney. He may be putting it off until after the social distancing of Covid 19. Cal suggested telling Mike the museum is closed and it may be a good time to get it done.

Eric said Loyal and his wife did a clean out of the Gardner's Cottage. This will make it easier to do some work on it. Elizabeth asked if Eric needed help to see what needs to be fixed on it. The first task is to try to straighten the left wall. It has a bit of a lean to it. The stabilizing it in position. It has braces in there but Eric thinks those braces are loose. Eric will work on fixing this.

Directors report (attached)

Mike Middleton

No revenue in March. The proposed budget will go through as is for 2020-202. By not having additional revenue from the tourists our beginning fund balance will be less than projected budget for the new fiscal year. We will have to watch this and our new fiscal year carefully as they both reflect projected revenues that may not actualize due to the Covid 19 lockdown.

Elizabeth is looking at information from the Chamber to look at supplemental funding. Elizabeth asked Mike to also search for these opportunities. Mike may need to delegate some of the research for lost funds.

Mike will be getting current fiscal reports soon.

Elizabeth asked if we should suspend our landscaping for the summer? Mike recommends that we keep landscaping for the season.

Donna asked the Mayor about getting new volunteers for our commission, Steve also asked. It is currently on the Mayors plate.

There was questions about the number of members for the commission. Matthew looked it up and found it was an ORS to have 7 members.

Eric reported that the Wyquatt project is likely on the back burner due to staffing restrictions at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center because of Covid 19. Eric will continue to prod the project along. Elizabeth states that this is the time to do any research. If Cal and Mary come across any information or data on the Wyn Quatt that would be good to compile.

Next meeting will be May 12, 2020 most likely in the same format.

Rob Denning updated the website.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Minutes accepted and approved May 12th, 2020