

Star History Committee
Funding Proposal for Mayor
Sept 8, 2022

Background and where the Star History Committee is To Date

The Star History Committee has been meeting monthly and working on finding a building and site to be the Star History Museum. Liz Hobson, museum administrator for the Idaho State Museum in Boise's Morrison Park, has met with us and has graciously been advising and sharing resources with us. She put us in touch with Dr. Bob Reinhardt, associate professor of public history, environmental history, and American west history. They have recommended we use the services of Dean Hagerman, who is a professional historian in Boise with a Master's in history from Boise State University and who has experience in oral history projects.

Next September, Liz and the Idaho State Museum will be hosting the annual conference for the Association for State and Local History. They would like to do a field trip of Star to learn about our local history. We have identified two "doable" portable exhibits we can present along with a walking tour of "Old Star": Oral Histories of Star's Early Residents and Barns of Star, A Farming Town.

We have tried all year in vain to work with Boise State's Communications Department to get some interns to assist with the project, but Dr. Reinhardt has explained to us that Covid has put extra burdens on faculty, staff, and students, so our best bet is to pay Dean Hagerman to produce the information we need for the two exhibits and then to pay a professional exhibit producer to deliver the final product.

Oral History Exhibit

We would like start with the oral histories first, so this proposal is to ask for funding for the interviews. Dean would interview the seniors on a list we have established with input from various leaders in Star. We can add to the list if more suggestions come our way.

The History Committee would call each person on the list, with a follow-up letter, to let them know about our project and that Dean would be calling them to arrange an interview. He will share drafts of his printed write-up for any needed edits. Dean will video the interview, so that can be edited for sound bites for the exhibit, which would include a written summary of the interview, as well as a button people could push to activate an edited video of the person talking.

We have given Dean the verbal history and video we did of Jane Raynor as a model. The oral history materials will be turned over to a professional exhibit company to prepare the actual exhibit.

The exhibit producer will need to design a portable exhibit using easy to operate and maintain equipment. Some photography may need to be taken for a backdrop. Randy Biddle, a Star resident who attends our History Committee meetings, has been photographing barns for us and can photograph some of our other needs. For next September's event the Oral History exhibit could be set up and premiered in the Star Riverhouse. When Star gets a History Museum facility, the exhibit can be showcased there.

Star City can also create a history component on its website and showcase the material there.

List of people we should start interviewing:

Mary Kolsky 208-286-7720

Marq Ross 208-941-6748

Jack & Betha Foster 208-455-1735

Herb Quenzer 208-286-7567

Kay & Bud Helmick 208-286-7610

Jak and Butch Kirtley- jakatak1@msn.com

(Jane Raynor already completed by History Committee)

Budget for Dean Hagerman

He is out of the country for two weeks but will be sending us a short bio of his professional history background as soon as he returns. We will forward that onto everyone, including Jacob Qualls and the Mayor.

Because of the prep work we have been doing, Dean estimates he can do the interviews for \$150 or less. Our current list includes 3 singles and 3 couples. This cost aligns reasonably with current fees for communicators.

We would like to ask for a \$1200 budget for this phase. What we do not use, we will carry over for the cost of the professional exhibit itself.

Later we will be asking for a budget for the Oral History Exhibit, Star Barns history research, and Star Barns Exhibit. After going through the Star Library history bin on the history of Star, it has become clear we will need to find an historian to write a professional history of Star.

Lynn Davis for Star History Committee

davisl@vt.edu

540-819-5940