

Oregon Council of Rock and Mineral Clubs

Fall Meeting Minutes

Saturday, October 14, 2017 – 1:00 pm

The OCRMC's Fall meeting was held at the Portland Regional Gem and Mineral Show in Hillsboro, Oregon. The meeting was called to order by Dave Williams, President with 11 members of 6 different Oregon clubs represented. Those clubs were the Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, Sweet Home Agate Club, Mt. Hood Rock Club, Oregon Agate & Mineral Club, Umpqua Gem & Mineral Club and the Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club.

Minutes from the Madras annual meeting were read by Lenora Smith, Secretary and approved.

A treasury report was submitted by Debbie McPherson with a note advising that she was resigning from her position as Treasurer. Debbie reported the following activity: \$ 0 received, paid out - ALAA \$50 for dues, with an ending balance of \$2175.90 We were told that our 2017 state and federal reporting had been filed.

Dave brought up the reimbursement for travel to BLM RAC meetings which was discussed and approved for \$.25 per mile.

We have received many emails regarding the use of our Federal Lands (BLM, US Forest Service, Monuments, Fish & Wildlife, and others from Senators and Representatives). Lenora encouraged everyone to send their own emails to Senators, Representatives, Interior Secretary Zinke and Agriculture Secretary Perdue as appropriate. The ALAA's role in trying to obtain and keep "Recreational Rockhounding" approved as an acceptable use of our Federal Lands was discussed. Susie Koppert of MHRC gave her report on attending some of the BLM RAC meetings in Lakeview and Burns. The Regional BLM Director has asked Susie to apply for the John Day and Burns area RAC's. Susie thanked Dave and Lenora for sending recommendation letters for her RAC applications. At present Susie is an alternate for the Lakeview RAC. Susie said she is leaving Sunday for a Lakeview RAC meeting and has been asked to show them how to find sunstones at the BLM Public Collection Area close to Plush. Susie has made shakers for the RAC members to sift for sunstones. The Hampton Butte area is still open. Some of the Monuments that were recently created are likely to be removed or greatly reduced in size. Susie said the BLM and Forest Service do not have the funding to keep all the roads open on the Federal lands they administer. This is largely due to not being able to sell timber and other resources from the land. Susie said it is really important to have Recreational Rockhounds on all the RAC's. We have not had representatives promoting recreational rockhounding on the RAC's and the BLM staff in Lakeview and Salem would like us to apply for membership. Susie and Lenora attended a RAC meeting in Salem and were asked to apply for 2018. Susie and I thought it would be better for her to do the Lakeview and Burns BLM RAC's. Lenora thought she was too old to travel back and forth to Salem. Lenora did notify the WAMS club to apply, but to date they have not responded.

Troy and Dave discussed the judging rules for the Oregon Council Trophy (at present the application form states that the lapidary work has to be that of the exhibitor). We need to review the rules and decide if we wish to keep this requirement or just go with "All Oregon Material" regardless of who has done the lapidary work. Hidemi and Tomoko Kira won the Oregon Council Trophy for 2017 and will receive the rotating award for one year plus a plaque to keep.

Dave brought up the need for a new Treasurer. Absent a volunteer at the meeting we will wait and see what develops.

Vicki Johnson our Capitol Case Agent gave her report. The Umpqua Club will be removing their exhibit on November 14 and the Oregon Agate & Mineral Society (Mike Medvec) will be installing their specimens on November 15. Mike said their Oregon Seal, done with small polished chips of agates and minerals, has been replaced by members of their club (the first one disappeared) and will be part of their Capitol display. Vicki has obtained a parking pass to be used while loading and unloading specimens. Vicki has been our Agent for many years and is trying to retire. She has done a marvelous job and will be greatly missed! Vicki also said the Columbia Gorge Club is scheduled to exhibit May 18 to Nov 18. She will follow-up with Dick Parks and Patty Amos from the Columbia Gorge group.

Dave discussed the time and place for our Spring meeting. It was decided to hold the next meeting at the Sweet Home Show on Saturday, March 31 at 1:00 pm. Cindy Cole will try to make sure that is OK with the Sweet Home Club and will also check to see if there is a club member interested in taking over the Treasurer's job. Meeting adjourned. Lenora Smith, Secretary

Members attending the October 14, 2017 fall meeting were: Vicki Johnson of WAMS, Cindy Cole of Sweet Home Club, Susie Koppert of Mt Hood Rock Club, Jan Davis-Shelley of Mt Hood Rock Club, Troy and Lenora Smith of Mt. Hood Rock Club, Hidemi and Tomoko Kira of Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club, & Mt Hood Rock Club, Mike Medvec of Oregon Agate & Mineral Society, and Dave and Maureen Williams of the Umpqua Gem & Mineral Club