

## **Minutes for Columbia Grange #267 Meeting on April 2, 2024**

*This was an in-person meeting. Minutes are also available on our website: [columbiagrang267.org](http://columbiagrang267.org) in the Resources/Members Only Section (code is 0267).*

**In attendance:** Robert Grott, Jill Carlson, Sara Grigsby, Carlyn Mitas, Sara Huston, Pam Arion, Sheron Fruehauf, Derek Fialkiewicz, Kelly O'Rourke, Mark Stauffer, Kathy Coppoletta, Michelle Gregory, Angie Kimpo, David Gorman, Michelle Carter-Smith, Debbie Vasen, Malcom Freud, Kathy Thomes-Rhew, Ron Rhew, Clair Klock, Ben Byers, Lori Moening

**Chaplain opening** by Mark Stauffer

Grange Sara Grigsby, *President*

**Proclamation of Grange Opening** by Robert Grott

Kathy Coppoletta, Greeter: **Introductions- *What do you think when you think of the Grange:*** local tradition, friendship, community, open to everyone, history, rural childhood, community support, joy, fun, dedication, heritage, power of volunteerism

***Community Speaker Series:***

Introduced by Sara Huston- series which aims to bring local community in to tell about things they are doing, learning new things about people in our community, create a deeper and more long-lasting relationship with our neighbors.

***Derek Fialkiewicz:*** Superintendent of Corbett Schools. Prompt: sharing what he is passionate about. Derek gave a powerful and moving talk about something personal in his life. Slide deck may be available soon.

***Clair Klock:*** Working on providing feedback to State Grange Convention and Legislative Committee to better reflect our membership. His observations over 2022 and 2023. Historically, the State Convention had many ceremonial pieces but was less inclusive of younger age groups. Also, Grange traditionally is very Christian oriented without an attempt to be inclusive of other religions. His input in both 2022 and 2023- have the workshops and meat of the meeting during the weekends to accommodate working families. Also, the over-presentation of Christian elements within the Grange is problematic and excludes other people who may not be Christians. Requesting modifications to ceremonies to help bring others in and minimize them from being excluded. Advocacy on workshop content.

State Grange Convention 2024: Tillamook- June 16-20 Clair is asking for Grange community to watch a session or two on Zoom.

Legislative Committee resolutions: The State Grange has a policy manual with policies our local Grange may not be in alignment. Our Legislative Committee intends to review that policy manual and communicate with the State Grange on policies that we don't align with. Get involved!

### **Benevolence /Marketing – Changes to Website**

Giving needed to support our Scholarship Fund, Holiday Family Fund, School Support Fund for sports gear, clothing, snacks and Emergency Funds for local families.

### ***Under Get Involved/Make a Donation***

If you make a donation through this link, donations are tax-deductible. Also, you can choose the specific cause through this link to donate.

## **Please donate to help these valuable community programs!**

Senior lunch! The next senior lunch is scheduled Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 11:30-1. Our first lunch was Monday March 25<sup>th</sup> 11-1. Will be coordinated with Helping Hands to make sure people get their shopping time.

**Lecturer Notes:** Read about spring and the eclipse April 8<sup>th</sup>, the pink moon on April 23<sup>rd</sup> (inspired by the phlox flower), learn more about how moons get named by native American cultures in the lecturer's notes. Flower of the Month: Oregon grape (blooming now with bright yellow flowers). Also, what to plant in your garden. Guiding lights- the importance of the Grange through grassroots action, service, advocacy and agricultural awareness. Grange monthly message: Supporting individuals in times of need makes for a stronger community. Check in on friends! Acts of generosity are appreciated. Give children an outlet for emotions. Learn about programs offered by our member Lizzie Wilson at Peace Living Village. Quips and quotes for spring. Updates on farms in the area. Book recommendation: The Long Thread, Women of Color on Craft, Community and Connection by Jen Hewett. AND SO MUCH MORE!!! Take a minute to read the thoughtful lecturer's notes compiled by Sara Huston.

Also, on website review Downloadable tracking documents and downloadable documents with [links to resources](#) and a PDF list of Resources related to our guiding principles.

Columbia Grange Elections- Ballots were gathered at the meeting for Grange Officers.

### **Other Announcements:**

## **Game Night Join us next Thursday on April 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30!!**

April 26<sup>th</sup>- Nick Walden Poublon will be here at grange at 5 pm. Here is more info:

**Nick Walden Poublon, Democratic candidate for Oregon House District 52**

Nick is a very engaging, informed candidate, whose passion for the issues of affordable housing, the environment, access to meaningful healthcare, and living wages is quite apparent. Having grown up on a dairy farm, he can speak plainly and compellingly to rural voters. He is well-versed on the background of

important issues that concern Oregonians. He is a good communicator with the adaptability to engage with the diversity of urban and rural voters in our district. For more information see his website:

<https://www.nwpfororegon.com/>

Crown Point Historical Society Tea June 8<sup>th</sup> 1:30 Culinary Fare and Listen to great granddaughter of Margaret Henderson \$45. \$22.50 is tax deductible.

Send love to Grange Members that are struggling.

**Grange Proclaimed closed** by Robert and Sara.

**Meeting adjourned:** 8:00 PM

*Respectfully submitted by: Angie Kimpo, Columbia Grange 267 Secretary*