

NEVADA STATE BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

MINUTES January 13, 2015

The meeting began at 9:35am, Great Basin Science Sample and Records Library conference room, 2175 Raggio Parkway, Reno, NV

Introductions of Members and Guests:

Board Members Present:

Christine Johnson, Executive Secretary - Nevada Historical Society (non-voting).
Jeff Kintop, Chair, Nevada State Library & Archives
David Davis, Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology
Jane Freeman, US Forest Service
Jack Hursh, Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology
Paul Starrs, University of Nevada, Reno
Linda Newman, University of Nevada, Reno, Emeritus
Robert (Bob) Stewart, US Bureau of Land Management, retired
John Burgess, Nevada Dept. of Transportation
Skip Canfield, Nevada Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources

Absent:

Margaret (Peg) Rees, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Daryl Crawford, Inter-Tribal Council

Guests:

Terry Cynar, Reno
Carol Ostergren, USGS National Geospatial Program, Sacramento.

Welcome and announcement of "new management" by Chair, Jeff Kintop, 9:35 a.m.

1. Approval of the Minutes of September 9, 2014 meeting.

Motion to approve by Jack Hursh and was seconded by John Burgess.
Vote unanimous to approve.

2. Announcements:

- Chair Jeff Kintop brought the COGNA conference to the attention of the board. COGNA (Council of Geographic Names Authority) conference is in Anchorage, AK this year, April 28-May 2. Christine Johnson will be attending conference, and has been asked to provide an overview of the activities of the NBGN to the COGNA audience.
- Chair discussed an inquiry he received pertaining to a home-owner's purchase of 40 acres of property, and general questions received on naming features on this property. Kintop explained why he cannot name features after living members of his family, and suggested family come together to choose a name collectively that falls within the traditional naming requirements.
- Wilhoites Peak was left off the agenda for this meeting accidentally. The second hearing for this feature will be the first order of business at the May 12, 2015 meeting. Notification letters for this feature were sent to Nye County Commissioners as well as the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe. Nye

County Commissioners have added this item to their “next meeting” agenda. It had not been put in the system previously because it had been assumed to be a personal name in honor of someone. Marianne Farretta originally wrote the naming form, and the name is in common use although it does not appear in the GNIS. Jane Freeman mentioned finding it in the database on the GNIS, but Chair mentioned not having been updated by the National Board on the status of Wilhoites Peak. Need to determine if this feature is on the quarterly list for consideration.

3. Announcements from Nevada Board members; comments from the public:

Carson Ostergren (USGS) stated an 85% completion on topographic maps. Adobe reader tool is updated to most recent – mountain (7.5 series) with bike trails.

4. Scorpion Peak:

This item was pushed to end of agenda in order to give applicants time to call in to meeting. At revisiting of this item (10:34 am), Chair Kintop distributed photos of feature provided by applicants. Last meeting in September a question arose as to whether this feature should in fact be a “peak” instead of a “mount.” No official ruling was made, and the National Board cannot change the proposal, only the applicants, who were committed to the original term of “mount.” NBGN questioned whether the feature was prominent enough to be called Mount Scorpion instead of Scorpion Peak. Many support letters were received by the local community in Southern Nevada for “Mount Scorpion.” Chair Kintop will scan and send to NBGN board members and forward all support letters to the National Board. However, after analyzing photos provided by applicants, NBGN board members agreed that the feature is in fact prominent enough to support the naming of the feature as a “mount.” Bob Stewart moved to approve this agenda item, seconded by Skip Canfield and was approved unanimously (no dissent).

Second point made after vote: Bob Stewart commented that it should be noted that in the case of Mt. Scorpion, this is a fine example of young people coming together and using the system correctly to achieve their goal. This was an “exemplary proposal.”

5. McLane Peak:

McLane Peak was approved at the last meeting, now waiting on 45-day time period for feedback on letters sent to appropriate county commissioners and Native American groups.

6. Fremont Lookout:

Fremont Lookout was approved at the last meeting, now waiting on 45-day time period for feedback on letters sent to appropriate county commissioners and Native American groups.

7. Morrison Peak:

Secretary Johnson read Morrison’s biography and will send the biography to NBGN board members. Bob Stewart made a motion to approve the naming of Morrison Peak, it was seconded by Paul Starrs and the vote was unanimous in favor, with one abstention for lack of having received enough information. It was noticed by Starrs that the application reflected the wrong coordinates – coordinates should be “West” and not “East” (118.36.24.3W). Jack Hursh moved to correct typo, seconded by Bob Stewart and the motion passed.

8. Chinatown Inquiry:

Secretary Johnson read facts submitted by Bill Armstrong about Chinatown, and provided 7.5 minute topographic map reflecting the Chinatown location. It was mentioned that Chinatown is reflected on map as being part of a valley (written on map diagonally as a feature would be, not affiliated with a marked location). Inquiries in the future will be on the agenda. NBGN will respond to Bill Armstrong's question on the origin of Chinatown name if possible to find information.

9. Select meeting place for next meeting:

The date of May 12, 2015 (9:30am-approximately 12:00pm) was decided on to be held at the Great Basin Sample and Records Library Conference Room, Great Basin Science Sample and Records Library (GBSSRL), 2175 Raggio Parkway, Reno, NV.

10. Public Comments:

It was mentioned that the public (and board members) would like to visit Mt. Scorpion!

11. Meeting Adjourned at 11:30a.m.

Minutes prepared by Christine Johnson and subject to approval by the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names at next meeting.