



CENTERVILLE CITY

250 North Main • Centerville, Utah 84014-1824 • (801) 295-3477 • Fax: (801) 292-8034

Incorporated in 1915

Mayor

Paul A. Cutler

City Council

Ken S. Averett

Tamilyn Fillmore

John T. Higginson

Stephanie Ivie

Lawrence Wright

City Manager

Steve H. Thacker

Whitaker Museum Board Meeting Agenda

Thursday May 7, 2015, 6:30 p.m.

Administrative Conference Room at City Hall

250 North Main, Centerville, UT 84014

Meetings of the Whitaker Museum Board of Centerville City may be conducted via electronic means pursuant to Utah Code Ann. § 52-4-207, as amended. In such circumstances, contact will be established and maintained via electronic means and the meeting will be conducted pursuant to the Electronic Meetings Policy established by the City Council for electronic meetings.

Centerville City, in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, provides accommodations and auxiliary communicative aids and services for all those citizens in need of assistance, including hearing devices. Persons requesting these accommodations for City-sponsored public meetings, services, programs, or events should call Blaine Lutz, Centerville Finance Director, at 295-3477, giving at least 24 hours-notice prior to the meeting.

6:30 A. BUSINESS

- 1. Minutes Review and Acceptance** – April 8, 2015 meeting minutes
- 2. City Manager's FY 2016 Budget review**
- 3. Landscape and Hardscape Review and discussion**
- 4. CLG Project update**
- 5. Board Member reports**
- 6. Closed meeting if necessary, as allowed by state law**
- 7. Possible action following closed meeting, including appointments to committees and docents**
- 8. Next Meeting**

B. ADJOURN

Marsha L. Morrow, MMC
Centerville City Recorder

NOTE: please note the change in day from Wednesday, May 6 to Thursday, May 7.



PRELIMINARY DRAFT

Minutes of the Centerville City Whitaker Museum Board meeting held Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the Administrative Conference Room at City Hall, 250 North Main Street, Centerville, Utah.

PRESENT

Diane Chamberlain
Spencer Packer, Chair
Nancy Smith
Paul Thomas Smith

ABSENT

Bridget Lee

VISITORS

Alex Creer
Julie Creer

STAFF PRESENT

Larry Wright, City Council Liaison, was excused at 7:54 p.m.
Lyndsey Kunzler, Youth Council Liaison, was excused at 7:40 p.m.
Lisa Linn Sommer, Whitaker Museum Director, was excused at 9:42 p.m.
Connie Larson, Recording Secretary

POTENTIAL EAGLE PRESENTATION

Alex Creer, Boy Scout, is planning to build two community garden beehives for his Eagle Scout project. His scout leader and scout troop will also build fences that will be three feet high that will enclose the beehives, and they will be placed on posts that will be painted. The estimated cost of this project is \$313. Chair Packer will meet with George McQuinn and Alex when the hives are completed to choose a suitable location to place the hives. Chair Packer said the front of the hive must be in direct sun, as bees are susceptible to bee mold.

Diane Chamberlain made a **motion** to accept the proposal from Alex Creer for the construction of two beehives and fencing. Alex will be asked to meet with Julie Garlic to cover the details of the beehives, and then Alex will return to meet with the Whitaker Museum Board to finalize the details. The Board thanked him for his efforts on this project. Paul Thomas Smith seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous vote (4-0).

YOUTH LIAISON – GEO CACHE UPDATE

Lyndsey Kunzler, Youth Council Liaison, reported she has not been able to get into the geo-caching account yet, but she should be able to shortly. She displayed two sizes of boxes for the Board to choose from. The Board agreed a note will be placed in the box that items can be removed, but items do not have to be placed in the box. Lyndsey also reported the Youth Council is working on the street dance for the Centennial Festivities this summer. Lyndsey will report to Lisa Linn Sommer on the number of young women volunteers for the Victorian Tea on May 30th.

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Minutes of the March 18, 2015 Whitaker Museum Board meeting minutes were reviewed. Nancy Smith made a **motion** to approve the minutes as written. Diane Chamberlain seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous vote (4-0).

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Paul Thomas Smith read a thank you card written by David Parrish expressing appreciation for the opportunity to talk about his ancestor, Joel Parrish, who helped settle Centerville. He also gave the Board a \$100 donation for the Museum.

Nancy Smith reported the timeline she is making is nearly finished, and she is working to obtain photographs from the Police Department. Nancy reviewed the budget, and she asked permission to pursue pricing for plumbing, an insert and sink in the kitchen at the Museum. The Board gave Nancy permission to obtain price estimates on a sink and the plumbing for the Museum kitchen. Nancy asked Larry Wright, City Council Liaison, if he feels the City Council will allow the purchase of another recording device, as the Committee would like to meet on Tuesday evenings, which is also the same night as the City Council meetings. Mr. Wright suggested the Board send an email to the City Council for this request.

Diane Chamberlain reported she is working on the poster and genealogy chart of Thomas Whitaker as part of the Centennial events at the Museum. She displayed a draft of the genealogy poster that will show Thomas Whitaker with his four wives and all of their children. There will also be a book that gives the history of Thomas Whitaker's parents, his wives, and children. An alphabetical list of names of Thomas' descendants will be posted for people to see if they are related to any of Thomas Whitaker's descendants.

At 7:40 p.m., Lyndsey Kunzler was excused from the meeting.

Chair Packer reported on the sign in front of the Museum, and he displayed a drawing for the proposed sign. He proposed building the sign up with a base of plantings around it. The estimated cost of the base for the sign will be \$3,000. The sign will be made of polystyrene and then painted to look like wood. The Board will be asking the City Council in three weeks for funding for the sign. Outdoor lighting is also a problem at the Museum, and it has become a safety issue. Chair Packer met with Bruce Cox, Parks and Recreation Director, and Lisa Linn Sommer to review the flower garden on the north walkway. This garden area is high maintenance, and Bruce Cox, Parks and Recreation Director, suggested reducing the garden size of the area by removing the rose bushes, and planting day lilies, and other easy to maintain plants. Mr. Cox is willing to do this work, but he will not be able to do it until his seasonal crew is available at the end of May. Lisa Linn Sommer suggested having people work at the Museum on the National Day of Service on April 18th.

1 **CLG UPDATE**

2
3 Chair Packer reported he spoke with Guy Carpenter about doing repairs at the Museum.
4 Mr. Carpenter will be doing the north and south soffit and fascia on the addition and the east gable.
5 He will also install the leaded glass window on the south side.
6

7 At 7:54 p.m., Larry Wright was excused from the meeting.
8

9 Lisa Linn Sommers, Museum Director, will obtain bids from Jim Rohletter on the
10 installation of rain gutters. Bids also need to be obtained on additional brick walkways, and
11 completion of the front and rear entrances. It is hoped the brick walkways can be an Eagle Scout
12 project.
13

14 **BUDGET REVIEW**

15
16 Lisa Linn Sommer, Museum Director, distributed and reviewed the current budget status
17 for the Museum. Nancy Smith said she would like to see the Museum have their own bank account
18 at some point in the future. The Zombie Run last October brought in \$964, and people are already
19 asking about it for this year. The garden plots have brought in \$720 so far this year. The Victorian
20 Tea Party last year brought in \$1,865. Envelopes to match the new Museum letterhead need to be
21 purchased. Lisa Linn Sommer will be meeting next week with Steve Thacker, City Manager, to
22 discuss insuring the contents of the Museum. Lisa Buckmiller with the State Historic Society will
23 also be contacted to see if she could advise on how to go about insuring the Museum. Total
24 requested budget at this time for the 2015-2016 fiscal year is \$29,110.
25

26 **REPORT ON THOMAS WHITAKER'S 200TH BIRTHDAY IN 2016**

27
28 Paul Thomas Smith reported May 17, 2016 will be the 200th birthday for Thomas Whitaker.
29 A poster of Thomas Whitaker that Mr. Smith made was displayed. Elizabeth Whitaker particularly
30 enjoyed working in her flower gardens, and Mr. Smith suggested planting the same flowers that
31 Elizabeth had in her garden on the Museum grounds. Thomas Whitaker was the first nurseryman
32 in Centerville, and Mr. Smith would like to have the flowers and fruit trees that Thomas had
33 planted on the Museum grounds. When Thomas married Hannah, it was very difficult to provide
34 food, and Thomas worked in Ogden to earn more money to provide for his two wives. Mr. Smith
35 would like to restore the driveway and have a period garage door installed for Thomas' birthday
36 celebration. He would like to restore young Ruth Whitaker's bedroom upstairs, and perhaps have
37 a group of Boy Scouts do this project, along with digging out the driveway. A musical of the
38 courtship and marriage proposal of Elizabeth Whitaker to Thomas Whitaker was suggested.
39

40 **MISCELLANEOUS**

41
42 Story telling on the life of Jennie P. Stewart will be held next week with Susan Hainsworth
43 at the Parrish Home on the corner of Parrish Lane and Main Street. There are already 35 confirmed
44 reservations for this event, which is a full house.

1 Lisa Linn Sommer, Museum Director, reported Dennis Lyman, film producer for Channel
2 14, visited the Whitaker Museum last week, and he wants to film the introductions for historic
3 documentaries at the Whitaker Museum. The next production they will be doing is on the history
4 of the LDS Relief Society. In exchange for doing these introductions at the Museum, Channel 14
5 will include the Museum and Centerville City in their credits. They will also offer on Channel 14,
6 a link to the Museum, and they will advertise the Museum on KJAZZ.

7
8 Lisa Linn Sommer contacted Fort Douglas, and has obtained permission to borrow military
9 uniforms worn by soldiers from each war the United States was involved in to be displayed at the
10 Country Fair in August.

11
12 At 9:42 p.m., Lisa Linn Sommer was excused from the meeting.

13
14 **CLOSED MEETING**

15
16 At 9:42 p.m., Nancy Smith made a **motion** to adjourn to a closed meeting for reasons
17 allowed by law. Diane Chamberlain seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous vote
18 (3-0). Members Present were: Spencer Packer, Chair; Paul Thomas Smith; Nancy Smith, Co-
19 Chair; and Diane Chamberlain.

20
21 **RETURN TO OPEN MEETING**

22
23 At 10:00 p.m., the Whitaker Museum Board returned to its regular open meeting.

24
25 Chair Spencer Packer made a **motion** that the Whitaker Museum Board Chair and Co-
26 Chair conduct an employee interview with the Museum Director, Lisa Linn Sommer. Following
27 that interview, the Board will then forward a recommendation to the City Council and Steve
28 Thacker, City Manager, concerning the current probation status that Lisa Linn Sommer is currently
29 working under. Nancy Smith seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous vote (4-0).

30
31 **NEXT MEETING**

32
33 The next Whitaker Museum Board meeting will be held on May 6, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

34
35 **ADJOURN**

36
37 At 10:05 p.m., Chair Packer made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting. Paul Thomas Smith
38 seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous vote (4-0).

39
40
41 _____
42 Spencer Packer, Chair

Date Approved

43
44 _____
Connie Larson, Recording Secretary

PRELIMINARY DRAFT

(Not for public dissemination)

Minutes of the Centerville City Whitaker Museum Board closed meeting held Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at 9:43 p.m. in the Administrative Conference Room at City Hall, 250 North Main Street, Centerville, Utah.

PRESENT

Diane Chamberlain
Spencer Packer, Chair
Nancy Smith
Paul Thomas Smith

ABSENT

Bridget Lee

STAFF PRESENT

Connie Larson, Recording Secretary

DISCUSSION OF WHITAKER MUSEUM DIRECTOR

Nancy Smith reported that Lisa Linn Sommer has been at her position as Whitaker Museum Director for 18 months. Her contract stated she would be on probation for one year, and then an evaluation would be done on her position. Lisa has not had an evaluation by Steve Thacker, City Manager. This evaluation needs to be completed for Lisa to know where she stands, and for the Board to give their recommendations and feedback.

The Board agreed an evaluation meeting should be held with Lisa Linn Sommer on her position as Director of the Whitaker Museum. It was suggested not asking the City for a salary increase for Lisa, but to send her to Museum Director Conferences as compensation. However, if City employees receive a pay increase, perhaps the City Council would also consider giving Lisa an increase.

ADJOURN TO OPEN MEETING

At 10:00 p.m., Paul Thomas Smith made a **motion** to end the closed meeting and return to the regular open meeting. Nancy Smith seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous vote (3-0).

Spencer Packer, Chair

Date Approved

Connie Larson, Recording Secretary



Overview of April 14, 2015 Meeting with Steve

- A) We discussed the allotted monies for Whitaker projects approved by the city.
1. \$5,000 - unused director money for the months of July – November 2013
 2. \$450 – rebate from Gas Company. Waiting for Blain to deposit
 3. \$1,500 – Approved match for the walkway by Steve Thacker from the General fund
 4. \$4,200 – City Council approved match for 2nd CLG projects. To be deposited after project is completed.
- B) Bruce Cox is willing to have his crew clean out the rosebushes and minimize the flowerbed for easier care. This would be a temporary fix until a landscape plan can be decided on by The Whitaker and the Parks department. May's board meeting will be set aside to discuss and develop the landscape plans for the yard. Bruce will need to meet with members of the board during regular hours.
- C) There is a problem with B). Bruce and his crew are unable to help with the flowerbed until after Memorial Day. His college crew does not start work until after May and his first priority is to clean up the cemetery and get it ready for Memorial Day. The tea party is 4 days after that so this presents a problem. The Centennial is having a day of service on May 9. I sent an email to Daken and Carolee Tanner. There will be a group to help us do the following:
- a. Take out the offending wild rose bushes.
 - b. Reduce the size of the flower bed to match the South.
 - c. Create a narrow boarder of Day Lilies next to the walkway to hide the gas meter and the garage wall.
 - d. Lay down sod, provided by the parks department, to replace the removed flowerbed section. Making it easier for Bruce Cox crew to take care of the yard.
 - e. Clean up and reduce the size of the flowerbed around the magnolia tree.
 - f. Remove weeds
 - g. Transplant the flowers into the bed to appropriate distances and aesthetics.
 - h. Haul away the garbage.
- D) Steve has approved and placed Spencer on next week's (April 21, 2015) City Council agenda at 7:35pm. 10 minutes has been allotted to discuss the museum sign. The WMB wants to weigh in on the councils opinion of the sign.
- E) The museum budget 2015-2016 proposal is to be turned into Steve Thacker and CC to Blain Lutz, for review. Steve will contact Lisa Linn Sommer to schedule a budget session.
- F) Steve wants to make sure that board members and volunteer hours are being tracked and recorded for grant matches.

2014 - 2015 Breakdown

Grant Money	State \$	Museum \$	City \$
Soffit, Fascia, Lead Window Venting, Gable and Sealant	\$3,300	\$ 500 cash \$2,800 in kind labor	\$ 0
Exterior Sign	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$ 0
Gutter	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$ 0
Exterior repair and Paint	\$3,400	\$1,250 in kind labor	\$3,400
Historical Archive	\$2,500	\$1,700 in kind labor	\$ 0
Steps	\$2,500	\$ 1,250 in kind labor	\$ 800
Walkway	\$ 0	\$1,500	\$1,500
Total	\$16,200	\$6,500 \$7,000 in kind labor	\$5,700
		Total	\$13,500

Improvements needed prior to August 2015

Complete the work by deadline to qualify for state funding or we lose their match

Exterior Sign \$6,000 *	\$6,000
Monument sign exceeds budgeted amount. Total estimated cost \$12,000. Shortfall of \$6,000 \$4,000 approved by City Council from the General fund April 21, 2015. \$1,900 Centerville Rotary grant	
Walkway \$8,320	\$8,320
Finish walkway. Safety hazard for patrons. Estimated shortfall \$8,320	
Steps (back) concrete with safety handrails \$3,100	\$3,100
The wooden steps have been found to be unsafe for guests (especially elderly) They have a high rise and no railings. Estimated shortfall \$3,100	
Safety Lighting in the parking lot Safety Issue \$?	?
There is a real concern with lighting in the parking area. Older guests are needing to be escorted to their cars because of danger of stumbling in the dark.	

Total \$11,420

***Potential grant \$1,900 from the Centerville Rotary if we complete the sign and invoice them by July 1, 2015**

The Whitaker Museum Budget

Expenses

	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
Utilities	\$1,660	\$1,760	\$1,760
# 271 UPL , #276 Questar , #277Sewer & #278 Duel Creek			
#482 Building Maintenance and Repair	\$500	\$1,000	\$1,200
Carpet, Upholstery & Window Cleaning, Floor, Yearly Bug Extermination, & Rodent Control, Air Duct Cleaning, Filters (quarterly), Equip. Maintenance, Equip. Repair & Replacement			
#368 Equipment Maintenance and Repair		\$0	\$400 \$200
#514 Property Insurance		\$400	\$450
Miscellaneous	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$2,500 \$1,500
#480 Miscellaneous Supplies \$ 2,500			
Toiletries, hand towels, drinking water, light bulbs, advertising, Stamps, Paper, Printing, Thank you cards, business cards, professional brochure, cash/donation box, period costume, archive indexing & organizing archives, printing & Xeroxing. Territorial map, silk pods & display, Signs (<i>do not touch, watch your step</i>)			
#330 Training and Education			\$100
#310 Professional & Technical Services	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$1,500
Recording Secretary fees, Background Checks			
Museum Director	\$16,500	\$16,500	\$16,500
#120 Director Stipend \$15,000 #130 FICA 750.00 \$1,125.00 #135 Work Comp Incl. No benefits 750.00 \$400.00			
#750 Essential Preservation & Safety Hazard Projects			
Capital Improvements	\$42,500	\$0	\$11,420 ?
Subtotal	\$76,660	\$34,860	\$35,830 \$23,010
TOTAL REQUESTED	\$48,560	\$34,860	\$35,830
ADOPTED	\$23,360	\$24,160	

**General Fund
Second Proposed Amended Budget Notes
FY 2015**

Revenues

Note#	1	Grants	
		CLG	\$10,000
		Police	\$28,830
Note#	2	Charges for development	\$25,000
Note#	3	Contribution from Rotary	\$1,700
Note#	4	Use of fund balance	\$180,946
			\$176,946 for street projects - \$4,000 for Whitaker sign
<u>Total Sources of Funds</u>			<u>\$246,476</u>

Expenditures

Note#	1	Council Contingency	-\$5,800 CLG grant matches
Note#	2	Streets	-\$17,000 Salt/sand savings
Note#	3	Street Projects	\$176,946 Additional for 2015 street bids
Note#	4	Engineering	\$88,500 Additional development & special projects
Note#	5	Parks	\$1,700 Disc golf - Rotary donation
Note#	6	City Hall roof	\$19,300 Additional bid cost and project bidding and inspection
Note#	7	Landmarks	\$3,200 CLC grant
Note#	8	Inspection	-\$37,420 Inspection savings
Note#	9	Transfer to Whitaker	\$17,050 \$13,050 CLG grant and match/energy savings \$4,000 for sign as approved by Council
<u>Total Expenditure Adjustment</u>			<u>\$246,476</u>
Revenue over/under expenditures			\$0

450 energy rebate
 4200 CLG grant match
 8400 CLG grant

 13,050

WHITAKER HOME TRUST
FY 15-16 BUDGET

71

	2012/13 ACTUAL	2013/14 ACTUAL	2014/15		BUDGET	2015/16		
			6 MONTH ACTUAL	12 MONTH ESTIMATE		DEPARTMENT REQUEST	PROPOSED	ADOPTED
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	14,854	24,565	34,274	34,274	34,274	15,520	15,520	0
REVENUES								
PREVIOUS YEARS FUND RAISERS	8,220	-	-	-	-			
3410 GARDEN PLOT FEES	-	1,330	15	1,440	-	1,440	1,440	
3420 RENTAL FEES	1,190	-	-	-	-	0	0	
3430 SECURITY DEPOSIT	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	
3340 GRANTS	9,139	-	-	-	7,800	0	0	
3610 INTEREST	5	23	-	-	-	0	0	
3616 TEA PARTY FUNDRAISER	-	1,316	-	1,087	-	1,100	1,100	
3620 JULY 4TH FUNDRAISER	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	
3630 HERITAGE MARKET FUNDRAISER	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	
3640 CEMETERY TOURS FUNDRAISER	-	-	285	285	-	300	300	
3660 ZOMBIE RUN FUNDRAISER	-	-	1,562	1,562	-	2,000	2,000	
3660 HAUNTING FUNDRAISER	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	
3670 WHITAKER CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	
3910 CONTRIBUTIONS - OPERATIONS	12,000	23,380	24,160	24,160	24,160	23,060	23,060	
CONTRIBUTIONS - PROJECTS	-	-	-	-	1,500	11,420	11,420	
3920 CONTRIBUTIONS - PRIVATE	2,398	128	119	519	-	0	0	
3930 CONTRIBUTIONS - EAGLE SCOUT PRO	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	
3940 BOOK DONATION	-	377	142	180	-	0	0	
TOTAL REVENUE	32,952	26,554	26,283	29,213	33,460	39,320	39,320	0
MANAGEMENT CONTROL ACCOUNTS - OPERATING								
120 PART TIME - DIRECTOR	1,840	9,115	7,500	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	
130 FICA	122	671	575	1,000	750	1,150	1,150	
135 WORKERS COMP	36	184	155	400	750	300	300	
271 UTILITIES - ELECTRIC	262	675	246	650	700	700	700	
276 UTILITIES - NATURAL GAS	492	875	181	800	800	800	800	
277 UTILITIES - SEWER	255	284	30	60	60	60	60	
278 UTILITIES - DUEL CREEK	-	-	-	200	200	200	200	
280 TELEPHONE SERVICE & EQUIPMENT	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	
310 PROF. & TECH SERVICES - Recorder	-	477	231	750	1,000	1,000	1,000	
312 PROF. & TECH SERVICES - MISC.	802	35	275	-	1,000	500	500	
312 PUBLIC RELATIONS	-	17	16	50	-	0	0	
316 FUND RAISER SUPPLIES	827	419	9	100	-	0	0	
318 PROF. & TECH SERV CUSTODIAL	-	-	-	-	400	0	0	
330 TRAINING & EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS	1,089	-	-	-	-	100	100	
361 TEA PARTY FUND RAISER SUPPLIES	-	976	-	-	-	1,100	1,100	
362 JULY 4TH FUND RAISER SUPPLIES	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	
363 HERITAGE MARKET FUND RAISER SUP	-	-	16	16	-	0	0	
364 CEMETERY TOUR FUND RAISER SUPP	-	-	449	449	-	300	300	
365 ZOMBIE RUN FUND RAISER SUPPLIES	-	-	1,476	1,476	-	1,500	1,500	
366 HAUNTING FUND RAISER SUPPLIES	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	
367 CHRISTMAS FUND RAISER SUPPLIES	-	-	37	52	-	0	0	
368 EQUIPMENT MAINT	-	-	-	-	200	200	200	
480 SPEC. DEPT. SUPP. OTHER	1,902	642	96	1,200	2,500	1,500	1,500	
482 SPEC. DEPT. - BLDG MAINT & REPAIRS	737	774	259	750	400	1,200	1,200	
483 GARDEN PLOT SUPPLIES	409	227	123	300	0	300	300	
514 INSURANCE - PROPERTY	350	350	350	350	400	350	350	
SUBTOTAL - WHITAKER HOME	9,123	15,721	12,024	23,603	24,160	26,260	26,260	0
MANAGEMENT CONTROL ACCOUNTS - CAPITAL WHITAKER HOME								
740 CAPITAL EQUIPMENT						0	0	0
750 CAPITAL PROJECTS	14,118	1,124			28,054	11,420	11,420	0
SUBTOTAL - WHITAKER HOME	14,118	1,124	0	0	28,054	11,420	11,420	0
EQUIPMENT DETAIL								
ITEM 1								
CAPITAL PROJECTS DETAIL								
PROJECT -						8,320	8,320	
PROJECT -						3,100	3,100	
TOTAL WHITAKER HOME	23,241	16,845	12,024	23,603	52,214	37,680	37,680	0
REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE	9,711	9,709	14,259	5,810	-18,754	1,640	1,640	0
ENDING FUND BALANCE	24,565	34,274	48,533	39,884	15,520	17,160	17,160	0

Thomas Whitaker: Renaissance Man

As a child he was trained in, and mastered, art (painting), music (violin), and the French language (with some German). He later learned Tahitian.

As an apprentice he mastered the ability to design and build ships.

He kept journals in French and English.

He became a sailor and sailed on merchant ships and whalers to many places throughout the world.

He apprenticed to a ship's carpenter ("Chips") and mastered the art of carpentry.

He collected whale's teeth and rare woods and made beautiful jewelry boxes.

He became a master furniture maker.

He hand-carved needed kitchen utensils.

He became a renowned builder of homes, businesses and churches.

He sang well.

He composed poetry and some music.

He loved to read.

He became a master horticulturalist.

He became Centerville's first nurseryman.

**Thomas William Whitaker: The Man
As Seen by Elizabeth, Two Children, and a Neighbor**

“He was the most tenderhearted man I have ever seen.”

“Never did I hear him use foul language. ‘We have such a beautiful, expressive language when properly used,’ he’d say. ‘It seems a shame to waste and abuse it by using degrading expressions to express ourselves.’”

“He set a fine example for his family and never asked anyone to do anything for him that he could do for himself.”

“The children loved, respected, and looked up to him always.”

Unlike most men he bathed each day.

“He was a very fine, high-principled man.” –Mary Ann Ellis, Thomas’ first wife.

“He was a deeply religious man.”

“He disciplined his children, not by whipping, but by making them do some task they disliked the most.” -John Mills Whitaker

“He had no sense of insecurity.”

“He would not quarrel with anyone; rather he would refuse to answer or walk away if he thought it best to do so.”

“Neither of us ever disagreed with each other in [the presence of our children].”

“Sister Sally Kilbourne, a neighbor, said that father was known as a neighbor who never failed to help in times of sorrow and

sickness, performing countless service for many needs. He had an optimistic outlook on life. He persevered against difficulties until the end.” -Mary Alice.

“If any member of the family was taken sick, the first thing they thought of was to have father all upon the Lord to minister to them.” -Mary Alice.

“The family always looked forward to his homecoming with great pleasure, especially the long winter evenings. Often he would bring new songs for us to learn such as ‘My Grandfather’s Old Easy Chair’ and ‘My Grandfather’s Clock.’ He would play the music on the violin.” -Mary Alice

“Father played [his] violin for years at dances, at home, theaters and other amusements. He was adept in its use. How often have I felt the tone and harmony of his masterly touch.” -Edison

“As story books were scarce he often told us Bible stories and of his adventures. Sometimes he would bring home interesting books.”

“Although his family was large in number he always remembered each one of us, and how well we remember the wooden dolls and toys he shaped with his turning lathe and he would paint faces on them.”

“He saw to it that we attended our organizations and be careful of the company we kept, ever counseling us to look well into the family before we married into it, and contended marriage should be a permanent institution. His advice and counsel had such a convincing ring to it that his family never doubted it.”

“He was good natured and liked a good joke.”

“He wrote poetry and composed a song with music once. This song was entitled, ‘The Song of Hoops’ and became popular.”

“He was a great reader and kept up with the history of the day but more especially the Church works.”

“His faith never wavered and grew strong each year.”

“One of his maxims was, ‘Prepare to live forever, but be ready to meet your Maker tomorrow.’ -Mary Alice.

Elizabeth's Talents

"I made all the clothes we wore, everything, even suits, coats and trousers for the boys and their father." Miles, 236.

"I always enjoyed **hand work** far more than house work. So I let Annie take care of the inside and I kept the garden and did the weaving [and] sewing." -Miles, 237.

"I myself became a **midwife** and delivered dozens of babies for [polygamous wives], pay or no pay." -Miles, 248.

"Times then were hard [with] such large families to support. I took in **carpet weaving** and when [Thomas] was away I'd work far into the night many times to finish a piece just so I could get the little extra income. When he was home he'd forbid me to work at night and insist I needed my rest." Miles, 271.

"I was near the end of my time just before Gracie was born and I was trying to finish a carpet for a woman before I had the new baby. Weaving is hard work and I knew I shouldn't try to stick at it for so long. But T. W. was away and I was determined to finish it. I got it done at three o'clock in the morning and the pains began. I took it off the loom and measured it and folded it, then dragged myself downstairs and sent Joseph for Grandma Brown. T. W. had taken the two older boys with him and Johnny was sick.

That was the sickest I ever was. The baby was breech, and she had to turn it. . . But she saved the baby and me. But she had a hard time trying to stop the hemorrhaging afterward.

When T. W. returned and learned what had happened he went upstairs with an ax and completely destroyed that lovely loom. Both of them, in fact, the little brass one made of finest steel and

copper wires, that he'd made me years before to weave silk on.
'I'll see to it that you don't kill yourself weaving any more,' he
declared. I have never seen him quite so angry, before or since.

I was angry too, for **I loved to weave** and I liked the little extra it
brought it. I cried and cried but it did no good."

I was **a very good sewer** so I began taking in sewing."
-Miles, p. 274.

"I . . . made **satin and velvet hats** and John Adams sold them in
his store." -Miles, p. 214.

"**I nursed** for \$1.00 a day and did all the house work."
-Miles, p. 310.

Elizabeth Mills Oakden Whitaker

Elizabeth was tall.

"I was always too outspoken and sometimes not too diplomatic." –
Miles, 288.

"Her natural sense of humor bordered at times on sarcasm."
-Miles, 211.

She was a bit of a free spirit. She wrote: "During those early years in Centerville we had to make our own fun and entertainment. There were no dance halls or amusement halls. We women were left alone a good part of the time while our husbands were away working to earn a living.

We would get together and one would read and the others would do hand work. Grandmother [Johanna] Brown subscribed for a magazine called *The New York Ledger*. It came once a month. It carried a novel in serial form, a chapter each month.

When it came we'd have a party. The one who would furnish the main dish would hang out a white table cloth on the clothes line, early in the morning where the others could see it. After a nice luncheon. . . .

"Sometimes we'd play a game of cards. Our husbands did not approve of any type of card playing, so we played only when they were out of time. You see, Brigham Young did not approve of card playing in any form and advised against having cards in the home. He said they carried an evil influence. Of course, Thomas Whitaker abided strictly by every word of the President. But I wasn't so straight laced and I saw no harm in an innocent little game of cards played just for the fun of it."

"Once we almost got caught. We suddenly heard my front door open. It was my husband. Well, I had my white apron on, and I simply leaned over the table and swept the whole deck, just being dealt, off the table and into my lap and folded the apron up over them so when he entered from the front hallway, there we sat around the table, innocent as lambs. He never caught on and I never told him."

[Sometimes] I served my guests a nice hot cup of real tea. [One day] my husband put in an unexpected appearance. After my guests were gone he said, "Lizzie, you know you're breaking the Word of Wisdom every time you drink that stuff. And it's not good for you. You'd live a lot longer if you left that stuff alone."

"Well," I answered, "I'd just as leave live ten minutes less and have something I enjoy once in a while."

On Children

"My children were my joy and also my sorrow. I never ever hoped that one of them would become great or prominent. All I prayed for was that they would all be honest and behave, so I could keep them out of jail. And I did. But my oldest, and my youngest—they were both such good sons to me but alcohol ruined their lives and made it so terribly hard for their families." —Miles, p. 288.

Samuel, the oldest son, became a prominent architect in Ogden and played a leading role in the Chicago World's Fair of 1893.

John, her third eldest son, learned shorthand, worked in the Church Historian's Office; became close to B. H. Roberts and (railroad Young). He became instrumental in establishing the first curriculum for the new seminary program; helped launch seminary in two other cities. He and his wife developed Family Home Evening.

The Three Whitaker Homes in Sequence

When dealing with historical facts, remember the admonition of Ronald Reagan in another setting when he said, "Trust but verify!"

There are three voices that we glean history in this study: Thomas' fourth wife Elizabeth; John M., a son, and Mary Alice, a daughter.

1858

Thomas Ricks Log Cabin

Moved to the six acre property

Purchased from Thomas Jefferson Thurston

"It was a medium sized one room cabin, well built, with a huge fireplace in the center of the east wall, a window on the west and one on the south. It had a board floor."

-Elizabeth, quoted in Miles, pp. 198-99.

"We lived in the little log cabin for over a year. During that time, T. Whitaker spent every spare moment of his time building *a large one-room house* on the property, up in the lot." -Elizabeth, quoted in Miles, p. 234.

The cabin was unsuitable for raising silk worms.

1860

12 June Centerville, Davis, Utah Territory Census taken by E. Thomas Browning, Assistant Marshall

Thos. Whitaker 40

Elizabeth 31

Ann 10

Wm 4

Saml 1/12

1861

24 August b. Elizabeth Emily "Emmie"

"When Emmy was born it was just 20 months after Sam. It was in that same little log cabin where we first lived when we came to Centerville." -Elizabeth, quoted in Miles, 311.

Divorce

14 November Mary Ann Ellis files for divorce from her husband Alfred in San Francisco's 12th District Court. Alfred has lost his fortune and is impoverished.

Adobe Home

Ca 1861, Thomas writes to *his sister* in England for silkworm eggs.

Size of the adobe home

"There were six of us in that one adobe room, and it was too crowded for comfort."

-Elizabeth, quoted in Miles, p. 236.

"As the family increased they must of necessity have more room. Near this log house, a little to the west, father built *an eight room adobe house* with a large cellar underneath . . . this house faced the south" -Mary Alice Whitaker Parrish

"The Adobe house was well-built—a two-story on the south, and a north part consisting of [a] Kitchen on the west, hall and bedrooms and trap door on the east into the large basement Cellar on the south. Overlooking the south 2 story were beautiful French windows where one could see beautiful flowers[,] lawn, barn, wagon and carriage house and hay for horse and cow. . . ."

"The two-story consisted of front rooms, parlor and work room for mother where she did her spinning, weaving and carding of wool and making cloth and carpets, etc."

Location of the silkworms

"Under the main house was *a full basement where silk worms and other things were grown and stored* . . . Immediately east of the adobe house were also large trees, used as windbrake from east winds. It was in this home where JOHN M. WHITAKER was born, October 16, 1863 . . ." -John Mills Whitaker, unpublished typed transcript

"Mother said they had them in their home as long as she could stand to see and hear them everlastingly crunching the leaves and crawling around. It had to be so still and quiet."

"Father rented a building that some religious sect had built to educate the Mormon children, but as the Mormons had schools of their own the school was soon closed and this building purchased by the ward and later used for the Relief Society house.

Father rented this building to keep the silk worms, this room was emptied and had to be kept perfectly clean of all odors, free from dust, and disturbing odors and noises, as the silk worm is extremely sensitive. Tobacco is a deadly enemy, the fumes will kill them almost immediately" -Mary Alice Whitaker Parrish

1862

I wish to say to all those who have Mulberry Trees (the *Morumulticaulis*), that I have succeeded in raising some fourteen hundred healthy SILK WORMS, of a large kind. Whoever may wish to avail themselves of this opportunity of securing some of these useful insects can leave their orders at Henry E. Phelps' opposite the Telegraph Office, or at H. A. Squires', opposite Jennings' Store, East Temple St., Great Salt Lake City.

—T. Whittaker, Centerville.—*The Deseret News*, June 4, 1862.

SILK!!! A fine specimen of silk was presented to us a few days since, by Mr. Whittaker, of Centerville, the production of his stock of silk worms, which are represented as doing well as any were ever known to in silk producing countries. —The *Deseret News*, June 11, 1862.

1863

16 October b. John Mills

Annie

"Soon after John was born, T. W. brought the little Tahitian girl, age 10, Annie, home to live with us. She had lived in the Rich home up until then . . ." —Elizabeth, quoted in Miles, p.

See the 1860 census. Annie, age 10, began living with the Whitakers three years earlier.

A failed attempt to enlarge the home

"It was when I was pregnant with John, our next child, that T. W. decided that we needed more room. So he gathered rocks, great piles of them and hired a stone mason to come lay up the walls for it. They got the four walls up, frames all up and in place for the roof.

That night a terrible wind came from the east. That's the worst kind of wind storm, especially for these parts. It came up very suddenly, out of the blue, with thunder and lightning, very close—worst I ever saw—most frightening storm I have witnessed.

I ran out to get the children who were playing outside in the sand just as the lightning struck the new part of the house. The wind lifted the unfinished roof and carried it westward almost to the exact spot where I wanted the house built. The new rock walls were razed to the ground by lightning. Only the adobe room stood unharmed and safe.

I rushed back into the house and there stood Brother Whitaker, white as milk, speechless. 'You are a religious man' I said. 'You believe in signs, don't you?' He nodded. 'Well.' I said, 'you know I never wanted to have a house away up here. Now it is destroyed through no fault of mine. Perhaps you'll build it where I want it next time.'

'Well, he did . . . it was built of rock from the foothills. It was laid up by the Duncan Brothers, best rock and brick masons in these parts.'" —Edison T. Whitaker, quoting Elizabeth Mills Oakden Whitaker in Miles, pp. 104-105.

POSSIBLE ERROR IN TIMING

If Elizabeth intimated that the rock home was erected soon after John's birth she was mistaken. The twins, John Samuel and Charles Duncan, would have been 14 years of age in 1864. John stated that he began his father's trade when he was 16. Their younger brother Archibald was four years of age.

1865

21 March b. Susan Johanna

1868

10 January b. Mary Alice

1869

11 December b. Joseph James

Marriage to Hannah

18 January Thomas William Whitaker marries Hannah Waddoups
in the Endowment House

"It was while we still lived *up in the lot* that he married Hannah. She lived right in with us for the first six months." -Elizabeth, quoted in Miles, p. 302.

ELIZABETH: ERROR IN MEMORY

"The first time I ever saw her was after they were married and he brought her home to our **big house** in Centerville." [The rock home would not be underway for ten years]

"Well there was nothing I could do but take her in and let her stay. So I gave up the **big living room**. . . ." - Miles, 356

Death of the Silkworms

"When I turned the **big room**, where we kept them—[the worms] over to her, she had the care of them. She didn't care for them properly, and they all died. In a way I was glad. They had a peculiar odor, sickly sweet, yet to me offensive and I didn't encourage him [Thomas] to continue the raising of them" -Elizabeth, quoted in Miles, 258.

Hannah miscarries

1870

6 May b. Elizabeth to Hannah

1871

1 November b. Josephine

1872

2 August b. Mary Jane to Hannah

1873

7 December b. Thomas William to Hannah

"T. W. sold land further north of their home so he could buy a smaller piece of land to the east to build a home for Hannah. Sara begged him to let her live on that land and let Hannah have the adobe house." -Miles

Thomas built a home for Hannah "about two blocks east of the big house . . . she had one large rock room which he later added onto three rooms.

1874

1 January b. Sarah Evelyn (Aveline) to Hannah.

1875

4 August b. Nephi to Hannah

1876

b. 27 March George Alma to Elizabeth

1877

b. 3 May Edmond to Hannah

1878

"In the year 1878, father and sons erected a new home on the main highway through Centerville. The Rock work was performed by the father of Charles, John and Archie Duncan with their assistance and Father [James] Kippen of Bountiful, and I assisted later in the finishing of the inside, while Samuel and William did much on the outside helping the Duncans with the rock and later with the roof and other carpenter work."

-John Mills Whitaker

Charles Duncan, 55. Scotsman and a stonemason.

Samuel John & Charles, twins, 23

Archibald, 18.

James Kippen, 58. Scotsman and a stonemason

Samuel John stated that he did not begin following his father's trade until he, John, was 16. Thus he was not actively involved in the stone trade until at least 1876.

27 August b. Grace Mabel to Elizabeth

1879

"Father did all the carpenter work, and it was beautifully done. There was a big living room (I loved it), a rather small kitchen, both facing east, with a large plate glass bay window in the south wall, with an extension so that we could use it as a bed if necessary, or just to sit on and look out. *Later I raised the silk worms he hatched in that window.* . . ." -Elizabeth, quoted in Miles, pp. 236-7.

1880

4 March b. Prudence to Hannah

1882

2 April William Porter to Hannah

The "Big House" (rock home) is completed.

A MAJOR PROBLEM WITH HANNAH'S STORY OF THE HOMES AND RAISING SILKWORMS

The raising of silkworms in the "Big House"

"There was a big living room (I loved it), a rather small kitchen, both facing east, with a large plate glass bay window in the south wall, with an extension so that we could use it as a bed if necessary, or just to sit on and look out. *Later I raised the silk worms he hatched in that window. . .*" -Elizabeth, quoted in Miles, pp. 236-7.

"He sent to England *shortly after we moved into the big house* and had his sister send him some silkworm eggs. She sent them by mail in a large thick envelope and they arrived in perfect condition. And that's where we raised and cared for the silkworms." -Elizabeth, quoted in Miles, p. 241.

"... we used the big bay window for them. He built a shelf above the seat, the full length of the window there in the living room. That's where we raised and cared for the silkworms." -Elizabeth, quoted in Miles.

It has been established that Thomas and Elizabeth were among the earliest in Utah to raise silkworms.

-John M. testified that the worms were first raised in the cellar of the adobe home.

-Two articles appeared in the Deseret News in June 4th and 11th, 1862, that the Whitakers were selling hundreds of silkworm eggs and were producing fine silk.

-Elizabeth repeats the story of making a fine silk vest, tie, and socks for Brigham Young—that he was so impressed that he visited the Whitakers in Centerville.

Daughter Mary Alice said that Elizabeth put up with the noise of the silkworms as long as she could. They were then transferred to a rented vacant former Protestant school building on the upper road where they were well-kept. She does not state how long the worms were maintained at that location.

Elizabeth claimed that after Thomas married Hannah, that Hannah stayed with them in the living room of the rock home and was placed in charge of caring for the silkworms that were in the bay window. The worms died. Thus the silkworm era came to an end for the Whitakers. It had run from about 1861 through early 1869.

But Elizabeth contradicted herself. On three or four occasions she claimed that the incident with Hannah and the worms took place in the "big house" in the bay window, facing south, in the large living room. If our evidence is correct, that home was not built

*until from 1878 through about 1880—about nine years in the future. But Elizabeth also claimed that Hannah lived with the family **in the adobe house**, not the new rock house.*

It is possible but unlikely that the Whitakers revived the practice of raising silkworms once they were in their new home.