

Minutes of the Chaffee County Heritage Area Advisory Board Meeting
Thursday, November 10, 2011 - 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Buena Vista Public Library

Attendees:

Alison Ramsey	GARNA /Administrator
Alan Robinson	GARNA - chair
Kay Krebs	Chaffee County - secretary
Meghan Mulholland	USFS
Nancy Roberts	Ranching Representative
Fay Golson	Chaffee County - At-large
Judith Kinzie	Historic Salida Inc.

Approval of Minutes from 10/13/2011

Without a quorum the minutes could not be approved.

Board Officers for 2012 – Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer

Alison spoke to Chaffee County attorney Jenny Davis about the existing checking account for the CC Heritage Area Board. Jenny stated that keeping Heritage Area funds separate from GARNA funds was the proper procedure. Alan and Nancy asked Alison to research the need for a resolution to define officers and to write bylaws for the board. Kay stated that establishing officers would help the board run smoothly in the future. Officers provide leadership and are in a position to address the BOCC and the public. There would be a chair/vice-chair for the monthly meetings, minutes would continue to be recorded and an annual financial report could be produced.

Fay and Alison suggested that Leslie Walker be asked to join the board as a member at large. Everyone agreed. Leslie will be asked to submit a letter to the BOCC.

FHWA 2010 Byway grant – Historic Wayside Signs – contracting process almost complete

Alison asked the board for input to plan for wayside content and location. The Wayside Plan was reviewed. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed to do the three-panel array interruptive signs with Byway sign at the following locations; pending approval from the appropriate entities involved:

1. Downtown Buena Vista on Hwy 24 – in McPhelemy Park near depot
2. Ruby Mountain/Fisherman Bridge – at AHRA put-in east of the Arkansas river
3. Along the Byway on Hwy 285 – at Chalk Creek overlook
4. Collegiate Peaks Welcome Center at Poncha Springs - signs might be mounted on the building
5. Downtown Salida –near the skate park / Monarch Spur trail off Hwy 291 or Riverside Park

It was moved by Kay and seconded Nancy that we move ahead with the project. A vote was taken, all were in favor. The next step is to have a discussion with our partners as to the specific location and content for each site. \$9,000 in-kind and cash match is required.

Alison noted that when we are under contract there are many tasks to be completed. We will need to contact the CDOT engineers, engage a local person to prepare the graphic design and write the content, get the signs fabricated, (if possible by the prison shop) and finally have the signs installed.

FHWA 2012 Byway grant – RFP out in November – Proposal due December 12

Ideas for proposal were discussed. Construction of the gateway east of Salida on Hwy 50 and the smelter view wayside on Hwy 291 will be given first priority. The second priority will be to construct the gateways at Granite, on Trout Creek Pass and on Poncha Pass.

To have adequate funding to lease land; construct pullouts; build gateway structures and wayside signs the proposal should be for \$80,000 to \$100,000. Alison reminded the board that 20% of the amount requested i.e. \$16,000 to \$20,000 will be required as in-kind and cash match. Fundraiser ideas and business sponsorships were then discussed. Nancy and Alison may meet with the smelter overlook land owner if that option is chosen. Alison will get cost estimates to construct the pullouts and the gateway structure from local contractors.

State Historic Fund Grant – Historic Resource Survey Project

Fay reported that she is working on the second 1/3 of the project. 16 property owners have given permission and 7 more are needed. Fay has called and gone out to visit several property owners. She circulated the unsigned letters, but no one knew the individuals.

The Simmons from Front Range Associates will make another trip to survey the second 1/3 as soon as 36 properties have given permission. Melanie had agreed to contact individual property owners.

Oral History project (Melanie & Meghan)

Meghan reported that they have a list of 25 people to interview. Nancy and Melanie are one team and Meghan and Ann Ewing are the second team. Still pictures will be taken. Video and audio recording (where possible) will be done. Nancy Roberts again proposed that a book be published of the edited versions of the interviews. Meghan asked for some additional recording equipment. Alison agreed to purchase the items as soon as she gets a list.

Leadville stage / Midland railroad trail project

Alan reported that GARNA submitted a concept paper to Great Outdoor Colorado (GOCO) for preliminary consideration to be invited to make a full application in the spring of 2012 under a GOCO three year funding initiative called river corridors. A select group will review the grant applications. Alan gave the “pitch” for the project to LCOSI earlier today. In January 2012 LCOSI will issue their final revisions. \$18 million is available from GOCO for river corridor projects.

Public comment will be sought in February or March 2012 on the Feasibility Study. Alan stated that an additional planning document with more detail will most likely be required. BLM will be briefed.

Grant applications to the Colorado State Trails program

Last week Alan wrote two grant applications to seek some local “match” in case Salida/AHRA is successful in getting a big GOCO grant in 2012 for the Salida Siding/UP Trail. It was very clear to everyone this is a GARNA contribution. City of Salida closely supported by AHRA and many other groups has long been pursuing purchasing land from the Union Pacific along the north bank of the Arkansas. This is in order to develop a non-motorized public trail along that bank as well as facilitate legally crossing the RR and connecting to the growing network of city and BLM trails on S-Mountain.

County special use review updates

None

Heritage Board Ongoing Items

- Long term administration of Heritage Board
- Heritage Centers – planning new centers and revamping existing
- Byway workshop sessions
- Tours of visitor-ready heritage sites
- Establishing a Chaffee County CLG
- Continue working with Land Trust and other partners to protect view sheds
- Outreach to ranchers on historic preservation options