

Minutes of the Chaffee County Heritage Area Advisory Board Meeting
Thursday, September 8, 2011 - 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Buena Vista Public Library

Attendees:

Alison Ramsey	GARNA /Administrator
Donna Francis	Historic Salida Inc.
Kay Krebs	Chaffee County - secretary
John “Nomi” Nahomenuk	BLM & AHRA
Melanie Roth	Buena Vista Heritage
Fay Golson	Chaffee County At-large
Alan Robinson	GARNA
Meghan Mulholland	USFS

1. Approval of Minutes from 8/11/2011

Alan presented some minor corrections to the minutes. It was moved by Melanie and seconded by Donna that the minutes be approved as amended. A vote was taken, all were in favor, and the minutes were approved.

2. Welcome Meghan Mulholland, USFS San Isabel National Forest archeologist

Meghan has applied for membership on the Board as the USFS representative. Meghan lives in Buena Vista and works in the Leadville and Salida USFS offices. She has been employed by the USFS for over 10 years as an archeologist. She has experience in historic perseveration and interpretive graphics. Meghan’s membership on the Board will formally be approved at the Chaffee County commissioner’s meeting September 13.

3. State Historic Fund Grant – Historic Resource Survey Project

Fay reported that she has received 31 affirmative responses and 2 negative responses to the “permission to survey” letters. Alison has contacted the Simmons and they seem to be more open to starting their intensive survey before all 65 permission releases have been returned. Alison & Fay prepared a map locating the 65 sites and identifying the affirmative responses which was then sent to Front Range Research Associates. Donna and Melanie agreed to help Fay by contacting owners.

The Stone Cabin campground was discussed. Meghan agreed to research the site and find out if it has been surveyed and whether information was sent to the Colorado Historic Fund’s “compass” database. Alison will contact the SHF to discuss the progress on the survey and the possibility that we might not be complete by the June 2012 deadline.

**4. FHWA 2008 Byway Grant
Collegiate Peaks Welcome Center**

The building is open to the public and is being staffed by volunteers. Alison contacted Diana Wood, the Chaffee County treasurer and president of the Poncha Springs Museum. Most of the museum’s material is old school artifacts and various other memorabilia that would not be appropriate for display in the new center. However the museum may have some historic photos that they might be willing to lend. Alison will inform Rose Matthews and Ann Ewing.

Melanie suggested that the focus of the heritage displays should be early settlement and historic ranching. Another possible theme could be transportation history including the stagecoach routes and

railroads that went through Poncha Springs. Fay suggested that the photos currently displayed should be reframed to preserve them and present a more attractive uniform display.

Alison stated that CDOT has agreed to install four new directional signs on the highways directing travelers to the Welcome Center.

Melanie suggested that landscaping contractors, suppliers and volunteers be solicited to donate landscaping to complete the site landscaping. Kay agreed to ask her husband to email Melanie the proposed master landscaping plan.

Wayside Interpretive Plan

The plan will be revisited as we start work on FHWA 2010 grant to provide interpretive wayside signs.

Oral History project (Nancy & Melanie)

Diana Wood suggested that her husband be interviewed. Melanie and Nancy haven't gotten together. Meghan volunteered to work on this project.

5. New Projects

Alison expects that we will be under contract by the end of the year on the FHWA 2010 grant for Interpretive Wayside signs. She has applied for the cash matches from the municipalities for 2012. The total amount of the grant is \$45,000 with \$36,000 from CDOT and \$9,000 in match. The county has been asked to contribute \$2,500. Buena Vista has agreed to provide \$1,500 in cash match. Poncha Springs will be asked for \$500 and Salida will be asked to contribute \$1,500. Alison has put \$300 in as in-kind from BV Heritage and HSI to review the content.

Alison reported that we were awarded the FHWA 2011 byway coalition grant for strategic planning and resource protection along with the Gold Belt Tour and the Land Trust for the Upper Arkansas.

6. County special use permit review update

CCHAAB is on the list for special use permit reviews through the county review process.

7. Land Use codes updates

Alan provided a short update on the County Planning Commission progress on Draft code revisions and zoning. He stated that the next meeting of the Chaffee County Planning Board is scheduled for September 8. The next few PC meetings are crucial since it is anticipated that majority of PC members (who hold generally skeptical views on zoning) will argue to dilute the Draft suggested changes while the minority will argue the merits of the long citizen-involvement process and adoption of innovative approaches which have been incorporated elsewhere in many rural counties such as Chaffee.

Heritage Board Action Items

- Heritage Centers – planning new centers and revamping existing
- Establishing a Chaffee County CLG
- Continue working with Land Trust and other partners to protect view sheds
- Outreach to ranchers on historic preservation options

Ongoing items: Heritage Centers, Longtime administration of Heritage Board, Byway workshop sessions, tours of visitor-ready heritage sites