

**Rio Blanco County Historical Society  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018  
5:45 P.M. Heritage Culture Center**

Members Present: Johnny Barton, Linda & Doc Seklecki, Tim Leff, Libby Morton, Kay Bivens, Bob Amick, Ellen Reichert, Steve Loshbaugh, Niki Turner, Teresia Reed-Ruckman, Jay Sullivan, Sandra Besseghini, Patty Anderson, Bobby Gutierrez

Agenda Additions & Approval: Approved (KB/SL)

Public Participation: None

Minutes of Last Meeting: Approved with one correction (SL/JS)

Budget: (TR)

- Will send out a copy of the budget after printer is fixed.
  - Funding from the county received for 2019. Will probably move \$20K into CDs, one short-term and one longer-term from the gift received earlier this year.
  - Fiscal year ended Nov. 30
  - We are “in a good place.”
- JS - Motion to get involved in the Colorado Gives Day program, Steve second  
TR – Have until Aug. 1 to apply

Committee Reports:

**Museum:**

- 202 adults, 19 children. Still up from last year.
- \$50 membership/donation; \$5,000 Town of Meeker; \$162 Donation Jar
- Thanks to Tim Leff who donated his time and labor to hang lights in front of the museum
- Christmas decorations are up; providing hot chocolate after the Parade of Lights
- Have Christmas ornaments with logo, mugs and T-shirts coming (delayed)
- Ordered postcards to invite people to quarterly meeting, didn't receive them; ordered rubber stamps and card stock instead

**Museum Lighting Committee:**

- BA - sent plans out for lighting for Room 6, haven't heard back yet, have a commitment for the materials to be provided, just waiting on the plans; fluorescents will have to be removed before the new LED lights will be installed
- JS – Anticipated date of completion?
- BA - Waiting on planner/designer

**Accessions:**

- Nothing received

**HCC: (TRR)**

- people have been in and looked at the location for events, some things still to be completed
- JS - Who can use it and at what price? Suggested putting together a series of lectures/presentations about the history of RBC in a “fireside chat” sort of setting; themed meetings at this facility to hear our county stories (e.g. music)?
  - ☐ Moved to form a “History Lives” committee; second by PA
  - ☐ Jay is chair of committee; BA, BG, TL on committee

**Milk Creek: (JS)**

- sign design is almost complete, at which point the signs will go to the printer
- installation next spring?
- TL: outside of pavilion is completely done with staining, ¼ of inside started but stopped by weather

**Landmarking: (Bob A./Sandra)**

- Is the CLG part of the Historical Society or the RBC Historical Preservation Board?
  - SB – Landmarking is a specific thing in historic preservation circles, above and beyond being designated on the state/nat'l register, achieved through CLG; would like to reserve the use of the word Landmarking for that process; will start again this spring with new commissioners in place, hope to get that done this summer
- BA – Conflicting language in the town ordinance that says they will preserve historic buildings in the downtown area, but that is not being done; have offered to help educate and provide assistance to people; educational process; going to start meeting with 11 or 12 eligible to be in the National Historic District; can get funds for an architect to provide guidance
- KB - Whalin's house: possibility of a newspaper article or series of articles about historic properties?
- JS – Resolution is a statement from us to the town of Meeker saying we support landmarking and the preservation of historic buildings?
- BA – designates the town council as the historic preservation board; they aren't experts
- SB – 5 areas in town ordinances that have conflicting terms; town council is in charge of \$5,000 grants and historic preservation with no knowledge or understanding; recommending someone help them make their evaluations
- will send email of letter proposal for board to vote on

- TR – there's confusion about the History Colorado task force, the RBC Historical Preservation Board and the Historical Society; need to be very clear who we're representing when we're out in the community
- BA – Problem with Town of Meeker is that it would cost a property owner \$1800 to be designated because they hire an outside consultant
- JS – Our role is that of a “watchdog” to inform and educate; resolution
- KB – Talking points? So that we're all on the same page.
- SL – Comment on proposal: If I was working for the town, I would take this very negatively; suggest a letter with a “we're here to help you” standpoint
- JS moved for SB and BA to draft that letter for board approval; seconded SL
- PDF materials from Mark Rodman to be uploaded to the website
- TR – Main St Program is developing a facade squad; reminding them of the need for historic preservation

**Rural Schools:** (Ellen Reichert)

- belfry should be done at Coal Creek School by end of Dec.; received a \$200 donation from someone whose family
- still researching for our book

**Rangely Standing Committee:** (Gaila Bell)

- digital copy of Barn Quilt Tour video will be made available

**Special Committee Reports:**

**Bank Robbery Trail:** (KB)

- gave a presentation to the town board
- after Christmas will start working on signage, etc.
- discussion of signage at cemetery with cemetery district board to show history of surrounding area
- SL: digital mapping opportunity

**Nomination Committee:** (TR)

- seeking new members

**Unfinished Business:**

- 2019 calendar (attached)
- Feb. 12 planning meeting/retreat/board members only: KB moved, JS second

**Bylaws and Articles:**

- resolutions will be necessary to reaffirm things (committees, etc.)
- policies and procedures are separate from bylaws
- tabled until next meeting; email request for changes and comments to

- president@
- JS – we need some discussion among the board on certain issues (i.e. succession plan for officers)
  - set a special board meeting for 5:45 p.m. Jan. 8 specifically to review the bylaws; need a quorum; moved NT/2<sup>nd</sup> JS

**Membership development** – already discussed

**Volunteer development** – nothing yet

- setting up a tree tomorrow morning, one of the nonprofits in the circle on the courthouse lawn, involved in parade
- anyone who wants to join can meet at 4:30 p.m. in front of the Halandras Bldg. in cowboy or pioneer attire, followed by refreshments and so forth at the museum and the cafe

**New Business:**

- TR: Meeting with accountant on Dec. 10; will discuss audit
- KB: Would like to thank TR for all the work she has put in
- JB: injury prevented him from completing some work he had planned to accomplish
- BA: Colorado Preservation conference Feb. 4-7 in Denver

Adjourned: 7:37 p.m.