

Rio Blanco County Historical Society
Board Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2020
Heritage Culture Center, Meeker

Called to order 5:50 p.m.

Attending: Teresia Reed, Niki Turner, Kay Bivens, Trudy Burri, Jay Sullivan, Bob Amick, Libby Morton, Joann Gardner

Additions to the Agenda:

BA - Nomination of Trudi Burri, Nancy Harmon Richardson as board members

JS - Would like to add discussion of a complete reorganization of RBCHS

MOTION to approve agenda with additions by KB, JS

Minutes of November meeting:

MOTION to approve by KB, JS

New Board Members Welcome:

- Packets handed out, including amended bylaws, mission statement and role of nonprofit boards and board members
- Discussion of amended bylaws including new bylaws regarding president's position and barn quilt tour project

Reorganization of RBCHS

JS - Would like to add a marketing department; two products: large screen TV in HCC and one in the museum with the idea of showing current project, website, volunteer opportunities, and publicize events taking place at the HCC

TR - Suggested new board member Chris Babcock head that project

BA - Proposed an outdoor LED display in a previous grant proposal, could include that or add to that; could be interactive

JS - Marketing needs to be a front and center activity; perhaps needs to be a paid position

BA - exterior kiosks are coming down in price

KB - would sign for walking tours be different?

JS - one sign or rotating display could take care of all the signage needs

KB - museum sign needs to be revamped, we need to have a sign for people to see what we have to offer

TR - will research

BA - suggested Castle Rock company that did video displays for History Colorado

Committee Alignment Process

Refer to spreadsheet for committee assignments

Contact TR with questions or to serve on a committee

Need to revisit bylaws for requirements of attendance for board meetings

Discussion about Brandon - JS doesn't think he should remain on the board, BA thinks he should as our only youth representative; JS says he was named to the board for the potential contributions he could make, but his lack of attendance means he should not be named as a director; BA says he was recruited to be the liaison between the RBCHS and community youth

MOTION: KB moved to table discussion about BL until next meeting when BA can talk to BL and determine where he stands and what he would like to do; JS opposes based on how long it has taken to take action; BA will have an answer by the next meeting

Committee Reports

Museum: LM

(see attached report)

- In discussion with a man from Arizona who is bringing a stagecoach and 8-horse team for the 4th of July; stagecoach is the one used in the Wells Fargo commercial
- Craig man is bringing two buggies and horses for the 4th of July
- Gift shop: Have as much money in the account as we did when we started; ordered books yesterday; Bob Silbernagel's books are now available on Amazon
- Visits were down in January

TR - security systems in museum are working with 2 exceptions; having the cameras is a deterrent even if they aren't working

- Staff meeting with plans for 2020
- Found an inexpensive motion sensor with a bell for staff to hear when someone comes in the front door and staff is working in the back
- Continuing to clear out nonessential items; will contact family members with duplicate items to be sold or returned

BA - scrapbooks from Fortnightly Club, etc., haven't been able to get an answer as to their location; mother was president of a number of those clubs and created those scrapbooks, wants to make sure they aren't thrown out

Accessions: KB

- Howays brought in some items; "celluloid"

Bank Robbers Trail: LM

- ERBM Board meeting; verified \$500 donation for signage
- Talked to Leon Stout about power plant; very little information to be had
- TB: son and TJ Shelton did a project on the power plant in high school, will ask him
- BA: check Colorado Electric magazine
- Will meet with Rural School committee about their signs
- Went to the Herald to talk about design of signs

HCC: TR

- Facility is booked between CNCC, MACC and the Chamber
- Still need to unpack president's office and clean out backroom
- Need to evaluate storage options going forward
- JS: 1) concerns that the groups using the building are associated with the RBCHS and the BoCC -- TR: No. As long as it's being used.
- Based on strategic plans, this is supposed to be a place to generate income; currently ask for a contract and a credit card on file for damages, but are not asking for payment; needs to be considered in the future
- In the spring need to organize to clean, caulk and prepare the building for painting; county has offered to spray the exterior but we'll need to paint the trim
- We have an MOU with the county for the buildings, Milk Creek, etc.
- County's historic preservation plan in Master Plan
- JS: Donations accepted for housecleaning, etc? TR: Yes

Milk Creek: JS

- Snowed in

Coal Creek: JC (out sick)

- Still working on getting the belfry; reservations getting set; will be graded in the spring and have requests out for that

Mustang Makeover: DM (on vacation)

- Gathering money for next year's event

Website & Technology: TR

- Kasey has been very helpful, hoping CB will come on as an add'l person to work on the site

Internet in Garrison: TR

- No internet service in garrison; needed for security system; bill for Cimarron to install
- Can either have internet installed separately for \$40 a month or pay \$540 one time and connect to HCC internet
- MOTION: KB moved to approve Cimarron link between HCC and Garrison for \$540; NT 2nd; approved
- NT - need to check on address for HCC on Google maps

Landmarking: BA

- Setting up conference call with History Colorado; planning to submit by April 1 deadline (signage/plaques for 31 buildings on Nat'l Historic Register exclusively)

New Business: TR

- Is attending Colorado Preservation Initiative conference in Denver this week to preserve and maintain relationships made last year; CPI is comping TR's conference fees

- Have had conversations about fixing up Meeker Hotel with Arturo and will be looking for funding resources; acting as an advisory board
- BA - need to get an HSA for Meeker Hotel to have an evaluation from state historical society to get grant funding
- JS - we need volunteers, we can't do all the work on all of our projects as the board; board should be more of a think tank to come up with the ideas, etc., and then find the volunteers; finding ways to organize them, get them involved, etc.
- KB - need to remember the other projects we've been discussing; cemetery kiosks, activity at Meeker incident site, etc.

Motion to adjourn: JS/TB; meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Next meeting: February 25, 2020 at 5:45 p.m.