

RBCHS Minutes
July 30, 2019
Old West Heritage Culture Center

5:50 p.m. called to order

SL absent for this meeting and next; JS absent;
NT, TR, PA, LM, BL, KB, JB, BA, SB present

SB asked to be added to the agenda
With that addition moved to approve NT, KB

Minutes of last meeting
Moved to approve PA, KB

Committee reports:

Museum: LM/TR

- 793 adults to date for July/219 children (250 on July 4 between 11-5) compared to 612 last year
- stagecoach/parade - Anson Contracting? brought their horses to pull the stagecoach, paid them for lunch at the 4th of July BBQ
- \$21K in bank is 2nd half of BoCC payment
- donations of \$449 and \$373
- one new membership

Gift Shop: LM

- ran out of T-shirts, made \$1136, paid \$26 to vendors, \$70 to Ansons (see above)
 - \$340 for TIWIR books
 - cash deposit \$550
 - purchases \$465.78 for T-shirts, Nathan Meeker books, Utes Must Go books
 - donated a book to a couple from Switzerland
 - (BA) suggested adding "Dr. at Timberline" to the book list
 - ordered more T-shirts from Teresa Mack; suggested a Milk Creek T-shirt
 - Harkers came last week (gift shop is funded by and in memory of Marie Harker)
- ... picture for newsletter with history of Marie and Joyce)

New Acquisition: LM

- 1940 Buick, fully-restored, offered to put in the museum by the Ruckman's
- place for it in the back room
- (TR) family wants to retain ownership of the vehicle; finding out if there are additional insurance requirements for the county
- (SB) what was the reason for not accepting loans?
- (TR) there were items people came to take back that couldn't be found or there were issues with the heirs
- (PA) moved to make an exception to keep the car contingent on reviewing the legal requirements, 2nd by (KB)
- (BA) contingency loan policies from other museums
- (NT) suggested contacting Rangely Auto Museum on their policies

Accessions: KB/PA

Bank Robbers Trail: KB

- gathering sign information; talked to Coal Creek School; ERBM has donated \$500 to trail for signage; getting signs made by them in their shop may be more reasonable
- picked up sample pamphlets in Maybell
- talked to Stephanie about printing/designing

Landmarking: SB

- met with Commissioner Gary Moyer to discuss historic preservation; he is a proponent of cultural tourism
- 2015 numbers on cultural tourism spending in Colorado was \$7.2 billion; everything else \$6 billion; tend to spend more and stay longer
- 2000 museum 1798 visitors, 2651 2015; 5,131 last year and well on our way to breaking that this year
- mentioned signs for historic district... if we do just signs and a brochure, the BoCC will not give us a grant, but they will pay share of matching funds; county has 6 or 7 buildings
- he is very keen about doing something downriver at the site of the massacre, including possible purchase of the property
- if we go ahead with a landmarking program and CLG, the county could apply for funds directly for the purchase without requiring a match; most notable thing is county can then get funds from the federal gov't, funding is not as limited as state grant program
- declaring local landmarks, criteria are generally the same, but are not as rigidly interpreted; there are buildings we could include that wouldn't be included otherwise; cheaper and quicker if we do it as a CLG (doing our own landmarking); building that are designated, owners are eligible for federal and state tax credits
- (TR) Gary doesn't like being asked for money because he doesn't see what we've done as a historical society;
- (SB) without the signs no one knows we have a historic district
- include a sign for the massacre site?
- suggested a sign between the garrison and the museum depicting a tour map with the schools, massacre, upriver, walking tour all on one sign
- (BA) that was the original reason for doing a video kiosk, part of original grant proposal
- (TR) got a call from Fairfield Foundation; according to their documentation they sent us a check in May, according to our documentation we haven't seen it; also have two checks for Meeker Mustang Makeover that haven't appeared
- (KB) should I stop working on signs for this project?
- (SB) that's my recommendation
- (BA) according to state people, need to have regular meetings about the signage
- (SB) plaques are standard, all over the US; other signs, recommend commercial properties have one size, homes have another; photo, 2 sentences, date of construction
- (BA) had planned a standard format, History Colorado wants to have extensive involvement in the signage

HCC : TR

- discussion of use of space by other groups, individuals; reviewed strategic plan and vision for space
- to make this a more public/useful space: need to finish proposal to turn this into a theatre, have \$7,000 from the Fairfield Center that needs to be used
- obtained a proposal for control of lighting, having a projector, screen, etc., what we would need to rent space out and generate some revenue; could be done by end of August

- decisions would need to be made about who will clean, who will instruct people in the use of the equipment, etc.
- BA: requested uplighting
- TR: asked for specifics
- NT moved to accept proposal, second by JB

Coal Creek:

- belfry progress underway; working around the weather

Mustang Makeover:

- collected more than \$5,000

Website & Technology: TR

- progress is slow; review and continue to make changes
- how do we use the website to build membership? Maybe add different membership levels, ie. "friends of the museum" for out of state folks
- what is the value?
- (SB) bulk mail?
- (SB) look at bylaws and see what membership status is
- (BL) has an Instagram account now; can share photos

Outdoor Museum: JB

- needs some help to finish up projects

Old Business:

Budget (TR)

- we have the money we need to support the projects we have going; let's try to finish as many things as we can
- worked to align the budget with what we discussed at the strategic planning meeting
- if you need money for something, you need to request it
- bought a new computer
- Rural Schools made more than \$800

Teddy Roosevelt impersonator @ next quarterly meeting - tabled (Deirdre/Kay)

Sept. 29 - invitations going out to the Ute tribes and membership for ceremony at Milk Creek

Caitlin - photos of museum, Milk Creek logo

Grant Apps: BA

- most of the work is done, need to finalize and expand; state likes the idea of a consultant; would like to see photos

Digitizing TIWIR to ebook format

- pages could be scanned, possibly

Placemaking/Town of Meeker - Comprehensive plan

- Moving Meeker Forward
- pop-ups

New Business:

- moved to table realigning committees NT, 2nd PA

Rewriting Bank Robbery for 2020

- KB tabled for next meeting, JB 2nd

Membership Development

- see above (website) and think about “why would someone want to be a member”
- reach out to new community members with an invitation (PA - Sandy & Johnny Whalin)
- reminders to update dues
- find out how to get a list of newcomers, send them an invitation and a loaf of bread

BA:

talked to Hallie and Gary Moyer about Pageant; should move it back to the 4th because it cuts the attendance; need to put stake in the ground now for rewriting
used to be a display case with notebooks/scrapbooks from women’s clubs, don’t know where it is?

PA moved to adjourn/JB second

Adjourned at 7:37 p.m.