



## **MINUTES OF THE CHAFFEE COUNTY HERITAGE AREA ADVISORY BOARD**

**Thursday, March 1, 2018**

**Methodist Mountain Room, Touber Building, Salida**

**Members Present:** Lee Coveney, Kristi Jefferson, Andrea Earley Coen, Susanna Spaulding, Cliff Mestel, Susan Nies, Alison Ramsey

**Absent:** Melanie Roth, John McCarthy, Nancy Roberts, Emily Katsimpalis

### **1. Approval of Minutes from 1/11/18**

There were no concerns or discussion of past minutes

Motion – Lee

2<sup>nd</sup> – Cliff

AIFO – yes

### **2. 2017 SHF Grant: Ranch Surveys and Register Nominations Update**

Tom & Laurie Simmons of Front Range Research Associates are doing a great job plugging away on research for the surveys, including:

National Archives

Census & Publications research

Current owner interviews

CU Special Collections

It sounds like they might be planning a visit in both March and July.

Currently working on 3 ranches: Usnick (Burkley), Nancy Roberts/ Arrowpoint Cattle Co, Hill Ranch

Also working on the Garfield Miner's Cabin, the Gas Creek School and the Post Office in Turret.

### **3. CLG Discussion – Emily & Melanie**

Emily & Melanie were not at the meeting, so they didn't report out, but April Franklin shared a little about the CLG Grant Writing Workshop she attended at the CPI Saving Places Conference in early February.

The question still remains, if we were to pursue a possible CLG designation in Chaffee County, who would take the role of the staff person to administrate the grant. Christy Barton's name came up, as the Chaffee County Planner, as a possibility but it generally doesn't seem like she would have the time to administer this grant. April suggested inviting her to the next Board meeting to pitch the idea to, and offered to make the invitation.

#### **4. Oral Histories w/ ranching families**

Melanie & Nancy missed today's meeting because they were in Colorado Springs, along with Nathan Ward (videographer) doing interviews with Joe Cogan's brother Jack, and his 2 sisters (nuns).

In follow up to this, we discussed what may be the best venue for posting/ linking these videos, and the audio of Frank McMurry's interview. Alison suggested housing them on the Heritage Area website, and having a link on the Chaffee County website, and possibly with CCVB as well.

Lee mentioned that the Conservancy is still interested in helping support interview costs but needs to see a budget before they can move forward with support.

#### **5. General Outreach – Hutchinson Homestead 150<sup>th</sup>**

Andrea is still nailing down event dates, but shared details about the upcoming event AgriSummit: Agritourism & Local Foods in the Heart of the Rockies Region.

Dates include:

- Friday, April 20 – Day-long AgriSummit at the Salida SteamPlant
- Saturday, April 21 – Agritourism tours in Chaffee County and screening at the SteamPlant of the documentary film 'Farmers for America'
- April 20-22 – Savor Chaffee County

#### **6. Additional Project Ideas**

Cliff is interested in seeing if BV Heritage would want to take control over the Pine Creek School, which is currently federally owned.

## **7. Byway display at DIA**

Colorado's Scenic Byways are going to be highlighted in a display at DIA, in the Y junction, and will include some photos of the Collegiate Peaks Byway. Alison thought it might be May that the display is up, but will check to confirm the timeline. Anyone traveling through DIA while the display is up is encouraged to take a few photos for our records/ potential marketing.

## **8. Special Review; request for comments**

### **Update regarding the Oak Leaf Solar Array dispute**

Lee left the Board meeting early to attend today's final public hearing on the Oak Leaf Solar Array dispute – regarding the development of 10 acres of solar panels through an Xcel Energy grant at the junction of Hwy 285 and CR140 in Salida. It has been a complex issue with a LOT of concerns from the public, proximal landowners, commissioners, etc. The county planning commission originally denied the plan, and the company appealed, hence this final meeting. Lee's role in attendance as the CCHAAB representative has been specifically to speak to protecting the scenic byway. She wasn't sure if there would be a final decision made today or not.

## **9. Additional Opportunities**

The Wild & Scenic Film Festival, a joint fundraiser between GARNA & CCC, is coming up:

Friday, March 9 in BV

Saturday, March 10 in Salida – Saturday also has the additional opportunity of a film screening about biomimicry followed by a Q&A with the film's directors.

These are great events, and also a good way to become a member of both organizations!

The Boathouse is also donating 10% of proceeds on the 10<sup>th</sup> to both organizations, so go there first!

***Next meeting: Thursday, April 5 – Methodist Mountain Room, Toubert Building, Salida***