

Kiowa County Historic Preservation Commission

Regular Meeting

Monday, March 4, 2013 – 6:00 PM

NPS Office – Eads, CO

Present: Alexa Roberts; Jeff Campbell; Kelly Courkamp; Kim Barlow; Sharon Johnson

Absent: Betsy Barnett; Danny Richards

Guests: Rod Johnson; Lorrie Lynn Chase; Bo Arnold

1. Call to order – The regular meeting was called to order by Chairperson Roberts at 6:07 PM. A quorum was present.
2. Agenda – Campbell moved to amend the agenda presented by moving New Business to after Opening Remarks to accommodate our guests. Motion seconded by Barlow. All voted in favor.
3. Opening remarks – Roberts greeted the guests present and thanked them for their participation in the National and State Register nomination process that included their properties. Chase was there representing her home, the Crow-Hightower House (round house on Maine Street in Eads) a nominated resource to the National Register of Historic Places. Johnson was there representing KCEDF's Jackson Barn, a nominated resource to the State of Colorado's Register of Historic Places. Other nominated resources include: Eads School Gym; Eads Community Church (Methodist Church) Holly Hotel in Haswell all to the National Register of Historic Places and the Sheridan Lake School (Kiowa Albright Memorial Center) and the Missouri-Pacific Railway Depot in Haswell to the State Register of Historic Places.
4. New business –
  - a. Review of New Nominations – Courkamp had prepared and emailed an informational document to the nominees in advance of the meeting. Most of the questions the nominees had regarding their nominated properties had been answered by that document. Courkamp reiterated that no restrictions are placed on private property owners as to what they may do with their property(s) but that registration status would be affected if major alterations were made to the properties after inclusion. Courkamp explained the benefits of registration and the importance of that historic significance to the heritage of Kiowa County. Courkamp informed the group that the State Eligibility Board will meet on May 17, 2013 to review the nominations. The review process is open to the public. Most of the KCHPC members will attend the proceedings. If the nominees to the National Register are accepted, they will be forwarded to a national review board for consideration. If the state nominees are accepted, they will be placed on the Colorado Register of Historic Places and will automatically be placed on the Kiowa County Local Register of Historic Places. Roberts informed the nominees that History Colorado and KCHPC will be available to assist them when questions arise regarding their properties. Chase and Arnold thanked KCHPC for the opportunity to have their property nominated and then exited the meeting.
  - b. Letters of support – Johnson presented a letter for editing from KCHPC to the National/State Review Committee in support of the nominated resources. Letters of

support will be solicited from the towns of Eads, Haswell and Sheridan Lake, from the Kiowa County Board of Commissioners and from Kiowa County Economic Development Foundation as well.

5. Minutes – Campbell moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Second by Barlow. Motion carried.
6. Reports –
  - a. Meeting with the BOCC – Roberts reported that she, Campbell and Johnson had attended the February 27, 2013 meeting of the Kiowa County Board of Commissioners’ meeting to discuss communications matters between the two entities. KCHPC requested of the BOCC that KCHPC minutes be presented for publication in the Kiowa County Press. The BOCC voted unanimously to allow this as a way to demonstrate to county residents the importance of preservation of the county’s historic resources. Johnson analogized the loss of remaining structures at the Towner Bus Tragedy Site to one of the reasons there have been problems having the site memorialized as it should be and the need to preserve as many historic structures as do remain within the county. The BOCC acknowledged the need for preservation of remaining historic sites if possible. This led to the discussion of the possible demolition of the Rialto Hotel a site KCHPC would like to see repurposed. The BOCC cited public safety issues as their main concern. As the building is ineligible for inclusion on local/state/national registers because of its lack of architectural integrity, KCHPC concurs with the BOCC’s determination unless another solution can be found soon. Roberts informed the BOCC that matters involving historic preservation issues/questions from state and/or federal agencies could be referred to KCHPC for consideration thereby lessening the burden on the BOCC as that is the job of KCHPC. The BOCC received this information warmly. Both KCHPC and the BOCC agreed that better communication was essential between the two entities as KCHPC serves as a function of the BOCC.
7. Unfinished business –
  - a. Reimbursement for Saving Places Conference – Johnson will send receipts to Dan Corson at History Colorado for reimbursement to Roberts and Johnson for expenses incurred attending the Saving Places Conference in Denver on February 6-8, 2013. Continuing education is an annual state requirement of certified local government entities of which KCHPC is a member.
  - b. Review of Heritage Trail Panel – Roberts presented a map sent by Kelli Heppler (the graphic designer for the Heritage Trail Kiosk Panels in the Eads roadside park) of the Kiowa County Heritage Trails panel. The map is still not correct. Several iterations of KCHPC’s designs have been submitted over the past three years and yet none of them has been incorporated into the final product. Roberts, working with Janet Frederick of the National Park Service, will send another version directly to Heppler in hopes that a correct version will finally be constructed.
8. Public forum – none
9. Announcements – none
10. Adjourn – Barlow moved to adjourn. Second by Campbell. Motion carried.