

Minutes of the Public Hearing

April 19, 2001

Members Present: Dave Primus, Lyda Hardy, Mac McGraw & Ruth Dolezal

Speakers Present: Ray Rossman

Dave Primus, vice chairman, officially opened the Dorchester Guard Station Public Hearing. He asked Lyda for the proof of publication in the Times. Ray Rossman had posted the access road, and the trading post nearby. Dave then asked Lyda if we had the Official application, attachments and general reference map. Lyda said these were all in order, plus the other relevant documents.

Then, Dave asked Ray Rossman to present his nomination. Ray told that there were still 2 USFS Guard Stations in Gunnison County. He is working to get both of them to the National Historic Register. This Guard Station is the only building left of the Dorchester Townsite. It was built in 1905, and is located above the Taylor Reservoir. The very first telephone into Gunnison County was to this structure for fire notification. Then in approximately 1924, a Forest Service Ranger was looking for a good location for his family. He moved into this cabin and repaired it. Around the 1950's, the cabin was given a concrete floor, and now it has a steel roof on it. Most of the time it is an abandoned building. The lost skiers from Aspen used it, a few winters ago. It is no longer a Guard Station, but is used for volunteer and seasonal housing at times. Ray showed a photo from the Aspen Historical Society of the Dorchester Townsite. In the early 1900's, Dorchester was the hub of mining activity.

Next, Dave asked if there were any questions or comments from the public. He also asked for any opposition, or other comments. There were none. Then he closed the public portion of the Public Hearing.

Mac and Dave agreed that this was a very worthwhile designation for our County Register. Lyda said she appreciated Ray bringing this in to us. Also, she suggested to have an interpretive sign put up there. Ray and Dave agreed. Lyda said we should put this site and the Bomber Crash Site on one of our circle tours.

Mac made a motion to have the nomination go on to the BOCC. Ruth 2nd the motion. All the board members voted. It was unanimous to continue the process. Dave closed the public hearing.