

Gunnison County Historic Preservation Commission

Regular Meeting – May 15, 2024

Members Present: LeeAnn Mick, Heather Thiessen-Reily, Shelley Popke, David Russell, Al Caniff, Jody Reeser

Others Present: Zoe Keith (student intern), Mike Pelletier (staff)

LeeAnn (2nd David) made a motion to approve minutes from April 2024. It was approved unanimously.

The new student intern, Zoe Keith, introduced herself. She is a history major at Western and has been working on the Somerset project, including an exhibit about Somerset located at Western.

The group asked Mike to put information on the HPC website for the public to get the zoom link for meetings, as well as meeting minutes.

Heather described the progress her students are making with oral histories in the Somerset area. They are also working with Somerset locals to get approval to do a drone flight over the area. They are hoping to do more fieldwork in July. In the fall, they are hoping to have a celebration in Somerset to present their findings, as well as have presentations by local experts on Somerset history.

The group discussed the best approach to simplify and improve the BoCC resolutions pertaining to the HPC. Mike said he would provide another version of the draft that has all the additions and strikethroughs removed. This should make the document much easier for the group to digest. He said he will send this soon for the group to discuss at the next meeting.

The group discussed this year's historic agricultural significance award. Zoe said she would get the ad posted in the local paper for how to submit nominations and have the bills sent to Mike. Jody said she would share last year's ad with Zoe.

The group discussed the request for comments that was received from the US Forest Service regarding expansion of the Monarch Ski Resort into the No Name basin area. The group asked Mike to reply with the following points:

1. The HPC supports exploring the creation of a Monarch Pass Archaeological District.
2. They suggest more efforts to avoid and/or mitigate historic resources associated with area known as Marla's Site B1, where a new tower is proposed.
3. They suggest protection methods should be as self-enforcing as possible, noting that not driving snow cats on only 18 inches of snow or greater is difficult to adhere to or enforce.

The group discussed the current potential landmark listing sites. It was mentioned that Colorado PBS plans on interviewing locals in the coming months for a special they are currently working on for the Hartman Castle.

Jody said that History Colorado sent her a video on how to research a building's history. She will forward it to the group. The meeting adjourned at 6:25.