

Teller Historic and Environmental Coalition

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, January 29, 2014

Midland Depot Annex, Divide CO

Chairman Dave Martinek called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

Present: Dee Breitenfeld, Craig Haney, Cindy Haney, Jane Lass, Dave Martinek, George Parkhurst, Jean Rodeck, Norm Steen and Marion Vance.

Absent: Sherri Albertson, Jane Mannon and Mary Menz.

Dick Unzelman held an MDAD Committee meeting prior to the Board meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the November 9, 2013 board meeting were unanimously approved; motion by Jane Lass, seconded by Dee.

Treasurer's Report: George presented the end-of- year Financial Report. Due to the volume of funds processed through the Coalition's bank account in 2012 (i.e., from SHF grant proceeds), George filed Form 990 for the year. He assumes it was accepted by the IRS as he has not been asked for further information.

Committee Reports:

Midland Depot: Dick reported that the Stabilization Project funded by SHF has been completed. Funds for the required Easement have been received. The Archaeology Report has been submitted and approved. Still lingering is the question of the artifacts in possession of Archaeologist Richard Carrillo. Richard is of the opinion that they must be turned over to a qualified Curator. Many questions about who qualifies. Dee is to check with the State Archaeologist. Dick submitted the Final Financial Report; some additional information is required for SHF official approval. The only action items remaining are the Project Summary Report and a refund of unused funds to SHF.

Next on the MDAD agenda:

Secure funding for preparation of the Development Design and Budget for the next phase; Meet with Pete regarding transfer of ownership;

Excavate the dump; and

Schedule summer work plans: installation of temporary flooring, clean up property surrounding the depot, and invite the metal detector folks back for a more systematic and in-depth grid search of the grounds.

Heritage Tourism: Because we have several new Board members, Marion gave an overview of the Heritage Tourism project, beginning with production of the popular tear-off maps showing Teller attractions at a glance, and summarizing progress on production of a mobile app. The app is to guide visitors on a driving tour of the county, organized in seven segments. Content (i.e., text, photographs, videos & audio clips) for all segments is due in final draft by the end of February. Audio and video clips will follow. Norm Steen suggested contacting the Gold Camp Victorian Society whose members are known for their portrayals of some of Teller County's most colorful characters. Definitely no lack of interesting material! The challenge is to pare it down to a manageable length.

Board discussion centered on promotion and dissemination. How are we going to advertise the app -- let people know it is available and how to download it? A number of good suggestions were offered: publicity in local media, presence on state and other websites, distribution of posters, cooperation with convention centers and tourist bureaus, presence on "Trip Advisor" etc. Some conversation about key words for iTunes (which will host the app) most likely to attract potential visitors' attention. Cindy to check with young people to see what would capture their fancy.

Old Business:

Correspondence and Expenses: Dave passed around a reading folder with all pertinent correspondence and transactions since last Board meeting.

Organizations for which THE can/will accept donations in 2014. George moved and Norm seconded a motion that the Coalition accept donations for the following organizations: Midland Days at Divide, Inc.; Rural Land Preservation Group; Victor Penguins Hockey Club, as well as other current or future members of THE Coalition as it may choose, until such time as the organizations are accorded 501 (c) 3 non-profit status by IRS.

Drummond Print: The print is currently on display at Community Partnership. Hopefully, the new owners of the Clark Ranch will choose to buy a copy. On an encouraging note, those new owners (the Texas Group) are evidently rail fans who could become interested in the Depot project that is their neighbor to the west.

Membership: Mary has prepared an updated membership list.

Newsletter: Material for the spring issue is due to Mary by Feb. 28.

Acceptance of Artifacts from Virginia Shippey: Dave and Dee formally accepted donation of 26 metal artifacts from the Colorado Midland RR (collected by her late husband Harold Shippey). Virginia had prepared a list of the artifacts, with a detailed description of each. Dee in turn was prepared with 'official' papers for THE archives. Dave took photos of each artifact. Dave will write an official "Thank You" to Virginia.

New Business:

Midland Days. This (5th) annual event will again be held John Wesley Ranch on May 10th which, coincidentally is National Railroad Day. Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The theme is "Tunnels in Time" featuring the 18 tunnels on the Colorado Midland and Midland Terminal railroads. On a motion from George, seconded by Dee, the Board voted once again to co-sponsor the event. Other sponsors are the Divide Chamber and Midland Days, which is now incorporated. Proceeds will be divided three ways and used -- principally -- to support the restoration of the Midland Depot.

Election of Craig Haney to the Board of Directors: Dee proposed, and Jane seconded a motion to approve Craig Haney as a member of the Board of Directors. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Election of Cindy Haney and Jean Rodeck as Alternates: On a motion by Dee, seconded by Norm Cindy and Jean were unanimously approved as alternates to, respectively, Marion and Dee.

Welcome to all!

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Marion Ritchey Vance
Secretary