

Minutes of Meeting
Kootenai County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)
July 20, 2022

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Courtney Beebe at 3:32 pm.

1. Opening Protocols:

Commissioner Brown gave opening protocols.

2. Roll Call:

Present were Courtney Beebe, Russ Brown, Jon Mueller, and Laurie Mauser. Joe Piedmont was excused. Walter Burns and Don Walters were not in attendance and were not excused.

3. Introduce Guests:

Three guests attended the meeting: Ronald C. McGhee and Brett Haney who live on Big Sky Drive, and a student observer, Jordan Morgan from Hayden Lake.

B. Business (Action Items)

Agenda Item #1 Approval of Minutes June 15, 2022.

Chairperson Beebe presented the minutes. Commissioner Mueller moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Chairperson Beebe called for a vote to approve. All approved in a unanimous vote.

Commissioner Mueller recommended adjusting the agenda for this meeting and moved that the public comment agenda item be moved to the beginning of the meeting and limit it to 10 minutes for efficiency to complete the business of the commission at this meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mauser. All voted in favor.

Agenda Item # 2 Public Comment.

Mr. McGhee and Mr. Haney made a presentation to the commission and presented a large map/illustration concerning the Huetter Corridor being considered as an alternate north-south by-pass route for US-95 by ITD and study groups. They have met with the ITD District 1 Engineer and Sr. Environmental Planner and were assured that other routes would be studied. They are in hopes that a better route rather than through Huetter will be found. They asked the KCHPC to help save what is left of the Rathdrum Prairie and aid in protection of the Huetter Road as a Scenic Rural Corridor once the bypass is canceled. Both of them live within the potential proposed by-pass corridor.

Comments and questions to Mr. McGhee and Mr. Haney were made by KCHPC with summary comments being that the project will have historic properties and landscapes evaluated prior to the selection of a by-pass route by ITD under NEPA regulations. If there

are significant historic properties in this possible corridor, KCHPC could be a stakeholder in the process.

Agenda Item # 3 Review 2022-2023 Budget .

Chairperson Beebe reported that we have had approval of our proposed budget presented to the BOCC on May 31. Several line items were not funded but overall, we were successful.

Agenda Item # 4 Sara Ruggles Oral History Training for Fall 2022 .

Chairperson Beebe reported that Sara Ruggles will be doing county-wide training in October for \$500. A motion was made by Commissioner Mueller to pay Ms. Ruggles out of our current fiscal year operating budget. Commissioner Mauser seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners commented that this was a real value for the expense.

Agenda Item #5 J.P Johnson Century Farm Award .

Chairperson Beebe reported that the Century Farm award was presented to the Johnson family by ISHS Director Don Pischner at the Johnson family reunion held in Coeur d'Alene July 9, 2022. Chairperson Beebe and Commissioner Mauser attended. Chairperson Beebe spoke to the gathering and expressed her thanks to the Johnsons for their participation in the Cougar Gulch study and support for the historic heritage of Cougar Gulch. A sign from the State of Idaho Historical Society and Dept. of Agriculture designating the Century Farm has been posted at the ranch. There was a front page article in the Coeur d'Alene Press and TV station coverage of the honor.

Agenda Item #6 Commissioner Subcommittee Updates on Action Items .

Farragut Meeting (Burns, Mueller, Mauser) :

No progress has been made for the upcoming meeting with Park managers. Commissioner Mauser volunteered to try to make an appointment with Park Manager for after the summer rush.

Post Falls Historical Society NRHP application for the Chapin Building (Beebe):

Chairperson Beebe reported that research for the application for the NRHP for the Chapin Building on 4th and Spokane St. in Post Falls has begun.

Feely Farm Research (Mauser) :

Commissioner Mauser reported that she has been in contact with Tag Jacklin (owner or manager) by email and that he and his Board of Directors are eager to go forward to help with research and recording of the farmstead. Commissioner Mauser will start the recording procedure with the intention that submittal to ISHPO will result in a concurrence of the KCHPC evaluation and that if eligible for the NRHP, the next step will be the nomination process.

Dalton Irrigation Canal:

Commissioner Mauser reported that she had made a reconnaissance survey of the Feller Ditch and surrounding Honeysuckle Beach at Hayden Lake area and questioned the eligibility of the ditch. But limited research and observations suggest that the ditch may be associated with the Lochaven Farms and/or Hayden Lake Dike. A water right for the point of diversion for the ditch dates to 1906 but no information was found to document the builder and area of use. ISHI inventory forms with maps and photos were completed for the ditch, the Hayden Lake Dike and Lochaven Farms. The farm buildings appear to be eligible for the NRHP and apparently not recorded. The KCHPC should conduct further research on this property. The proposed boat launch project at Honeysuckle Beach has been tabled so there will probably be no further study by the city of Hayden Lake and state and federal agencies, so no historic properties will receive further evaluation.

Copies of the ISHS site forms were sent to Bob Reisch, Hayden Lake resident who lives near the Feller Ditch and dike concerned about possible development. Site forms will be submitted to ISHPO at a latter date.

Funding Status of CLG Grant for Kootenai County Historic Preservation Plan :

Chairman Beebe reported that the grant has not yet been funded but expects that to happen early September when we can then proceed with our RFP for a contractor.

Cougar Gulch Historic Context Grant Completion (Beebe):

Commissioner Beebe reported that the final draft of the report was submitted on time (the extended deadline June 30) by contractor Sharon Boswell to Jody Bieze who submitted it to ISHPO. Commissioner Mauser and Chairperson Beebe reviewed the report before submittal. Both found the document to be an excellent product. A few revisions are expected after ISHPO review. One more time, Sharon Boswell went above and beyond in her efforts to provide accurate context and evaluation of a historic area of Kootenai County.

Idaho Heritage Conference September 19-22, 2022 :

To date, only Commissioner Mauser is attending the conference. Chairperson Beebe urged commissioners to attend if possible as it is a valuable training and collaboration event.

C. Adjourn

There being no further discussion of agenda items or public comment, Commissioner Brown moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mueller seconded the motion. The motion was carried. Chairperson Beebe adjourned the meeting at 4:15 pm.