



CHAFFEE COUNTY HERITAGE AREA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING AGENDA
Thursday, February 8, 2024 12pm-1:30pm
Methodist Room, Toubert Bldg, Salida or ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88568678592?pwd=bElOVloyQ1NlOGtubjFkWEExXQjJvQT09>

Meeting ID: 885 6867 8592

Passcode: 824438

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1. Melanie Roth – representing BV Heritage, 1/31/25	6. Andrea Earley Coen, Chair – representing Hutchinson Homestead & Learning Center, 1/31/25
2. Kathryn Dunleavy – representing Salida, 1/31/24	7. Art Hutchinson - Ranching interest, 1/31/25
3. Brandon Wolff - representing Chaffee County	8. - Suzy Kelly - Town of Buena Vista; historic preservation, Ranching Interest, 1/31/25
4. Kent Wood - mid-Valley representation/ scenic Byway/ BLM Resource Advisory Council, 1/31/26	9. - Recreation interest/ BLM/ Forest Service?
5. - Indigenous People's/ Cultural Heritage Education interest?	10. Wendy McDermott - Central Colorado Conservancy
11. Bonnie Davis - GARNA Board member	
12. at large/ S. end of County - Susanna Spaulding (until further notice!)	
Staff Member: Jason Marsden, GARNA	

Attendance: Wendy McDermott, Kent Wood, Melanie Roth, Andrea Coen, Bonnie Davis, Brandon Wolff, Suzy Kelly
Staff Liaison: Jason Marsden
Guests: Don Reimer, Adrienne Kuhn, Caitlynn Fortner

Perry Edwards, District Ranger, USFS - knows someone in their office who could be a good fit for the board. Andrea will send Bylaws, etc... - Melanie send emails address...

Agenda Items:

1. Review December Meeting Minutes

Bonnie -2nd
Melanie - 1st
AIFO - yes
None opposed
Passed

2. TravelStorys App project Update (Andrea)

The current participating byways include:

1. West Elk Loop
2. Pawnee Pioneer Trail

3. Gold Belt
4. South Platte
5. Silver Thread
6. Collegiate Peaks
7. Santa Fe Trail
8. Grand Mesa
9. Top of the Rockies
10. Guanella Pass
11. Mount Blue Sky?

The goal of the Colorado Byways Mobile Tour Project is to encourage the public to visit Colorado's many byways and by doing so, to increase visitation to outdoor recreational activities, as well as, communities and tourism-related services. To achieve this goal, the Gold Belt Tour Byway, in coordination with the Colorado Byways Program is developing a statewide effort to promote the Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways by educating and inspiring locals and tourists alike about the wide variety of outdoor recreational opportunities, including lesser-known opportunities, along with other sites of interest along Colorado's byways. This project will reach travelers with real-time, geolocated messaging to travelers using mobile audio technology that does not require Wi-Fi or cell service. The project envisions accessible mobile interpretation that will greatly enhance the traveling experience along byways, and lead the public from byway to byway to participate in and explore both popular and unfamiliar outdoor recreational activities. The contractor, TravelStoryGPS, specializes in creating these experiences in partnership with local organizations.

Questions from CCHAAB for follow up with Gold Belt Byway contact:

- Can we have a copy of the grant? Interest in what the metrics are
- Is there any cost to us?
- Is there a cap to the number of pinpoints we're being given?
- Are there going to be any infrastructure needs we will be responsible for?
- Examples of their most successful routes from TravelStoryGPS
- Is this something we should actually pass over to the Chamber or CCVB?
- Estimate of time requirement to participate?
- What types of sites/ info seeking?

3. Colorado Byways Commission Meeting Update (Jason)

- Lifted up 3 new nominations - the one through Victor/ one that got up to Walden, and 1 more. Now 16 from 13 byways that include electric byway program
- Delving into the plans for the annual get together May 1-4 in SLV/ Alamosa. Lots of tours. Los Caminos Antiguos is hosting the Symposium. Jason won't be able to attend, but it might be great if someone from here can go. A fair amount of time was spent electing officers. Registration is \$200 - there are scholarships available.
- Jason and Andrea will be meeting with Imogen Ainsworth on Feb. 26 in Poncha Springs
- The Byway Commission is 13 people and includes all of CO.
- Want to be able to guarantee that if you do the entire route, won't have to travel more than 100 miles w/o being able to find a High-Speed DC charging station
- There are signs about EV charging stations on 285
- Our byway otherwise doesn't have any EV signage in conjunction with the Byway
- Kent - Would like to keep in dialogue: Adding a side road from BV/ Cottonwood Pass; getting National Byways status. Maybe we reach out to Lenore Bates to ask these questions.
- Potential concern re: Cottonwood Pass is its County Rd designation vs. state highway
- Check with Lenore Bates on both accounts - Bonnie Davis will follow up

-Question to Don Reimer: Could CR306 become a state highway? No - State of CO deliberately gave highway to County/ they don't want it as a state highway/ was actually devolved from that status back in the 1980's

4. Stone House Nomination - SHF Grant Application (Melanie/ Don)

- On the DOC property on CR 501
- Dwayne Switzer came to the County in late 2023 - has a whole presentation put together re: the Stone House, which is where his father grew up.
- He had talked to Jason Lengerich, DOC Warden, about historic nomination
- Jason is supportive, but it has to work with the DOC Facilities people
- Not going to be able to have all of the permissions pulled together by the April 1 SHF grant application deadline, but worth continuing to pursue
- BV Heritage and Historic Preservation Commission would both love to see something happen with it.
- First step is getting an Agreement of Participation from DOC.
- The survey that was originally completed in 2011-2012 identified the whole dairy as eligible, but that might be harder to get them to agree to
- Original property was 200-300 acres - had a farm that grew potatoes
- Mr. Switzer will be presenting to the BoCC at the commissioners meeting on Feb 20 in BV at the Community Center
- Share that nominations list to full board ___Andrea
- Follow up email from Jenny Deichmann @ SHF

On a separate/ similar note: Taking the dam out in Maysville. Area residents are concerned about the brick building will be torn down.

- Potentially some connection with Nicola Tesla

___Andrea will follow up with Katy Grether and Doona Rhoads about it

-The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) - GARNA has a relationship with them re: the decommissioning of those buildings, to close the dam.

-There's an open case currently available - FERC docket number: 2275?

5. 2024 Heritage Project Planning

-i.e. Interpretive Signage, Outreach Events, Historic Nominations, etc...

-Please come to the meeting with some ideas you may have for what you'd like to see us focus on this year

-Do we have any sites that we'd like to diversify CCHAAB concerns/ pre-Columbian history of the area/ Indigenous heritage - Better demonstrate our knowledge of Chaffee County's history pre-European Settlement

Valley View Schoolhouse update - Native presence on the land/ crafts/ life ways. Will have 3 interpretive panels re: that. Working on a traveling exhibit on Ute History as part of grand opening. Tentatively set to be done by June. Maybe an event around 4th of July?!

Really interesting history on the river - raft guides aren't necessarily the best historians to be telling those stories... :) Railroad, telephone, telegraph... untapped history to be shared along there. Pretty cool to have some interp info on eddy-pull outs along the river. Chase McCutcheon in BV/ Chaffee County Clerk - railroad officianado. Tunnels along CR 331 could also be included in these efforts.

BV Heritage has a lot of railroad history, including Midland Tunnels

Maybe SHF April 1 grant deadline includes an Education & Interpretation grant.

Looks like GARNA will be able to do a fair amount of signal end wayfinding through Stage & Rail - interp panels are already a part of that project - 2 in BV on the docket for this year. Maybe some of the ideas could be

included in that I.e. Tunnels. Feels like we could achieve some level of these ideas piggy-backing with the current GARNA projects

The BoCC agreed for CTF to go to support Stage & Rail, so County is already providing support toward interpretation through this - how can these efforts combine/ fit together/ what's the largest vision. How can these also pull together in design elements so it feels cohesive

'6 months of research can save you an afternoon in the library' ;)

1. The Salida Library has a great book/ resource about Chipeta - includes Ute history statewide. Chipeta's great-granddaughter has been here in the past - could be a resource
 2. On the Railroad's - there is a statewide compendium, Robert Ormes - also in the Salida Library, that has lots of maps and pics
 3. CU Boulder Artist Muriel Sibell Wolle, wrote a book: 'Stampede to Timberline', published 1949. A whole chapter on Chaffee Cty. Would be a great resource for interp signage (Mining)
- BV Heritage has a number of books as well from a similar time frame

Keep the idea of other County efforts going on as a key focus with CCHAAB planning efforts - seek cooperative opportunities

Possible future issue — there is a proposal in play to increase the water level at the dam on Clear Creek by raising the height of the dam. Is there a valid CCHAAB interest in that or is it out of our domain? It will increase inundation and there was discussion of a byway view shed aspect.

Reach out to CCVB for a meet up - Bonnie connect with Betsy Kolomitz. They meet the fourth Tuesday of the month.

6. Other Business:

-Confirm 2024 Schedule - 2nd Thursday of the month 12-1:30pm

****Need a LOS for St. Elmo SHF application - Melanie will send Andrea details. Due late March**