

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE  
Gilpin County Historic Preservation Advisory Commission (HAC)**

March 19, 2013

The Gilpin County Historic Preservation Advisory Commission convened in the Gilpin County Library, 15131 Hwy 119, Black Hawk, Colorado.

Public Attending: 1

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Quorum Call:

Present: Chair Bret Johnson, Chair pro-tem Linda Jones, Rick Newman & Herman Gaines

Absent: Secretary Barbara Thielemann (Excused) and Mike Keeler (Excused)

Staff Present: Historic Advisory Liaison Ray Rears

Agenda Review: no changes

Minutes: Jones moved to approve the January 15, 2013 minutes with minor grammatical corrections seconded by Gaines and the motion was unanimously approved.

**New Business:**

Colorado Preservation Inc. Conference – Discussion:

Jones, Thielemann, Johnson and Rears attending this year's conference. Jones commented that she attended workshops that better suited her interest than prior years.

Lincoln Hills PBS Special – Discussion ensued regarding the presentation. Jones stated that on March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. they will be airing Camp Amanche.

Cemetery Workshop – Jones described the cemetery workshop she attending during the CPI Conference. The workshop was headed by the Denver University Professor who used ground penetrating radar searching for graves in South America. Jones suggested contacting that professor to see if she would be interested in investigating the Pioneer Cemetery as part of a school project. It was agreed that Jones would forward her contact to Johnson, so that he can contact the professor on their behalf.

The Pioneer Cemetery is located near the junction of Lump Gulch Road and Gilpin Road on USFS property. It once was a fur trading camp named Sonora, which was abandoned when beaver hats went out of fashion. A Mormon wagon train traveling through the area led by Rollins in 1848 left the Epps family in the area after one of their three children developed a disease such as small pox. Graves were dug for each of the children and Mrs. Epps with "Epps" marked on the head stone. It is presumed the graves were dug by Mr. Epps. Bonnie and John Cashion cleaned up and maintained the cemetery. Per Jones, Bonnie Cashion confirmed with the Latter Day Saints Records in Salt Lake City that indeed the Epps were on such a wagon train, but never arrived in Utah. The Cashion's had their ashes interred in the area of the cemetery when they died.

FEMA Programmatic Agreement:

Rears presented the programmatic agreement. Comments must be received by early April. Staff is not making a recommendation, but points of discussion are suggested. 1) When a declaration of a disaster is declared that SHPO notifies the local government, as it relates to

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this agreement and 2) That outside of an emergency situation and during the disaster response, that a CLG will be directly notified electronically of the activity.

Discussion ensued. Johnson also suggested that the section under III. Roads, Bridges and smaller transportation be modified as follows:

*Previously identified "historic" landscapes will require consultation with SHPO unless the SHPO has previously documented through a National Register nomination or other planning document the character defining features of the landscape and the excavation or site work will clearly have no effect on such features.*

With that section added to page 47 VII. Parks, Recreation section.

Newman moved to make a recommendation to the Forest Service, which includes both Rears and Johnson's comments, seconded by Jones and the motion passed unanimously.

Section 106 Review (Eldora Ski Resort): Rears informed the commission that Eldora Ski Resort is planning on expanding into Gilpin County. The expansion may have an impact on a cemetery. Rears has requested more information from the Forest Service. If their expansion is successful, it will be years from now.

**Old Business:**

Thorn Lake School:

Rears stated that the application is complete and will be submitted to the BoCC shortly. Johnson commented that additional DOLA grant funds could be obtained, similar to Ft. Morgan, since coal trains travel through the County. He worked on a project there where that was the case.

**Public Comment:** – Judd Motchan, 16512 Highway 119, Black Hawk, CO – He described himself as a property rights advocate. He commented on the restrictions placed upon the Lincoln Hills "Office" building [addressed 22 Winks Way, HR 05-01] that burned down [on December 30, 2007]. He was the High Country Fire Marshall at the time and requested CBI do an investigation into the cause of the fire, after the owner stated to him that the County would not allow him to demolish the structure. A discussion ensued regarding the ordinance. Rears stated he did not recall the specifics of the case, but the ordinance only limits demolition up to 120-days.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the HAC, Jones moved to adjourn, all in favor at 8:15 p.m. The next meeting will be scheduled on the third Tuesday of April, if there is business to discuss.

Respectfully submitted,

Bret Johnson  
Chair