

MEETING MEETINGS
Kansas Post Rock Limestone Coalition, Inc.
Tuesday, July 13, 2023 – 10am
Hays Visitors Center - Hays, Kansas

Members Present: Neil Unrein, Christina Hayes, Brad Penka, Harold Kraus Jr., Pam Steinle, Tony Mahoney, Ian Trevethan, Ed Breit, Keli Orender, Charma Craven, Guy Windholz, Steven Mongeau, Ruben Schuckman, Jeannie Stramel, Janet Kuhn, Colton Potts, Abby Artz, Annette Barber, John Pancost, Harlan Pancost, Lisa Goodheart (Zoom).

1. **Call Meeting To Order** at 10:07 am by Brad Penka
2. **Call for Additions to the Agenda**
 1. Christina asked to add discussion of Sponsor of the Kansas Tourism Conference
 2. Introductions were made by members around the room.
3. **Approval of Minutes, May 31, 2023** - Presented by Christina Hayes, Neil motioned to approve minutes, Janet 2nd – Motion passed unanimously.
4. **Treasurer's Report** - Jean Stramel presented the financial report, she reported the Profit & Loss sheet with income as 11,059.38 & Expense of \$5,148.40. With a Net income of \$5,910.98. Bank account is \$33,947.52.
 1. **Membership**- Guy is our newest member. She reported that we have 17 individual, 10 nonprofits, 4 businesses, 11 City/County/CVB members.
 2. Christina motioned to pass the treasurers' report, Janet 2nd – motion passed unanimously.
5. **Chairman's Report** - Brad Penka reported that we have had an excellent year so far - it's been a struggle, but we are finally moving forward successfully. Lucas in Meal on April Fools meal was that was an AMAZING success! The Bus Tour was also a wonderful success, the bus sold out- several on standby list, 52 participants - net profit was \$1,037.40 and got a couple of memberships that day (one was a \$1,000 membership & Jim Denning gave \$2,000 left over from his political account) and Brad is so proud and loving the excellent response from the public. The website is doing well, and we have had more interest in the newsletter sign ups.
6. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. **Marketing/Events**
 - i. **Skyscrapers to Steeples Tour** - Neil Unrein gave a full report on the tour. Loaded at the Hays Mall - Driver Dave was wonderful on the bus - 56 people were on the bus by 8am. Bags were provided with coalition information, 8 wonders of Kansas, and tour brochure. TV on the bus giving information. German buffet was provided with this tour. Provided the Best spitzbuben cookies EVER! Neil thanked the coalition for letting him make the tour happen that he's wanted to do for years.
 1. SPECIAL THANKS from the board members to Neil, Brad & Colton for the 12 weeks of Rock Star preparation for this successful event!

ii. Amazing 100 miles marketing ideas - Ruben provided some wonderful marketing ideas. Came about from a tour guide of the different communities between Hays & Salina (from the late 1990s). He talked about the Free Gas Promotion that was provided for doing the Amazing 100 Miles. He also promoted getting free PSAs on Radio stations. The next was Community Ambassadors and getting retired people to help promote the individual communities - these members also came to the Annual Meeting. Christmas Lights Displays were also promoted - even just residential areas - put on the website and used PSAs. The Festival Festival was almost like the Kansas Sampler Festival - it's a festival to promote everyone's festival - this also had food, entertainment and booths to check out the fun. Last he mentioned the importance of Bus Tours. All were very successful and wonderful ideas that worked well in the past and this group could benefit from with similar ideas.

1. Sunflower Summer is also another huge perk that all free museums and educational places can take part in.

iii. Kansas State Fair - Brad passed around the sign up sheet to promote the coalition and South Central Kansas.

b. Agritourism/Landowners - we need to have a few members activate in this committee. Nothing to report here.

c. Education/Preservation - Charma passed around postcards with the pheasant, post and picture. These were printed in 1963. Brad put out a couple of notes regarding collection/pile of limestone posts. He has also been asked to find someone to take the stone from the wall. He is working to make connections to do outreach for reuse. Maps are so very successful!

d. Grants

i. Jon Pancost Documentary - Jon was here to present his idea for the project. Blue Stem Quarry & Stoneworks in Lucas - he has been working with post rock since 2007. The grants that we applied for were not accepted, however Jon is still hopeful to get some monies to help make this happen. Talked about the KS Tourism Marketing Grant, and Jon questioned if we can get a corporate sponsor to help promote this and get it going. PBS might also be a great contact to get a story going.

1. Martin at Russell High School might be able to help out. Brad mentioned they will do some projects this fall. He will be producing some shorts for us.

2. Keli will forward information to Jean for Travel KS Grant for documentaries that might be available next fall.

e. Membership / Networking - Jean Stramel provided the list of the members and she has been updating the list. She is going to send a nice Thank you note to Jim Denning for the \$2,000 donation.

7. **Unfinished Business:**

a. Website Domain is registered to JenRus Freelance - it's current and the expiration date is 5-14-24. Brad will get that switched up. Our Wix

account also includes - Ellsworth Chamber and Cowtown Websites. Christina will help ensure that gets switched over. Pay Pal needs to be switched over as well - Andy's name is not switched over.

8. **MEETING ADJORNED TO GO HAVE LUNCH....** 11:55, meeting rejoined at 1:43pm.

1. Post Rock Souvenir Items - we are still trying to get ahold of that lady who will make the little card holders and book ends out of limestone. Brad will reach out to her in Lucas - Kelly Palmer.

9. **New Business:**

- a. **KTC Sponsorship** - \$500 Christina motioned to sponsor the KTC at to include our logo on everything and one registration fee. Jeanie 2nd the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
 1. Christina motioned to approve up to \$500 for hotel accommodation and Janet 2nd the motion. Jeanie will attend. Motion passed.
- b. **Annual Preservation Award** - Jeanie wants to ask what Kris thought for who we would want to give this award to.
 1. Jack and Kathy Crispen - Janet motioned to nominate these two for the first Preservation Award, Charma 2nd the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
 2. Janet motion to spend no more than \$100 on a preservation award. Christina 2nd the motion. Motion carried.
- c. **Nametags for board members** - Brad will order the nametags, Jeanie motioned to approve \$200 to order nametags for board members, Janet 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

10. **Other Upcoming Events**

- a. Jewell Co. Threshing Bee (July 15-16) - This is a historical event. We will pass on this year.
- b. Wilson Czech Fest - July 29 - Charma will cover this event. The stuff is currently at Jeanie's house.
- c. Lincoln Post Rock Festival - Sept. 2 - Brad will cover this one. Charma will return the stuff back to Lucas.
- d. Luray Craftique - October 21 - Neil might cover this event for us.
- e. Big Kansas Road Trip - May 2024 - Lucas, Ellsworth, Lincoln Counties... we need to find a way to at least set up a booth to let people know about this. Maybe we could set up a demo of some sort.

11. **Director Conversation** - are we being effective and fulfilling our mission?

Should we go on without a director? The group agreed yes, we are having a great year without a director we will not look to hire one yet.

12. **Next Meeting Location** - Ellis first choice - Brad will contact... and if that doesn't work Russell - Ian will help find a location if need be.

13. **Adjournment at 2:25 p.m.** - Kelli moves to adjourn & Janet 2nd. Motion passed.