

December 4, 2025

KPRLC Meeting summary

Quick recap

The meeting covered updates on various preservation projects and grant activities, including a successful Preservation Award presentation and ongoing restoration efforts for historical buildings. The group discussed membership communication strategies, transportation arrangements for an upcoming bus tour, and plans for educational materials and social media content creation. They concluded by reviewing and adjusting the 2025 budget, including allocations for membership materials, marketing, and future preservation initiatives.

Next steps

- Tony: Contact Troy Waymaster to discuss potential state legislation protecting limestone fence posts and schedule a meeting with him and the State Historical Society team
- Brad: Send email to all members with the social media content form and request volunteers to sign up for 2026 months
- Janet: Create social media content for January
- Brad: Talk to Linda about sending out membership renewal notices via MailChimp and Facebook
- Brad: Update and send out the 2026 budget with revised numbers
- Neil: Contact bus company to confirm if additional \$150 payment is needed for deposit
- Brad: Reserve next meeting date based on Troy Waymaster's availability
- All members: Submit photos and information to Linda for social media posts for their assigned months
- Everyone: Create in-kind hours documentation for 2026 budget
- Brad: Follow up with Linda to get membership cards/letters template from last year
- Brad: Contact Linda to set up Facebook/website link for digital membership application
- Brad: Reserve date for next meeting in February (tentative, based on representative's schedule)

Summary

Grant Updates and Preservation Award

The meeting covered several updates and discussions. Jeannie provided a Treasurer's Report, noting the completion of a brochure project funded by a Kansas Arts Commission grant, which received partial funding due to budget adjustments. He explained ongoing challenges with the grant paperwork and budget modifications. The group approved minutes from the previous meeting and discussed the status of a Preservation Award presentation, which was successfully conducted at a Liebenthal church. The presentation was well-received, and the church's efforts to restore and preserve their rectory and school were highlighted.

Church Restoration and Museum Initiatives

Bradley discussed the restoration of a church and rectory, highlighting the original furnishings and ongoing efforts to return the building to its historical state. He shared insights from a recent KMA meeting, emphasizing the potential for new collaborations and the importance of AI in museum work. Bradley also provided updates on the Sunflower League Exhibition, featuring Kansas symbols like post rock, and shared enhanced photographs of historical sites. The group concluded by reviewing plans for an upcoming bus tour, noting ticket sales, presentation activities, and logistical arrangements for venues and meals.

Transportation and Preservation Planning Meeting

The group discussed transportation arrangements for an upcoming tour, confirming they would use buses similar to those in the past. They addressed payment issues for a bus retainer fee, with Bradley clarifying that while the contract specified \$350, they may need to pay \$150 additionally, pending further approval. The meeting also covered the Preservation Award nomination process, which opens January 1st and closes May 1st, and concluded with a discussion about a limestone building restoration project in Russell, where they identified potential resources and grant opportunities through the Kansas Post Rock Limestone Coalition and HEAL grants.

Historic Preservation Grant Strategies

The meeting focused on historical preservation efforts, including discussions about listing buildings on the National Register of Historic Places and managing grants for preservation projects. Bradley shared experiences with successful applications, such as the Liebenthal church, and highlighted challenges faced by other preservation projects, like the Lone Star School in Bison. The group also discussed the need to continue encouraging nominations

for preservation awards and to pursue new grants, while addressing the need to update membership mailing lists and promotional materials.

Membership Communication and Education Planning

The group discussed membership communication strategies, deciding to first use MailChimp to send out newsletters with membership information before potentially sending physical mailings. They agreed to work with Linda to set up digital and printable membership application options on their website, with the printable version needed for Rush County submissions. The team also planned to create educational materials with 3D components for children to explore.

Conservation, Art, and Community Insights

Bradley discussed various topics, including conservation efforts, historical interpretations, and community engagement. He mentioned the importance of digital paintings and the need to upgrade certain components. Bradley also touched on personal experiences and interactions with others, expressing interest in future projects and collaborations.

Historic Fence Protection Concerns

Bradley discussed the discovery of a barbed wire and steel post fence near Linda Erb Humphrey's farm, which raised concerns about the fate of the original stone fence. He also determined that he had been misleading people about the identity of a limestone formation, clarifying that it was actually part of the Fairport Formation rather than the fence post limestone. The group expressed worry about the removal of stone posts by out-of-state visitors and farmers, who were taking advantage of the unique posts for profit. He sought support from organizations to protect these historical structures and educate the public about their significance.

Kansas Fence Post Limestone Preservation

The group discussed efforts to protect and preserve fence post limestone, a unique geological resource in Kansas. They explored potential ways to gain state-level protection for these historical and natural resources, including contacting Representative Troy Waymaster to submit legislation. The Historical Society's involvement was considered, as well as the need to educate others about the significance of this limestone. The group agreed to meet again in January to further discuss these preservation efforts.

Dorrance Art and Budget Planning

The group discussed plans for murals and artwork in Dorrance, including representations of local limestone and train history. Tony requested support for a grant application and asked for volunteers to write letters of support, which the group agreed to provide. They

also discussed social media content creation, with volunteers signing up to submit photos and information for January, February, and March. Finally, they reviewed the 2025 budget, noting that some budgeted amounts, such as the administrative assistant position, had not been spent.

Annual Budget Review and Adjustments

The group reviewed and adjusted their budget for the upcoming year, discussing various expenses and revenue sources. They agreed to increase the budget for membership placards and calendars, and to maintain the bus tour budget at \$3,500. They set their next meeting for January, with the possibility of holding it via Zoom.