

Kansas Post Rock Limestone Coalition
Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.
Dorrance, KS

Members and Guests Present: Brad Penka, Charma Craven, Neil Unrein, Kris Heinze, Rosslyn Schultz, Jeannie Stramel, and Janet Kuhn. Guests included Tony Mahoney.

Award Ceremony: The public was invited to the Dorrance Bankery for pastries and social time starting at 9:30 a.m., where Jean Stramel, Charma Craven and Brad Penka presented the 2nd annual Kansas Post Rock Limestone Coalition Preservation Award to Tony Mahoney for his work restoring the 1905 limestone bankery building. Tony told a little of the history of the building and the preservation work, including the bank till reconstruction, the stained glass and entry door, the floors, and the vault.

Call to order: President Brad Penka called the business meeting to order at 10:51 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: Neil moved to accept the May meeting minutes as presented. Janet Kuhn seconded, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Jean Stramel reviewed the Profit/Loss report for the year, showing total income of \$8,248.29 and total expenses of \$7,164.93 for a net income of \$1,083.36. A written notation on the P/L report showed a bank balance of \$36,003.61. Charma Craven moved to approve the financials as presented. Rosslyn Schultz seconded, motion carried.

Chairman's Report: Brad reported a recent problem with the debit card, with an approximately \$100 charge on Amazon that was fraudulent. It has been contested, and the debit card has been canceled and reissued.

The KCAIC grant applied for earlier this year was received at the end of July for \$2,387. This is to be used for the video project within a year.

The tax exemption certificate was renewed.

Limestone preservation projects:

1. Rush County: Erb farm east of Bison on K-4. KDOT planned to tear out post rock fence that has been restored recently. Brad sent a Letter of Support from the coalition to encourage an alternate plan.
2. Liebenthal: Original Volga German site tours of school, church, and hopefully the oldest stone home. Earl Legleiter recently purchased the church and is working to get it listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

3. St. Mary's in Loretta: An annual mass was held for the first time in 27 years with upwards of 180 in attendance. (This location is not limestone).

Committee Reports:

Marketing/Events:

Bells/Whistles Bus Tour: 42 people, \$153.75 in the hole on this event. Neil commented it was great we were able to get into the Grant Villa at the last minute, and the T-shirts came out nice.

Bison History Day: Turnout was great for this event! The school building board has been revived.

Mankato Threshing Bee: Neil worked at this event for 12 hours! He enjoyed it and would like to attend again in the future. The locals even provided a pallet of rock for him to work with!

Czechfest: Neil attended but did not work a booth. Charma would like Neil to do a demonstration at this event in the future. People ask where to buy fenceposts.

Herzogfest: Neil attended but did not work a booth.

There has been some discussion around a 2025 Lincoln County and Mitchell County bus tour, or maybe a small bus and carpool. A small group will get organized and bring a proposal back to the board for consideration.

For 2026, Neil would like to revisit Quarry to Glory for 150th.

Education/Preservation:

1. Brad's talk in Russell was well attended. Brad is open to more talks.
2. Need a display board for tools and posters.

Preservation Award: Jean is working on a press release. Please share locally.

Grants:

1. The sample video from Curtis Busker needs to be revisited now that there is grant money to move forward.
2. Smoky Hills Public Television did a 30-min segment on the idea that Jon Pancost previously brought to KPRLC.

Membership/Networking: A fall membership mailing was discussed. One idea was to do a Mailchimp email announcement first, and to follow up with mailers. It was also noted that many of our current members are organizations and a mailer will be required.

Break for lunch at 12:06 p.m.

Resumed meeting at 12:35 p.m.

Unfinished Business:

Souvenirs:

1. Kelly Palmer, Luray, created some new post rock souvenirs and Brad ordered for Sternberg. The first order was completed and Brad brought a few examples to share with the KPRLC board, along with price lists.
2. Rob Lindsay, Lucas, purchased some new tools and sent along a receipt. The board agreed this was not what was discussed previously and we would still like to see Jeff's tools before making any decisions about purchasing equipment.
3. Rosslyn made a motion to purchase 3 each of Kelly Palmer's business card holders, 2-post fence decor, and paired bookends. Kris seconded, motion carried.
4. Tony added that Jon Pancost can also make slabs, trivets, etc.

Committee Appointments: No changes.

New Business:

Administrative Assistant: Board members engaged in discussion of details of the job description of an Administrative Assistant. Janet moved to pursue hiring an Administrative Assistant with a minimum of 10 hours per month, not to exceed 20 hours per month, at \$15 per hour. Rosslyn seconded and the motion carried.

Neil made a motion to transfer the November 14 meeting from Hays to LaCrosse. Janet seconded and the motion carried.

Adjourn: Charma moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:45 p.m. and Neil seconded.