

Post Rock Limestone Coalition
Minutes of Meeting March 30, 2022
Ellsworth, Kansas
By Terry Bailey

The Post Rock Limestone Coalition conducted their bi-monthly meeting at the Ellsworth Country Club on Wednesday March 30, 2022. Twelve members were present including Board members Brad Pelka, Charma Craven, Terry Bailey, Jeannie Stramel, Lisa Goodheart, Kris Heinze, and ex-officio Board Member. Other visitors were present, but I did not get their names. Also in attendance was Executive Director Jeannie Kline. A quorum was declared present.

Plans had been made to have a photographer present for take head and shoulder photos of the Board members. Due to illness of the photographer no pictures were taken.

Executive Director Kline called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Kline then turned the meeting over to President Brad Pelka.

Reporter Terry Bailey provided copies of the minutes of the January meeting. The minutes were accepted with revisions. A copy of the revised minutes is attached to this report.

Treasurer Jeannie Schultz provided a treasurer's report indicating the Coalition's February bank balance was \$46,513.86. Schultz told the group she is still familiarizing herself with the Quick Books accounting software, however she believes she will have everything worked out by the next meeting. She said the expenses for February were \$3317.55. Income from membership sales totaled \$984.

Terry Bailey moved to accept the treasurer's report. Lisa Goodheart seconded the motion. The motion unanimously approved passed.

Brad Penka gave the group an update on the status of the IRS 990 form filing. He discovered that an organization must have an average revenue of \$50,000 over the past three years to require a 990 filing. Since we do not meet that financial guideline, he ceased his attempts to file a 990 report.

Penka showed the group models of the traveling display on which he has been working. The display consists of 42"x31 1/2" inch panels with a rigid backing. Frames would be needed for the panels. The cost for the entire display would be \$1433. He is looking into grants to help fund the project.

Using the old Bunker Hill Café building as a visitors' center was discussed. There were numerous pros and cons to that idea. The idea was table to a later date.

At this point Pelka turned the meeting over to Executive Director Kline.



Kline called attention to the newly completed Post Rock Coalition display. Everyone agreed this would be an “attention getter” at functions where attendees might view it. The sale of limestone rock bowls, fencepost bookends and business card holders was discussed. Kline will continue to explore vendors and costs.

A discussion of providing books for purchase on our website was conducted. Two books mentioned were *Land of the*

Post Rock by Muilenburg and Swineford and *Post Rock Country by Brad Penka*. It is good to have books on hand to sell and deliver to those interested in purchasing them. On the other hand, is not a good investment of our money to have a large supply of books simply sitting on the shelf. Kim Keinze suggested we create a pre-order form to help manage that situation.

T-shirt sales was discussed. Having folks wearing T-shirts with Post Rock words and graphics is a good way to advertise our organization. Kline believes she can obtain a cotton/poly blend shirt for seven or eight dollars each. Kline was given authorization to spend \$350 to purchase Post Rock T-shirts of varying designs, sizes, and colors. She was also empowered to figure out the designs for the shirts.



Under Long-Term Planning the idea of a 2023 calendar was discussed. Two hundred fifty calendars can be purchased for \$1200. A motion was made for the calendar committee to investigate this topic and report back to the group at the next meeting.

Kline displayed a Passport program utilized by the Flint Hills Tourism Committee. In this Passport, businesses are listed. When a person visits a business, their page is stamped. When all the pages are stamped, their name is entered in a drawing for a prize. It was noted that in Post Rock Country many of our points of interests are in rural areas where no one is present to stamp a Passport for a visitor.

Kline was authorized to proceed with the Passport concept and report back to the group at the next meeting.

Discussion of whether to purchase an advertisement in the Kansas Travel Guide was conducted. It was noted that as the pandemic winds down, more people are wanting to get out and about, particularly in rural areas. It was moved and seconded to purchase an ad in the 2023 Kansas Travel Guide in the amount of \$1723. The motion carried.

It was decided to compile a list of local stone masons. Should someone call to inquire about stone masons, names could be provided to them.

Kline is working on a Post Rock bus tour to be held on June 4th.

Kline was authorized to participate in a grant writing workshop. The Coalition will pay the \$80 fee for the workshop.

The group decided to purchase a PayPal reader. This is a device that attaches to a phone and a credit card can be swiped to authorize payment. This should make purchases easier to conduct.

The 2023 Coalition budget was enthusiastically discussed. At this point in time, the Coalition expects to have income of \$11,500 and expenses of \$29,385 with the next year. With a balance of \$46,513.86 in the bank we have some cushion but that will soon disappear at this rate. An increase in membership fees was seen as one way to help with the deficit.

A fee of \$50 per month for office space at the Ellsworth Chamber of Commerce for Executive Director Kline's office was approved.

It was decided to reduce the payment to the Grassroots Center for Jeannie Schultz's accounting work from \$300 to \$200.

The next meeting will be held on May 25th in Lurray at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.