

## **Kansas Post Rock Limestone Coalition**

### **Meeting summary 1-21-2026**

#### **Quick recap**

The meeting began with updates on various personal matters and a discussion of AI-generated meeting notes. The group reviewed recent achievements, including the Liebenthal award presentation and positive developments regarding the post-rock fence situation with KDOT. They concluded by discussing preservation efforts, organizational updates, and future meeting plans, including a scheduled gathering in Wilson.

#### **Next steps**

- Brad: Continue pursuing appointment/meeting with Representative Troy Waymaster regarding protection of limestone posts and potential preservation legislation; update group when meeting can be scheduled.
- Brad: Send updated social media schedule to all members and encourage participation, especially for those interested in posting.
- Brad: Check with Linda about the status of the brochure contract and ensure it is renewed.
- Rosslyn: Check on meeting location options in Wilson for March 18th, confirm availability (especially for Wi-Fi/Zoom), and investigate lunch/catering options (e.g., Snack Shack, hotel, Made from Scratch), then report back to the group.
- Charma: Present at the February 6th meeting to seek funding for roof repairs on the Luray building listed on the National Register.
- Bradley: Include information about the reopened preservation award nominations in the February newsletter and remind members of the May 1 deadline.
- Bradley: Send out another schedule/update for social media responsibilities (as requested by Charma).
- Bradley: Contact Tom Mahoney to inquire about the disposition of the limestone from the recently demolished Dorrance building.
- Bradley: Consider inviting John Pancost (or Post Rock Construction) for updates or involvement in future projects as appropriate, given his current workload.

- Rosslyn: Continue to encourage grandson regarding progress on the Bunker Hill promotional video and update group if alternative resources for video editing are needed.
- Bradley: When meeting with Troy Waymaster, discuss the possibility of state tax incentives for restored pre-1920 buildings, as suggested by Charma.
- Bradley: Look into the Commerce Department's program for matching developers with abandoned buildings and consider applicable group properties, as suggested by Charma.
- Bradley: Send calendar invite/confirmation for March 18th meeting in Wilson once details are finalized.

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#### **Volunteer Workload and Health Updates**

Charma discussed her concern about Linda's message indicating she might continue as a volunteer due to the workload at her new location, which includes managing a bookstore, craft vendors, and potential gaming activities in the basement.

#### **AI Meeting Notes Review**

Bradley presented meeting notes, which were generated by AI and shared on the meeting drive. The group discussed the AI's accuracy in note-taking and agreed to review the shared minutes.

#### **Liebenthal Award and Tourism Plans**

The meeting discussed the Liebenthal award presentation, which was kept secret until the event and was well-received by attendees. Bradley shared that the award recipients were thrilled and proud of their accomplishments. The group also touched on a situation where another parish was criticized for bragging about their achievements. Finally, they briefly mentioned a tourism initiative for the 250th celebration, emphasizing the importance of promoting their area to attract visitors.

#### **Sunflower League Exhibition Updates**

Bradley discussed ongoing efforts to schedule an appointment with Mr. Waymaster, who is unavailable until March. He mentioned not receiving any information from Tony regarding what is needed for a support letter. The group decided to skip over the treasurer's report due to a lack of minutes. Bradley provided an update on the Sunflower League Exhibition, which is expected to feature post-rock and will credit KPRLC for its contributions. He also shared details about upcoming presentations on post-rock architecture and the Volga German community, scheduled for February 22nd in La Crosse and April 23rd in Rush Center.

#### **KDOT Fence Design Revision Update**

The group discussed positive developments regarding the post-rock fence situation with KDOT. Bradley shared that KDOT had revised their design plans in response to media coverage, deciding to leave the County Road 340 intersection in its original location and preserving more of the stone posts. They plan to meet with KDOT next week, and Troy Waymaster is investigating legal options to provide additional protection for the limestone posts, though he noted that preserving buildings would be easier than preserving fences.

### **Tour Updates and Preservation Plans**

Bradley reported that ticket sales have increased to 10 from 4 previously, and discussed recent tour changes where 3 out of 6 churches scheduled afternoon weddings on the same day. Neil shared that he will be giving a 71-slide Quarry to Glory presentation at the Hayes Library on Saturday, and has connected with the Kansas Sampler Foundation's new president Monica Fry, who expressed interest in promoting the tour through the Kansas Explorer. The group also discussed the potential listing of St. Joseph Church in Liebenthal on the National Register of Historic Places, with Earl Legleiter scheduled to present the nomination in Topeka on February 5th.

### **Historic Building Preservation Initiatives**

Charma explained the process of getting a building listed on the National Register, which involves a presentation and voting by a state committee, followed by national registration. She discussed her upcoming presentation on February 6th to secure funding for a roof replacement on a historic building in Luray, which was previously considered for demolition but is now protected due to its National Register status. Charma also mentioned ongoing work on a building across the street and her submission of the former bank building to the Commerce Department for potential development into apartments to address the housing crisis in Kansas.

### **Luray Preservation Wins and Losses**

The group discussed preservation efforts in Luray, where recent elections resulted in two teardown-supporting city commissioners being voted off the council. Charma shared that an 80% voter turnout elected two new council members through write-ins, with one being a teardown opponent.

Bradley announced that nominations for the Preservation Award are now open until May 1, with both digital and paper applications available, and he plans to feature this in a February newsletter. The group also noted with concern that a historic limestone building in Dorrance that was previously photographed and shared on social media has been torn down, despite plans by Tony Mahoney's brother to incorporate it into his house.

## **Historic Preservation and Tax Incentives**

The group discussed the collapse of a rock structure in Dorrance and its impact, with estimates it would have required 2-2.5 semi-trucks to remove. They also talked about a church in Dubuque that was damaged by high winds, and Lisa mentioned a man named Christopher who is documenting Kansas towns and historical sites through drone videos. The conversation concluded with Charma suggesting they discuss tax incentives for preserving historic buildings with Troy Waymaster, based on successful programs in other states and a previous tax incentive program in Rush County that was later discontinued.

## **Membership Updates and Incident Report**

Bradley reported on several organizational updates, including 6 digital membership renewals received and plans for paper mailings to members in areas requiring physical billing. He agreed to send out a social media schedule update and check on the brochure contract renewal with Linda. Charma mentioned a fence post incident along Bunker Hill Road that was pulled over at a 45-degree angle, which they suspected might have been attempted theft.

## **Community Events and Project Updates**

The group discussed the thrashing bee event in Mankato, which takes place in July, with Jack Alcorn as the contact. They also talked about a video project for Bunker Hill that is facing delays due to the project owner taking a new job. Charma expressed concern about John Pancost's future involvement in the community due to his age and other commitments. The conversation concluded with a discussion about John's equipment purchases, which Lisa noted as a positive sign for his business's future.

## **Wilson Meeting Plans Discussion**

The group scheduled their next meeting for March 18th in Wilson, with plans to meet from 10 AM to 12:30 PM and potentially explore the town afterward. They discussed potential lunch options, with Rosslyn agreeing to check on catering possibilities. The group also briefly discussed a future meeting with Troy, potentially in May, though no firm plans were made.