

Minutes from TKHA/BKNHA Meeting, August 11, 2005
Leavenworth County Courthouse, Leavenworth

Attendees:

Emma Crites	Fredonia Tourism
Eileen Robertson	Humboldt Tourism
Tristan Smith	Johnson County Museum
Patty Moore	Doniphan County
Ralph Bichart	Harvey House
Betty Strouh	Leavenworth
Patricia Lis	Leavenworth
Candy Ruff	Leavenworth
Kerry Lippincott	Watkins Museum
Stan Lawson	Atchison Chamber
Cheryl Thorp	Platte County, MO
Diann Bayes	Manhattan CVB
Peggy Clark	Osage Co. Economic Development
Rebecca Phipps	Watkins Museum
Paul Bahnmaier	Lecompton Historical Society
Chris Meinhardt	Territorial Capitol, Topeka
Connie Hachenberg	Leavenworth CVB
Ken & Mary Asher	Mound City Historical Society
Elly McCoy	Chanute, KS
Bill Freeman	LeRoy, KS
Phyllis Bass	Richard Allen Cultural Center, Leavenworth
Diane Niehoff	Baldwin City, KS
Kerry Altenbernd	Black Jack Battlefield Trust
Amy Garton	Olathe Chamber
Alexis Radil	Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop
Deborah Barker	Franklin County Historical Society
Kelly Pearl	Pottawatomie County Economic Development
Sue Gervasini	Leavenworth County Museum

Host Sally Hatcher welcomed attendees and introduced Clyde Graeber, Chairman of Leavenworth County Commissioners. Attendees were reminded that Leavenworth is the oldest city in Kansas. Mr. Graeber congratulated the BKNHA Planning Committee for Senate approval of the Bill and gave greetings from Leavenworth. Visitors, State Representative Candy Ruff and Patty Moore of Doniphan County, expressed their pleasure in attending this meeting and complimented the planning committee on their hard work. Other attendees introduced themselves.

There being no additions or changes in the proposed **Agenda**, Judy Billings declared it **approved**.

After a spelling correction for July 14th attendee Carol von Tersch, Chris Meinhardt moved to approve the **July minutes** and Emma Crites seconded. **Motion carried**.

Martha Parker gave **Financial Report:** balance of \$1,114.02 (38 cents interest). Judy announced her receipt of \$2000 from the Breidenthal Foundation (member of BKNHA Advisory Board). Amount will be recorded.

Legislative Report: This meeting, being celebratory because of **recent Senate approval of the BKNHA Bill**, Judy presented a "One Step Closer" cake and pretend "champagne," and we all toasted and ate in joyful recognition that our work and the work of Senators Roberts, Brownback, and their staffs have brought us 'one step closer' to being a National Heritage Area. Judy also passed around a card which will be sent to the senators and staff members; we signed it.

Judy reminded attendees to SEND COPIES OF LOCAL PRESS ACCOUNTS OF SENATE APPROVAL BKNHA BILL TO HER. These appeared in most newspapers on July 27, 2005. We continue to need Media examples for Washington of proof that each of us is still eager and engaged. These help our cause. Judy also praised attendees for their continuing volunteer efforts on behalf of BKNHA. As recorder of these notes and minutes, I hereby state, as a reminder to all participants, that Judy Billings, our leader and spokesperson, is also a volunteer who graciously and generously gives countless hours of expertise to furthering the BKNHA.

Committee Reports:

UGRR brochure project: Reported by Chris Meinhardt to be progressing.

Marketing: Judy reported that the introductory **Bleeding Kansas** brochure, explaining National Heritage Areas, and, in particular, the purpose of BKNHA, is at press. It was ready earlier, but held up in hopes that with Congressional designation we could add "national" instead of Bleeding Kansas Heritage Area. The educational brochure will be used for fund raising.

Criteria Workshop: County Criteria Committee: John Nichols, Chairman; Paul Bahnmaier; Emma Crites; Rebecca Phipps; and Debbie White

John reminded participants to complete Criteria Worksheets and return electronically to Debbie White by September 1, 2005.

Using the worksheets: Use one sheet for each site. Use one line for identification discussion of each theme that applies to your site.

Physical and Cultural landscapes: Refer to John's addendum dealing with Regional (and participating counties within each region) landscapes.

Be thinking about the **connections** of your sites to other counties, cities, historic events, and people in the BKNHA.

Be thinking about your partnership affiliation designation. At a previous BKNHA meeting, John distributed a **CRITERIA COMMITTEE UPDATE** that defined criteria words and expressions and listed 4 **Partnership Affiliation Designations**. Use **this list** to determine your affiliation designation.

Judy reminded attendees that while we may be doing a good job interpreting our individual sites, what's lacking is the **connection** to other sites with stories in other locations. For example, see the John Brown Brochure map. **We need to give visitors a developed story, layered and fleshed out, at each connected place.**

Sue Pridemore, our National Park Service mentor/facilitator who has been with us since the BKNHA Heritage Summit January 30-31, 2003, reminded attendees that "all people must remain at the table. If you can't attend, send someone." By attending meetings, we learn together how to tell the Bleeding Kansas story from a multitude of perspectives. Connections may be controversial; the story may contain conflicts. Listen to other points of view, other voices; judge not. Are you paying attention to your location's uniqueness and specialness? How does your story fit within the Freedom's Frontier list of themes? (Landscape (physical and cultural impacts), Native American, Bleeding Kansas, African American, Women, UGRR).

Sue engaged attendees in a **Mind Mapping** exercise. She suggested Mind Mapping at each meeting (and at home) to help attendees see local possibilities and connections.

Eileen Robertson distributed copies of *Southeast Kansas Living Magazine* to demonstrate how Bleeding Kansas participants and their stories can be supported by media, and how media advertising can assist in attracting visitors to our BKNHA site locations. She also made Kansas Explorer applications available to attendees and reminded attendees that in her *Kansas Explorer* and *We Kan* newsletters, Marci Penner encourages members to explore Kansas and find its stories. Marci Penner supports BKNHA participants; many of our BKNHA participants are regular presenters at Marci's Kansas Sampler Festival where we can tell our stories and invite visitors to our BKNHA sites.

Announcements:

Martha Parker shared that reenactments at Clinton Lake took place on July 16.

Elly McCoy, BKNHA Advisory Board, announced Bleeding Kansas Linn County Tour August 17, sponsored by KKOY "Southeast Kansas Today" Radio Show. (Elly and Eileen do this weekly Saturday morning show, 10-11 am, 1460 AM, currently serving southeast Kansas. Bleeding Kansas education is regularly offered by guests and suggested reading.)

Rebecca Phipps announced that *Touched by Fire* will be shown at South Park, Lawrence, August 19.

Olathe Old Settlers – Sept 8,9,10

Johnson County Sept 17th, Sesquicentennial

Mahaffie Bullwhacker Days, Sept 24-25

"The 2nd Annual Great Manhattan Mystery Conclave will take place at the Manhattan Holiday Inn from September 30-October 2. At that time, the Manhattan Mysteries anthology will be unveiled. The stories were submitted at the first conclave and writers were required to include Manhattan history/attractions in the stories. The anthology is a

fund-raiser for the Manhattan Public Library. The book will be available at Claflin Books & Copies in Manhattan."

Connie Parker of Leavenworth invited attendees to visit the 1913 Carousel Museum after lunch at the High Noon Saloon.

Meeting adjourned at noon.

FUTURE MEETINGS: October 13, 2005 LeRoy
November 10, 2005 Topeka
December 8, 2005 TBA
January 12, 2006 TBA

Thank you for bringing your hard copy of August minutes and September Agenda to the September 8, 2005, meeting at Ottawa.

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen Robertson, Explorer #1450