



Thursday, April 6, 2006
Lecompton Territorial Capital Lane Museum, Lecompton

Attendees:

Paul Bahnmaier	Lecompton Historical Society
Dale Nimz	Lawrence
Stan Lawson	Atchison Chamber
Bobbie Athon	Kansas State Historical Society
Doug Jones	Shawnee County Historical Society
Tamra Scheid	Topeka Convention & Visitors Bureau
Diane Niehoff	Baldwin City Tourism
Julie Frisbie	Jefferson County Historical Society
Sally Hatcher	Leavenworth
Hazel May Fackler	Leavenworth
Sue Gervasini	Leavenworth
Eileen Robertson	Humboldt
Elly McCoy	Chanute
Emma Crites	Fredonia Tourism
Sonia Smith	Franklin County Convention & Visitors Bureau
Katie Carlgren	Wabaunsee County Economic Development
Deb Barker	Old Depot Museum, Franklin County
Peggy Stanton	Doniphan County Historical Society
Martha Parker	Clinton Historical Society
Arnold Schofield	Mine Creek
Don Traub	Traub Design Associates
Susan Traub	Traub Design Associates
Julie Mulvihill	Kansas Humanities Council
Kerry Altenbernd	Black Jack Battlefield
Tristan Smith	Johnson County Museum
Rebecca Phipps	Watkins Community Museum of History, Lawrence
Debbie White	Lawrence Convention & Visitors Bureau
John Nichols	Miami County Historical Society
Judy Billings	Lawrence Convention & Visitors Bureau

Judy Billings called the meeting to order.

WELCOME: Attendees were welcomed by Paul Bahnmaier, Lecompton Historical Society. Senator James Lane also welcomed the group to Lecompton, as did Harriet Beecher Stowe. Paul explained that they were a part of the Lecompton Re-enactors, a group of area residents that provide historical characterizations of significant individuals from the Bleeding Kansas time period. Other attendees introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MARCH MINUTES: Motion by Susan Traub. Seconded by Arnold Schofield. Motion carried. Past minutes are now available online at www.bleedingkansas.org.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Martha Parker reported a balance of \$1,440.68. Billings mentioned that she was invited to speak at the Leavenworth County Historical Society. She received a \$100.00 honorarium, which will be deposited into the account. She reminded the group that she does not expect to receive payment for these types of programs. Billings has developed a Power Point presentation, which is available for use by members of the group.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Billings reported she just returned from Washington DC where she was meeting with legislators on behalf of the Kansas Humanities Council (she serves as chair of the KHC board) as well as for BKHA. Billings acknowledged that both the Kansas Humanities Council and the Kansas State Historical Society were strong partners for BKHA and encouraged the group to use the available through KHC.

The BKHA bill was marked up in committee in the House although there were some concerns expressed by Representative Ike Shelton (D-MO) as to how the Missouri counties are portrayed. The bill has not yet passed.

When Congress returns from spring break, the bill may make it to the floor and get passed. It is anticipated that minor word changes will be made as a compromise to Shelton.

When the bill passes through the House, the Senate bill for BKHA will have to be pulled out of its current package and reviewed separately (as it was on the House side). The bill that the Senate votes on must be identical to the bill passed by the House. As of now, the two are different.

Billings reminded the group to thank all legislators for their hard work, especially Jim Ryun who was critical in working with Congressman Pombo, a key player in the process.

HERITAGE AREA INSTITUTE: Deb Barker serves as chair. The 2-day workshop is tentatively scheduled for August or September. Conducted by professionals involved in heritage areas, the workshops could offer sessions on developing interpretive plans as well as how to physically develop new sites. Franklin County hosted one 2 years ago.

TRADEMARK: Rebecca Phipps serves as chair. Trade-marking is a protection of our names (words, names, symbols, combination of any of those). Phipps researched what BKHA might need to do to safeguard the name/logo Freedom's Frontier, as well as BKHA and Bleeding Kansas & the Enduring Struggle for Freedom. The term "Bleeding Kansas" cannot be trademarked since it is considered a "common name." Although it is not necessary to use an attorney it is encouraged since the process is complicated and costly. Fees, for example, can range from \$245 or \$325 per classification per name.

There are 42 classifications; some more applicable to BKHA usage than others. To apply, BKHA needs to:

- 1) Identify what the group wants to trademark;
- 2) Conduct a trademark search to see if the name(s) have already been protected;
- 3) File a Trademark application. The U.S. Patent & Trademark office reviews;
- 4) After approval is grant, BKHA registers in the appropriate classification categories and pays the corresponding fees.
- 5) A renewal is done after the 5th year.

Discussion followed regarding possible challenges, the considerable financial investment involved, and the necessity of trade-marking the names/logo. Phipps answered the questions and encouraged the group to consider following through with trade-marking since it is the organization's reputation at stake; trade-marking allows for "quality control." Billings stated that she was most concerned at the moment with trade-marking "Freedom's Frontier." Phipps will do more research.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TOURS: Don Traub serves at chair. The group is looking at tours, in part as a response to the National Tour Association's meeting in Kansas City in 2007. The group discussed a variety of tour possibilities, but decided to begin with a John Brown tour. This was done for two reasons: 1) Deb Barker has created a John Brown tour, and 2) there is a comprehensive John Brown brochure available. However, this will not be the only tour created and promoted. Other potential tour ideas included Underground Railroad, Native American, Territorial Capitals and Politics. Arnold Schofield reminded the group that he has created a tour on Bleeding Kansas and Civil War sites.

WEBSITE: Chaired by Debbie White. The website will be reviewed and updated.

MUSEUM RESEARCH: Chaired by Peggy Stanton.

PARTNER SITE DESIGNATION:

John Nichols discussed Draft 2 – Part 1, 3.18.06, 2006 Partner Site Application. Two major changes since the March meeting.

1. Inclusion of 5 visitors readiness levels rather than 3 (Full-Time; Part-Time; Seasonal/By Appointment; Point of Interest; Emerging).
2. Inclusion of Interpretation under each of the 5 levels. Interpretation is key. It must be of quality and fully interpreted to the identified BKHA themes.

Doug Jones from the Shawnee County Historical Society shared that he and others from SCHS visited all of sites in Shawnee County and assessed their visitor readiness levels based on the Partner Site Application criteria. Billings suggested that this is a great example for the group to follow. Robertson reminded the group of the assessment worksheet Mulvihill created and shared with the group in Fredonia. Some discussion occurred about ADA compatibility and where that falls within the Visitors Readiness

levels. Mulvihill asked about annual peer reviews and the need for sites to be encouraged to keep their exhibits, or programs, fresh.

Nichols then discussed information found on page 1, Eligible Applicants/Site Designation Policies and Procedures. Lawson asked if there would be a cost for applying to become a partner site. Nichols responded that this had not yet been addressed. Billings added that BKHA is a free organization, and there is no intention at this point of charging a fee. Altenbernd added that BKHA is a grassroots organization and Billings added that it is this point that is often remarked upon at the national level. Athon congratulated the criteria committee for such a good effort in getting this information on paper. Billings shared that the next step will be constructing the application itself and that this is a “living, breathing document. It will change over time.”

TERRITORIAL KANSAS HERITAGE ALLIANCE: The UGRR brochure has been reviewed by Judith Wellman (Washington, DC), a specialist in UGRR sites. Hope to have the material out to the public by Fall.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS SHARED:

- 11 new wayside exhibits at Marias des Cygnes (Arnold Schofield)
- Pre-planning for management plan is starting (Dale Nimz)
- Volunteers still needed to help with Black Jack clean up (Kerry Altenbernd)
- Spring 06 Kansas Travelers issue has lots of information (Eileen Robertson)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- April 8-9, Fort Scott Civil War weekend
- April 13, Culture & Heritage Tourism conference in Salina
- April 22-23, Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop Civil War Days
- April 24, Judy Billings speaks at the Wilson County Historical Society
- May 5, Kansas Preservation Alliance meeting, Lawrence w/ BKHA panel.
- May 6-7, Kansas Sampler Festival, Garden City
- June 2-3, Black Jack Battlefield Sesquicentennial Commemoration
- June 9, 10, 11, Humboldt’s Civil War Days
- June 10, Clinton Lake Historical Society Open House & Special Event
- June 10, Old Jefferson Town in Oskaloosa Vintage Fashion show, Band Concert
- June 17, Clinton Lake Historical Society Celebration of Juneteenth
- July 1, Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop Independence Day
- July 15, Clinton Lake Historical Society Ice Cream Social
- August 6 Old Jefferson Town in Oskaloosa Battles & Trails program
- August 26 Re-enactment of the Battle of Osawatomie

REMINDERS:

Bring the hard copy of the April minutes and April Agenda to the BKHA meeting May 11 at Mine Creek.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

June 8, 2006	Baldwin City
July 13, 2006	Clinton
August 10, 2006	Shawnee County
September 14, 2006	Jefferson County, Oskaloosa
October 12, 2006	Doniphan County
November 9, 2006	Neosho County, Chanute

Meeting adjourned at noon.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Mulvihill