

Freedom's Frontier

NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA



May 10, 2007
Meeting Notes
Native American Heritage Museum
Highland, KS

Suzette McCord Rogers, Site Administrator of the Native American Heritage Museum in Highland, Kansas, welcomed the Partnership Team. She presented a brief history of Native Americans in the region and of the Museum site in Doniphan County. Pete Duncan, Doniphan County Historical Society President, briefly outlined historically significant events of the county. Reuben Iron Horse Kent, an Iowa Tribe member and staff member of the Museum played several Native American flutes, one of which he had made.

Judy Billings reiterated that Kansas and Missouri are merging interests in this endeavor and that all the counties in this area are connected. All the volunteers present introduced themselves.

There were no changes to the April minutes. Eileen Robertson moved approval and Kerry Altenbernd seconded and motion carried.

Treasurer, Martha Parker, was not present. Judy Billings reported that the account balance was around \$1500.00. Judy had added \$100.00 that she had been given for speaking to the MO Department of Natural Resources Annual Meeting of Historic Site Curators.

Judy Billings updated the group on the by-laws. The attorney's office is reviewing the by-laws and they will soon be available for review. Judy, brought with her, and encouraged anyone interested to peruse the copy of the by-laws in their current state. Once approved by the Board of Trustees she will email a copy of the by-laws and the list of Trustees.

Judy Billings reported that the group has four good RFP management plan proposals. The committee members (Paul Bahnmaier, Eileen Robertson, Carol Bohl, Jody Craig, Judy Billings, Debbie White, Deb Barker and Lori Simms) have copies of the proposals. The team will meet and narrow the choices to two, at which time interviews will be held. The four groups that submitted proposals are:

- John Milner
- National Geographic Center for Sustainable Destination
- GouldEvans Architects
- Shapin Associates

Each has their own strengths, and all have experience with the National Park Service.

Committee Reports

Tours – Don Traub

Team continues to work on the John Brown tour and the Pre-Civil War/Civil War tour. Future project may include Historic trails and Territorial Capitols. Anyone interested is invited to join the committee. It was announced that Kansas Humanities Council is developing iTours that will focus on the settlement of the Freedom's Frontier area through first person diaries.

Website - Debbie White

Debbie continues to work with Steve, web designer, on the site.

Visitor readiness form will soon be on-line, until it is please sent information to Debbie's home address: deb.mcwhite@sbcglobal.net - deadline for submission is May 31. To-date we have received 14 forms. It was asked whether emerging sites (some of which may be on private property) are eligible add to our list of sites. Debbie replied you should first have the owner's permission, but to go ahead and fill out the visitor readiness information and note site is on private property, that way we will already have the information. Once form is live on the website forms must be submitted electronically. Some members stated they were having trouble filling the forms out electronically. Debbie will look into this problem and assured the group that once the form was on the website it will be easier. The address is www.freedomsfortier.org. Continue to submit events electronically using the form on the website (go to the bottom of the homepage and click on "Partners") If you have questions feel free to call Debbie at 785.865.4499. Some voiced concern with getting the website to come up. Debbie would appreciate help from anyone with expertise in this area.

Each year students submit essays for Kansas Day. This year's theme was "Hopeful for Liberty." FFFNHA funded the \$50 prize for the winning essay dealing with a Freedom's Frontier focus. Missouri has a similar event at the Truman Library, Terry Ramsey will check into helping to sponsor it also.

Sue Pridemore will attend the June meeting and we will continue the discussion on themes.

Currently Jamestown's 400th anniversary is in the news. Check out www.virtualjamestown.org. Similar publicity is what we can expect for the Civil War Sesquicentennial in 2001. One project is already under way, a Civil War GIS Project. The National Park Service has chosen FFFNHA as the proto-type for their Civil War GIS project. Judy and Debbie were part of a conference call with NPS to get the project started.

The NPS will need specific information and the Visitor Readiness Form has been adapted to capture this for the GIS Project.

- What specific event in history does this site relate to?
- Historic Event Beginning Date and Ending Date.
- What Important person or group was involved at this site or event in history?
- Historic pictures of site and current day picture of site.

Mid-America Regional Council has GIS savvy personnel on staff that can assist in understanding the language. We will be able to add to and modify the GIS information as time goes on. Currently we have a list of 48 Kansas sites and we are working to obtain Missouri sites within the heritage area.

To help tell the stories the National Park Service is particularly interested in:

- Any New England connections
- State regiments that went elsewhere
- What the individual soldiers did during and after the war

The Park Service will have the final say on sites that will be included.

Announcements

It was announced that funding for NPS program "Network to Freedom" has been funded. Network to Freedom deals with the Underground Railroad.

The Iowa Historical Society is interested in connecting all states that have a part in the John Brown story. They are extending the opportunity to FFFNHA to join in this project and we will let them know we are interested.

Rebecca Phipps stated there are two grants that she would like for us to keep in mind for the future Save Our History - schools and Save American Treasures – significant collections.

They both require collaboration but are available each year.

Debbie stated that we are putting together a basket of items to be auctioned at IHDC Conference, contributions are welcomed and the basket must be mailed tomorrow (May 11),

Upcoming events:

- 151st anniversary of the Battle of Black Jack – Saturday, June 2, 4pm – 9pm – short program and campfire supper
- Kansas City Union Cemetery Sesquicentennial – Friday and Saturday, June 8 and 9
- Bushwhacker Days in Nevada – June 15 and 16
- Interpretive Workshop June 27 & 28 Salina, KS \$55
- Next meeting will be in Fort Scott and the National Historic Site

Attendees:

Miami Co. Hist. Soc.	John Nichols
Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop	Alexis Radil
Leavenworth Co.	Keyta Kelly
Traub Design Assoc.	Don Traub
Linn Co./Mound City	Ken & Mary Asher
Heritage Comm./Doniphan Co.	Mary Lou Glynn
Heritage Comm./Doniphan Co.	Mariann Parker
Watkins Museum	Rebecca Phipps
Sac and Fox Tribal Museum	Deanne Bahr
Pottawatomie Co. Econ. Dev.	Brandi Brinegar
Iowa Tribe	Joann Comer
Iowa Tribe	Louis Deroin
Lecompton Hist. Soc.	Paul Bahnmaier
Old Jefferson Town	Julie Frisbie
Wakefield Museum	Clif Gordon
Osage Co. Eco. Dev.	Peggy Clark
Black Jack Battlefield Trust	Kerry Altenbernd
Buchanan Co. CVB	Joe Houts
St. Joseph CVB	Marci Bennett
Mine Creek Battlefield	Arnold Schofield
Mid-Am Regional Council	Jody Craig
Doniphan Co.	Peggy Stanton
Doniphan Co. Hist. Soc.	Pat Dill
Doniphan Co. Heritage Comm.	Julie Dorrell
Wabaunsee Co. Hist. Soc.	Michael Stubbs
Bushwhacker Museum	Terry Ramsey
Overland Park CVB	Amy Garton
Merriam CVB	Karen Crane
Doniphan Co. Heritage Comm.	Paul Dittmore
Chanute	Elly McCoy
Humboldt C of C & Hist. Soc.	Eileen Robertson
Fredonia CVB	Emma Crites
LeRoy	Bill Freeman
Riley Co. Museum/Goodnow House	Cheryl Collins
Doniphan Co. Hist. Soc.	Pete Duncan
Native American Heritage Museum	Suzette McCord Rogers
Lawrence CVB	Debbie White
Lawrence CVB	Judy Billings