

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF THE HILLSBORO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Board of Directors of the Hillsboro Historical Society (HHS) held its monthly meeting for January on January 4, 2025.

In attendance: Joseph Britton, Kathleen Blair, Ewa Czarnojanczyk, Steve Dobrott, Jeff Forbes, Karen Mast, and Robin Tuttle.

The meeting was convened at 9:03 a.m.

Election. Britton, Czarnojanczyk were re-elected to the HHS Board. Forbes was also elected to his first term. Dobrott, Trushell, Tuttle and Czarnojanczyk will continue as President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Minutes. The minutes of the meeting of December 5, 2024 were approved on a motion by Britton and seconded by Mast.

Financial Report. Dobrott shared a December invoice totaling \$27,473.60 for work by Black Range Construction on the coach house. The total paid to BRC thus amounts to \$162,495.83. An additional amount of \$13,100 has been budgeted for solar panels.

Czarnojanczyk presented the Statement of Activity by Class, the Profit and Loss Statement and the Balance Sheet for December. Total Liabilities and Equity amount to \$227,098. The report was approved on a motion by Mast, seconded by Blair.

Publications Report. Trushell noted in text, as part of the agenda, that she has posted all the GZP Journals (after 2017) online and indicated what a remarkable contribution this has been to our area's history. She thanked Joe Britton and Harley Shaw – plus all the writers over the years for the professional GZP Journal.

Britton is now serving as the President of the Historical Society of New Mexico (HSNM). He reported that the 2025 conference will be held in Las Cruces. With an emphasis on value of local journals, Britton suggested that the HHS consider proposing a session at the conference on the GZP. Czarnojanczyk also suggested placing a link to the HSNM website on the HHS site.

Black Range Museum Report. Blair reported improved BRM visitor and gift shop sales for the year, including during Christmas in the Foothills. Dobrott noted he had contacted Ethos about some internet issues. Blair cited some concerns with the museum's printer. Forbes will assess and report back to the Board about whether the HHS should purchase a new printer.

Blair noted under new business the possibilities for an events calendar and presentations in 2025. The HSNM provides an extensive list of individuals available at no cost to make presentations. Board members may wish to review the list and make suggestions for two to Blair. Should the HHS schedule a presenter who travels a distance, it may be appropriate to

provide overnight accommodations. There are also individuals who reside in the area who could be scheduled: e.g. presentations on the coach house and cemetery projects.

Dobrott noted that he will be attending the February 17 meeting of the Sheriff Garrett Society. This may present an opportunity for soliciting donations for the Coach House

Coach House Progress. Dobrott updated the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) on the progress of the Coach House (completion) and a draft Scope of Work to be reviewed by the Historical Preservation Division. Dobrott also inquired by letter as to the status of the HHS request for transfer of the coach and outlined the completion of steps accomplished as required by DCA. The DCA response indicated that the Facility Management Bureau was reviewing the actions necessary to remove the coach from the Lincoln County Courthouse. Upon approval by the FMB, the project will go to the HPD for review and approval. If approved, then the Director of the History Museum of New Mexico will recommend the removal of the Mountain Pride from its permanent collection to be transferred to the HHS. The Cabinet Secretary and the Board of Regents will make the final decision.

Back Yard Plan and Estimates. Trushell provided a note as part of the agenda which indicated that Steve Morgan is working with Craig Stookey of Advanced Building Solutions to develop a bid for our backyard at the Museum. Craig has recently moved with his family to Kingston. His large-scale commercial company can do pavers, irrigation, plantings, plus much needed guttering on the new building. Steve and Craig are working together to get budget numbers for a bid. They will provide the budget, the bid and final drawings by the February Board meeting.

Insurance on the Coach House. Dobrott indicated that the Board needs to make a decision on what to cover and the level insurance for the museum, coach house and storage container buildings and contents. A decision also needs to be made with respect to the whether or not we will support transportation of the Mountain Pride to and from Montana for restoration.

Accomplishments. The Board reviewed the annual document from Trushell entitled “Hillsboro Historical Society 2024 Priorities – DRAFT (1.7.24)” A summary / status of accomplishments by HHS that were stated as goals for 2024 in that document:

Completed

- Coach House planning and construction
- Membership management and year end mailing
- Membership meeting in the Spring
- HHS website restructuring, including a cemetery section and posting GZP Journals
- Geology component update for the mining room
- Cemetery mapping
- Adopt a highway

Continuing development/in progress

- GZP Journal
- BRM back yard planning
- Stagecoach acquisition
- Ethnobotany displays and signage for medical room
- Interpretive signs for BRM, courthouse, jail, other sites
- Historic walking tours and brochure

No progress

- Fund raising and grants/special events
- Jail stabilization
- Oral histories

The meeting was adjourned at 10:09 on a motion by Mast, seconded by Britton.

Minutes taken by HHS Board Secretary Robin Tuttle