

New Castle, Colorado
Historic Preservation Commission Meeting
Monday, May 16, 2022, 6:30 PM

Call to Order

Commission Chair Mari Riddile called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present	Chair Riddile Commissioner Hazelton Commissioner Ruth Fletcher Commissioner Richard Fletcher
Absent	Alternate Commissioner Fuller

Also present at the meeting were Town Clerk Melody Harrison, members of the Historic Society of New Castle and members of the public.

Meeting Notice

Clerk Harrison verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with Resolution TC 2020-1.

Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

Citizen Comments on Items NOT on the Agenda

There were no citizen comments.

Agenda Changes

There were no changes to the agenda.

Items for Consideration

Discussion of Historic Town Survey Grant Update

Chair Riddile announced the grant agreement would be received by the end of May and called for a special meeting to be held on June 13, 2022 to review the agreement and move forward with the project. Chair Riddile asked the commission to confirm if they still felt Pinyon Environmental was the consulting team they wished to hire once they received the grant agreement and the commission unanimously agreed.

Discussion of School House Designation Plaque

Chair Riddile asked for the commissioners' opinions regarding the historical naming of the designation of 151 W. Main Street for the purpose of ordering a historical designation plaque. She noted the quitclaim deed and a Historic Society publication both referenced that building as "Old New Castle School." However, the request made by Ambleside called it "Rosie Ferrin's Historic Building." Commissioner Richard Fletcher answered he wanted the naming to be Old New Castle School. Commissioner Grady Hazelton agreed and mentioned his opinion was not to take away from Rosie Ferrin and what she had done for

the schoolhouse. He said there was a lot of history with that school that predated Rosie. Chair Riddile agreed and said she felt the plaque should read Old New Castle School and the commission agreed.

Chair Riddile reviewed the quote provided by Micro Plastics in Rifle, CO. She said she wanted to match what had already been produced for previous designations and asked staff to confirm before a plaque would be ordered.

Discussion of Historic Society Museum Support

Chair Riddile introduced members of the Historic Society; Joe McNeal, Loraine McNeal (President) and Mary Anne Ligon (Treasurer). Kathy Arthur, a member of the Historic Society, was not able to attend. Chair Riddile asked them if they had been in contact with Councilor Brandy Copeland who committed to assist the Historic Society with computer tutorials. Joe McNeal commented he planned to contact Councilor Copeland. He said a goal of his was to digitize all the obituaries since there was a high demand from the public seeking information of past relatives. Mary Anne Ligon confirmed their computer setup was online and just needed software programs to support museum functions. She said Kathy Arthur knew what software to use. Commissioner Grady Hazelton acknowledged on behalf of Councilor Copeland, her interest and desire to assist the Historic Society with their new computer station.

Joe McNeal suggested another project involving the computer station. He shared his idea of creating a New Castle booklet of stories, histories, etc. that would be available at the museum. He said the museum was very hands on and he would like to get more people involved and educated about New Castle. He announced the Historic Society would hold a meeting in June or July at the River Center and invited the commission. He mentioned membership was \$5.

Commissioner Hazelton discussed the heating issue at the museum. He reported he spoke with Jim Wirt of Tradesman Electric who confirmed, after visiting the museum with Xcel Energy, that the facility had good electric service available. Commissioner Hazelton suggested the museum install two separate electric heating units. One unit would be in the office and the other unit in the main display room in an effort to avoid a lot of duct work and avoid having to heat the entire building. He added that Mr. Wirt would install additional electric outlets with surge protection in the museum and replace the florescent lights with LED fixtures. Commissioner Hazelton said he spoke with Town Administrator David Reynolds about town staff determining the right electric heating units for the museum based on the dimensions of the facility. He clarified these units would be hardwired in the walls with thermostats and added that Public Works would be responsible for plumbing repairs.

Follow-up discussion of Historic Preservation Support of Joe McNeal

Commissioner Hazelton shared names of families he felt would qualify to be interviewed with a videographer given their long history with the town. He mentioned the Rippy family and the Jolley's. He introduced Lisa Moretti, a resident of New Castle for 35 years and previous videographer. Ms. Moretti shared her past videography experience and ideas for the project which included storyboard concepts and assistance in helping to find a videographer. She noted the editing of a video was time consuming which added to cost

of production. Joe McNeal reminded the commission that the Historic Society had recorded and produced audio tapes of local families interviewed in the past. He said he would like to see that incorporated in the project. Mr. McNeal noted there was town history of agriculture and town expansion after the coal mines that was previously missed.

Chair Riddile revisited her original idea of preserving the knowledge and history of the town through the stories of lifelong New Castle residents. She said she wanted someone to sit down with Joe and interview him. Chair Riddile asked Ms. Moretti if she had any videographer contacts that she could share with the commission. Ms. Moretti confirmed she could assist with a contact list and reiterated the importance of defining the project audience, scope and outcome for said videographer. She offered her assistance with planning the project scope. Chair Riddile expressed her concern of time and the need to get the project done sooner rather than later. Commissioner Hazelton agreed. Ms. Moretti clarified that the project's intent sounded like "video interviews capturing stories." Chair Riddile asked the commission if they agreed with that intent, and it was a unanimous yes. Commissioner Hazelton remarked he could see the project evolving over time but capturing stories was a good starting point.

Chair Riddile asked Town Clerk Melody Harrison about the logistics on planning the project as a commission and if a workshop would be the best option. Clerk Harrison said a workshop was a great way to plan as a group. She reminded the commission that no decisions could be made in a workshop, but it was a good tool to use to organize the project. Clerk Harrison said the only agenda item for the special meeting in June was the review of the grant agreement from History Colorado. Chair Riddile stated that HPC will hold their meeting and then adjourn for a workshop on June 13, 2022.

Consider Approval of March 14, 2022 Minutes

MOTION: Commissioner Hazelton made a motion to approve the minutes of March 14, 2022. Commissioner Richard Fletcher seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commission Comments

There were no commissioner comments.

Adjourn

MOTION: Chair Riddile made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Ruth Fletcher seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mari Riddile

Commission Chair
Mari Riddile

Remi Bordelon

Administrative Assistant
Remi Bordelon

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