

**Jefferson County Historical Commission**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting, March 1, 2021**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Jefferson County Historical Commission's March meeting was called to order at 2:03 pm by Chair, Lee Katherine Goldstein. The meeting was held via Zoom internet technology, due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic and public health orders limiting the number of people who can gather in indoor spaces.

**Jefferson County Historical Commission members participating:** Scott Crotzer, Kelly Cvanciger, Lee Katherine Goldstein, Daniel Haas, Carla Opp, Bonnie Scudder, Dick Scudder, Cynthia Shaw, and John Steinle. **Emeritus member attending:** Rita Peterson. **Members excused:** Steve Engle and Richard Gardner. **Staff participating:** Brittany Gada. **Guest:** Chris O'Keefe

**II. ADMINISTRATION**

- **Agenda changes:** Lee Katherine Goldstein stated that Chris O'Keefe was joining the meeting
- **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** On a motion by John Steinle, which was seconded by Richard Scudder, the minutes were approved as written and will be filed in the JCHC records.
- **Discussion of Correspondence:** A graduate student wrote indicating that he was interested in learning more about the history of El Rancho in Evergreen. Anyone with information is asked to forward it to Lee Katherine. Carla Opp received a request for information on Meta Park, a destination in the early 1900s located somewhere in the Platte Canyon which was popular with African Americans. Research by Rick Gardner, John Steinle, and Bonnie Scudder revealed numerous articles and flyers related to this place, and Meta Park apparently was located on the Platte River near Pine Grove. The information was forwarded to the person requesting it.

**III. ACTION ITEMS- NEW BUSINESS**

- **Charters of Freedom:** Chris O'Keefe, Director of Planning and Zoning, presented an update on the JCHC recommendations for the Charters of Freedom Project, which is under consideration by the Board of County Commissioners. Chris informed that the BCC was pleased with the JCHC's recommendations and would like the project to contain the JCHC's recommended components including the "Toward a More Perfect Union" component. The next step is for representatives of the JCHC to meet with Don Davis and the BCC mid-March to discuss the costs

and timing of the project. In the meantime, JCHC will explore funding possibilities for the various components, attempt to estimate costs, and work on a timeline for implementation. Brittany will explore the potential costs to the Jeffco Facilities Department and explore their timeline as well.

- **CPI Saving Places Conference Highlights:** Dick Scudder felt that a session he attended regarding density was helpful.... Another session on the GNAR Gateway Community in Utah spoke about various recreational areas.... John Steinle liked a presentation by Metcalf Architects that talked about various cell phone apps that are useful in identifying specific architectural features. John felt that such an app might be very useful to JCHC in identifying various historical landmarks within the county. Bonnie Scudder was particularly impressed with CPI's efforts to weave a thread of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion into many of the presentations. This was very effective, and speakers of color were included in the program. Chris Bowles of History Colorado is in the process of hiring a consultant to provide a framework for HC enabling it to be more responsive to all communities. Another keynote address, given by Lori Pace, focused on Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. She spoke of "saving faces while saving places" and "saving faces in historic places," addressing the issue of gentrification. Lori's speech urged consideration and inclusion of people who might be displaced, suggesting that they become part of the solution. She also stated that "It is not possible to move forward without looking backward," which provided good food for thought. Another worthwhile session on underrepresented communities in Wyoming shared information on coal miners in the Green Valley area. Many of these families were Black. Their stories were found through local Black History Museums. Scott Crotzer found sessions on sustainability and stained-glass windows very informative. Cynthia Shaw was also very impressed with Lori Pace's keynote address, and mentioned that Lori spoke about the importance of mentors and the impact they can have on students of color, in particular. Lee Katherine Goldstein felt that the discussion regarding how to speak to different groups of people in language and narrative to get them to care about historic preservation was valuable. Rita Peterson mentioned that at the last Lakewood Historical Society's meeting, an attendee had spoken about the session presented by Metcalf Architects and indicated that they might be a source for fundraising.
- **2021 JCHC Work Plan:** Lee Katherine Goldstein mentioned that the updated 2021 Workplan had been sent to each JCHC member. There were no questions or changes. On a motion by Dick Scudder, seconded by Cynthia Shaw, the JCHC 2021 Work Plan was approved.

#### IV. REPORTS

**Chair Comments:** Lee Katherine Goldstein stated that she felt that the CPI Conference was very beneficial. While JCHC has now operated on a virtual platform for a year, it really has worked out quite well. Committees are working very effectively virtually and seem to be meeting more frequently.

**STAFF REPORTS:** Brittany Gada reported that the COMPASS database from History Colorado will be accessible to JCHC members who complete the application form and return it to Brittany, as she needs to sign it. The display area on the third-floor atrium is available for our displays, but space must also be made available to other departments located on the third floor, if requested. Place Names Database – Jeffco IT Department will be working with Mark Dodge of the Golden History Museum on reviving and transferring the database. Bonnie Scudder requested to be informed of the status of this project, as the Special Projects Committee will need to work with Mark on this project. Charters of Freedom Proposal: Brittany will assist with this project, should it be approved. Surplus HJ Magazines to Jeffco schools: Kelly Cvanciger and Scott Crotzer will pick up surplus magazines from PZ, Archives, and Dennis's storage area in April. Kelly will work with her high school students on a community service project, where magazines will be bundled and delivered to high schools using the district's mail delivery system. 2020 HJ Magazines: Available for pick-up in PZ office by appointment.

#### **COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS:**

- **Executive and Administrative Committee: Lee Katherine Goldstein, Chair,** stated that the Executive Committee is now meeting monthly via Zoom to review the agenda before it is sent to each member. Members wishing to add agenda items should send information to Lee Katherine about ten days prior to the monthly meeting.
- **Education & Events Committee: Cynthia Shaw and John Steinle, Co-Chairs,** John announced that this committee needs to meet soon, as the Symposium presenters are scheduled to be videotaped on 4/10 and 4/11. Dick mentioned that the presenters need to notify him of the location of the taping, and that weather, noise, and lighting needs to be considered. Kelly Cvanciger may need to change the topic of her presentation due to current accessibility issues (COVID-19 related) at the Sobesky School. A press release will need to be prepared soon to get to PR; Brittany will submit a ticket in mid-April. Scott Crotzer mentioned that Green Mountain High School has a sustainability program.
- **Friends of JCHC: Steve Engle, Chair** - no report.
- **Historical Preservation & Landmarks Committee: Richard Scudder, Chair,** mentioned that a long list of possible landmarks has been compiled. Prospective candidates for the Meyers Award were discussed at their recent committee meeting. They will be presented at the April JCHC meeting.
- **Nominating Committee: Cynthia Shaw:** No report.

- **Publications Committee: Carla Opp and Bonnie Scudder, Co-Chairs.** This committee met on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. The agenda included discussion of the 2021 Work Plan, finalization of the Author's Packet, and discussion of potential topics for articles. The packet was then sent to JCHC members as well as to historical organizations, museums, and former guest authors. Two historical organizations have already committed to writing articles. A table has been prepared to track the various articles that are planned. Please send information about articles you plan to write, or that your contacts may be submitting, to Bonnie. As Diversity is one of our themes, wherever possible diverse writers should be included to share their stories in their words. In some cases, co-authoring might be considered. A March meeting will be scheduled via zoom.
- **Social Media, PR, and Technology Committee: Carla Opp and Dick Scudder, Cochairs.** Several historical organizations are doing a great job with content and interactivity. Liaisons should check out websites of the groups they represent. Carla and Dick will work with Renae to update the JCHC website. Dick is completing the video on the funicular; the historic octagon at Shaffer's Crossing will be the next project. Scott will explore obtaining an Instagram account for JCHC.
- **Special Projects Committee: Bonnie Scudder, Chair,** This committee met via zoom on February 4<sup>th</sup>. The agenda included discussion of the 2021 Work Plan and the completion of the Judges Wall Project. Bios for three district and county judges who retired in 2020 are being written for JD#1. Laura Arcilise, liaison to JD#1, reported that progress is being made to update the Phase II wall with the bios of the recent retirees. Additional bios need to be completed for historic county judges who will be featured in the on-line display only. Chris Hudson, Colorado Supreme Court Law Library, will oversee development of the database that will feature all of our JD#1 judges, both district and county, from the Gold Rush Era, through the Territorial, Election, and Merit Selection eras. It is possible that this may be completed this year.

## V. INFORMAL REPORTS

- **Reports on Local Organizations:** John Steinle indicated that there is much opposition in the rezoning issue in Arvada where the Amazon is hoping to build a large warehouse. One member commented that perhaps a little-used shopping center could be repurposed instead. Rick Gardner sent word that History Colorado has officially determined that the Maas Residence in Golden's Goosetown neighborhood is eligible for the National Historic Register.
- **Calls for Social Media or Marketing Items:** Reported under Committee Reports.

**VI. NEXT MEETING:** Monday, April 5, 2021, from 2:00-4:00 pm, via Zoom.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**Bonnie E. Scudder, Secretary**