

Museum Advisory Board

June 20th, 2024

Greeley History Museum

Roll Call: Gary Alexander, Marcus Embry, George Junne, Floris Mikkelsen, Emma Pena-McCleave, Nancy Masimer, Michael Weiland (Chair).

1. Approval of May 16th, 2024, Museum Advisory Board Minutes.
2. Introduction and Welcome the Historic Preservation Committee.
3. Reports:
 - Questions on Report
4. Presentations:
 - 2024 Ballot Presentation
 - Architectural Virtual Library Presentation
 - CRPD Comprehensive Master Plan update and speak up Greeley Survey
5. Questions for Presenters.
6. Friends of the Greeley Museums Report: (Nathaniel Johnson or Representative)
7. Task Force Reports (if time allows)
 - Public task force input reports:
 - Experience Task Force (Mike/George)
 - Acquisitions Task Force (Marcus/Staff)
8. New Business (if time allows)
 - Invitation to elected officials
9. Next Meeting July 18, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. at the Greeley History Museum.
10. Adjourn

Museum Advisory Board Minutes

May 16, 2024

Greeley History Museum

The meeting was called to order by Micheal Weiland at 4:00 p.m.

1. Approval of the April 18, 2024, Museum Advisory Minutes.

Board Present: George Junne, Floris Mikkelsen, Emma Pena-McCleave, Nancy Masimer.

Board Absent: Gary Alexander.

Staff Present: Joanna Stull, Brecklyn Everhart.

2. Approval of April minutes:

Motion to approve the April minutes made by Floris Mikkelsen and seconded by Emma Pena-McCleave.

Motion passed 5 votes to approve. 1 vote abstain.

3. Reports:

CPRD: Report: Presented by Megan Weiler (on behalf of Diana Frick)

- The budget season has ended. There are requests for staff increases. There are also requests for advertising and interactive exhibits.
- The budget process is currently in the city manager's office and is awaiting approval. Staff will notify board members when the budget is being discussed.

Cultural Division Report: (Megan Weiler)

- June 1st Berry Dunn is officially launching public input for their research on the speak up Greeley website.
- There will be a chance for the boards to sit down with Berry Dunn and be able to provide input on visions and ideas for their specific board.
- Watched a presentation on country historic buildings put on by Dr. Maria Delgado. They will be doing a scan on meeker home. Megan has invited Dr. Maria Delgado to come and give us a presentation.

Museum Report: (Megan Weiler on behalf of Chris Bowles)

- The museum advisory board will make a plan to invite the council to come and see the museum. They want to make it clear how important the museum is.

- The board asked about what happened to the district 6 museum to you. Staff received word District 6 will no longer be participating in the museum to your program.
- There is discussion being taken between staff members and District 6 to reverse their decision.
- The city is ramping up efforts to become more accessible with transitioning over from Rectrac to smart rec.
- Centennial Village staff Caleb Rogers has been diligently working on the garden beds at Centennial Village.

Staff Reports:

Exhibits: (Holly Berg)

- Has been beta testing of the virtual exhibit called Unsolved: Can you solve the case? Formal marketing will be in the Fall.
- The board asked if there was a lot of information about the district schools. Staff informed us there is little information about schools and the education system in the records.
- Staff have been working on cleaning up data to transfer over to Smart Rec. They will start the implementation on September 10th.
- There will be no more virtual exhibits released until the current exhibits are up to code.

Collections: (Joanna Stull)

- Staff have been familiarizing themselves with the UNC operations and collections so there are no crossed paths and there is full collaboration.

Historic Sites:

- Kaite and Gus presented.
- History Fest has been busy and full.

4. Friends of the Greeley Museums Report was skipped due to absence.

5. Experience Task Force Report:

- Decided to cancel the museum at twilight in June.
- Presentation by Katie Henry in how to make the Meeker Exhibit more culturally appropriate and launch a big project for a reinterpretation on the Meeker home story.
- Discussion on upcoming potential exhibits.

6. Acquisitions Task Force Report:

- Ledger kept by a Notar republic from 1885 to 1983. Judge Albert Curtis Smith
- Pictures of city council and mayors from 2007-2014.
- Donate the original letter

7. New Business:

- Approval of acquisitions task force recommendations for deaccession.

Motion to approve the consent agenda considerations from March 21,2024 made by Marcus and seconded by Floris Mikkelsen.

Motion passed unanimously.

- The board decided to wait to get board members to resume the outreach committee.
- Invitation to City Council to come and tour the museum and have lunch with the board members. The chair proposed a meeting with the board members to further discuss details.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

The next meeting will be on June 20, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. at the Greeley History Museum.

9. The recorded was opened again at 5:06 p.m. by staff.

- A proposal for a June 1st through May 31st, 2025, there will be a new moratorium that would extend to all areas of the museum, This means they are not accepting anymore donations to allow staff to get everything up to date, and transfer to the new database.

Motion to support the proposal for the moratorium made by Floris Mikkelsen and seconded by Marcus Embry.

Motion passed unanimously.

10. Meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Museums' May 2024 Report

Major Events

Museum Manager

- **Goodbye Ann!** We wave a fond cheerio to Ann Abbath who worked diligently behind the scenes keeping all our museums clean since 2006! Ann was, and is, a member of the family so we wish her well in retirement.
- **Hello Isaac!** Isaac Baca Jr joins us from Recreation where he worked cleaning the Ice Haus for the last few years. Isaac comes to us with knowledge of cleaning individual homes and venues, but also with a love of history.
- **Hello Briar Havens!** Geoff and Bri had their baby girl at the start of the month, and the CV staff are already looking for ways to put her to work...
- **Welcome Back Scott!** Scott Chartier has rejoined our family (formally) as a new Museum Advisory Board Member. With his extensive knowledge of our operations, and passion for our work, he'll be a tremendous asset to the Board.
- **Staff Changes:** May saw a few temporary staff changes that have impacted operations, but also strengthened our team. With two members of the Historic Sites crew off work for much of the summer, we made two changes. Gus Rudnick took over events and rentals, and we were able to extend the hours of Kelbi O'Connor who has taken over education. Both have stepped up to the challenge amazingly well, and I'm hugely grateful to them both!
- **SmartRec:** I also want to give an enormous hand to Holly, Katie Ross and Jessi. CPRD is moving to a new point of sale system by Amilia called SmartRec. Staff are expected to train for and design the system for our needs. All three staff stepped up to the plate and worked incredibly hard to get the new system hammered into shape. This, and other changes, has meant a slow-down to work in Exhibits and Collections, however. Work will continue on SmartRec through August with a go live date on September 10.
- **Accessibility:** Another major hurdle the team had to overcome is a legislative change to Colorado's Accessibility Laws. A new law went into effect this year asking that all governments make digital content shared with the public accessible to disabled users by July 1 of this year. Holly and Katie worked hard at discovering the implications for us, working with the C&E department to identify fixes, and on making sure our web content in particular is accessible. There is now a slight cushion, giving governments until July next year to be fully compliant, but we're working to beat that deadline.
- **Dearfield Conference:** Holly, JoAnna and I attended the annual Dearfield Conference at UNC. The conference was well-attended, and presenters gave a range of papers ranging from work to identify any former slaves among the early Dearfield residents, to our very own Holly talking about baseball.
- **Scenic and Historic Byways:** Chris attended the Scenic and Historic Byways Summit in Alamosa at the start of the month. The annual conference brings together members of the various Scenic and Historic Byways committees from across the state, and topic

Museums' May 2024 Report

include tourism, fundraising and stakeholder engagement. Chris is a governor appointed Commissioner for the Byways Commission, and the current Vice President.

Exhibits

- In May, Holly spent 34.5 hours on the RecTrac replacement project. This included Amilia University online courses, live SmartRec trainings, and implementation and logistics meetings.
- Holly presented a paper on African Americans on early baseball teams in our area at the annual Dearfield conference.

Collections

- COGM recieved confirmation that the Colorado and Wyoming Association of Museums (CWAM) will host their annual conference in Greeley next year. Katie Ross is a CWAM Board member, and worked with the Board to start nailing down details. The conference will be held in the downtown Doubletree, with upwards of 150 participants from across the two states.
- In May we were also successful in procuring a new museums database! The new database will be on the Axiell system, and over the coming months Katie Ross will work closely with them to move our data on to the new software. This will allow for better record keeping and public access including, for the first time, online searching.
- The Collections moratorium is now in place. We will not be accepting donations from the Public during this time to allow staff time to work with new software, accessibility requirements and to clear work backlogs.
- Katie Ross started the transition from Ann Abbath to be the top chef for History Fest. She led food purchasing and preparation for breakfast and lunch for Spring History Fest staff and volunteers alongside Ann.
- Katie also updated our housekeeping documents for the training of new facilities cleaning technician, Isaac Baca, Jr.
- Miranda began the fun task of organizing one of the USDA aerals collections in preparation for cataloging

Education and Interpretation

- Katie Henry ran a ship-shape Spring History Fest in May. Thanks to important procedural changes she brought in, the event was much more structured and efficient than in years past. Once again, we received around a 95% satisfaction rate from teachers many of whom positively on the new changes. **We want to thank all staff and volunteers who helped make it such a great success!**
- Gus coordinated closely with Katie Henry to facilitate numerous group visits and History Fest. These education opportunities reached hundreds of students in the Northern Colorado area. This also meant managing and directing adult chaperones and teachers to ensure the safety of the kids and the historic site.
- Gus and Kelbi stepped up to the plate in the last half of the month to keep our interpretation and education operations thriving after Geoff and Katie Henry's temporary departures. While it was challenging, both are up to it and exploring new ways to work, some of which we may bring in permanently.

Museums' May 2024 Report

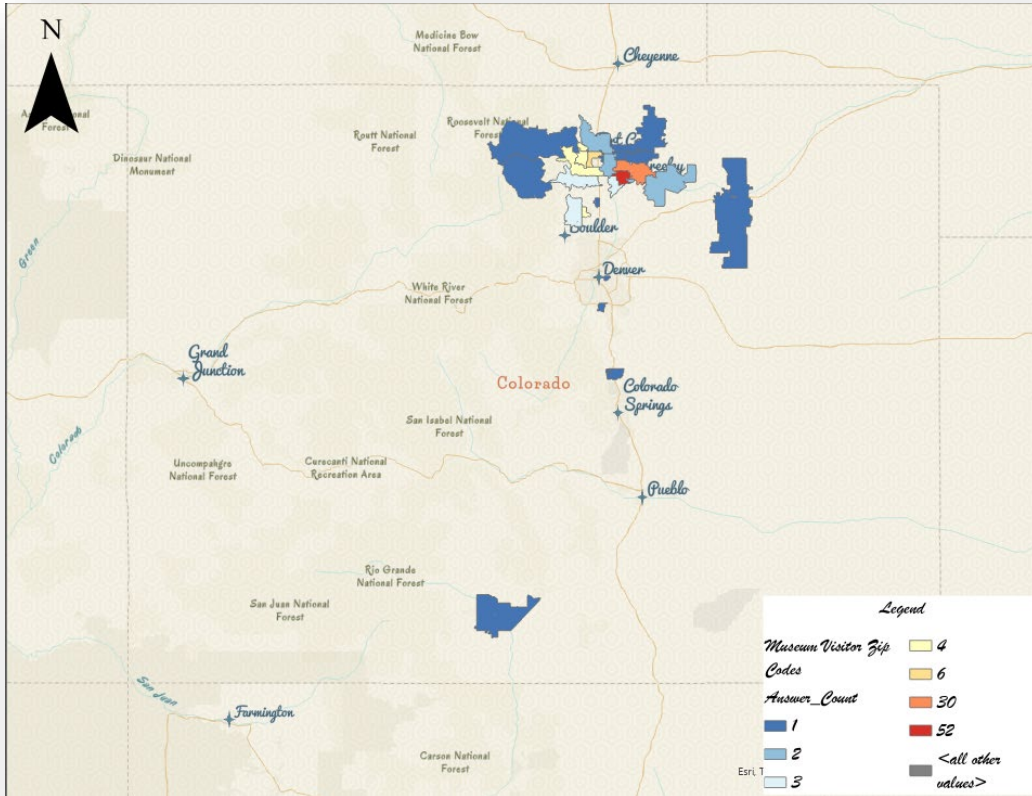
- Work continued on organizing the first Hands on History camp this summer. Staff were involved in hiring History Colorado's camp manager, who will be out on site with them throughout July to the end of the camp in August.
- Centennial Village once again hosted Young Chautauqua in May to great success. Staff assisted the Young Chautauquan's as they presented their historic characters to visitors.
- Gus managed and ran Centennial Celebration and the beginning of the open season. She communicated with her team, managed stations and volunteers, and coordinated with the Buffalo Soldier guest presenters. She also printed souvenir postcards for the event in the historic print shop.
- Gus also organized new tour outlines for the basic tours that will be given by interpreters on open Fridays. This will allow for the interpreters to have quick reference material while giving the presentation and for a cohesive storyline to be given to the visitors. She gave out tour maps to all the interpreters to allow them to prepare ahead of time for the basic and themed tours on site at CV.

Historic Sites

- We welcomed over 3000 students, teachers and chaperones during History Fest and groups tours in May!
- We also had our best ever Centennial Celebration since 2016, with 271 visitors. This year's event was restricted to one day, and it still ranks as one of our highest attendances at the Centennial Village opening weekend ever.
- Visitors to Meeker Home Museum will see a new wrought iron fence behind the house. This replaces the temporary fence that was installed late last year to prevent the use of the cellar door, back porch and well head by unhoused individuals over night. The new fence is in keeping with the look and feel of the house and neighborhood and was approved by the Historic Preservation Commission.

Museums' May 2024 Report

Where Did Our Visitors Come From in April, 2024?



Museums' May 2024 Report

Museum Statistics

Visitor Services - GHM

	May 2024	April 2024	May 2023
Attendance	173	270	
Admissions Sales	\$776	\$1118	
Store	\$594	\$692	
Research Center	\$35	\$149	
Donations	\$0	\$0	
Facilities Rentals	\$0	\$0	
Combined Revenue	\$1405	\$1959	

Visitor Services – Historic Sites

	May 2024	April 2024	May 2023
	3647 (Including History Fest and Centennial Celebration)		
Attendance		1642	
General Admissions	\$1303		
Store	\$971	\$9	
History Fest/Groups	\$12535	\$462	
Donations	\$0	\$0	
Special Event (Centennial Celebration)	\$1265	\$3960	
Facilities Rentals	\$0	\$0	
Combined Revenue	\$16,074	\$4467	

Visitor Services Totals

Museums' May 2024 Report

	May 2024	April 2024	May 2023
Combined Attendance	3,820	1912	
Combined Revenue	\$17,479	\$6435	

Collections

	May 2024	April 2024	May 2023
Number of Researchers Served	22 (12 Internal, 10 External)	23 (6 Internal, 17 External)	
Revenue	\$35 (After \$33 in discounts)	\$149 (209 - \$30 in discounts)	
Virtual Collection Views	1115		

Education

	May 2024	April 2024	May 2023
PreK – 12th Grade Students Served	2469	91	
Museums-to-You Outreach	0	0	

Digital Exhibits and Programs

	May 2024	April 2024	May 2023
Beyond Suffrage Virtual Tour	9	7	
Meeker Home Virtual Tour	53	46	
Viewfinder Exhibit	11	8	

Museums' May 2024 Report

War Comes Home Virtual Exhibit	27	32	
Stqry	38	17	
Exhibit-related Virtual Programs	48	0	
Digital Use Totals:	186	110	

Social Media Reach

- C&E have changed programs, and so our analytics are no longer available. We will continue to work with them to make these available again.

Website Use

