



## Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways Commission

### May 2019 Meeting Minutes

Time: Friday, May 3, 2019, 9:30 am – 12 pm

Location: Heckendorn Library, 3rd floor, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP)  
History Colorado, 1200 Broadway, Denver 80203

In attendance: Commission members Amanda Barker, Nathan Boyless, Cheryl Glanz, Ilana Moir, Heidi Pankow, Jack Placchi, Sheila Sears, Andy Hill, Cynthia Nieb, Gary Thorson, Lenore Bates, Jane Lesh (for Daniel Cressy), Jill Corbin (by phone). Guests Deborah Malone, Zach Owens, Addison Phillips.

Meeting was called to order by Chair, Amanda Barker at 9:35 a.m.

Minutes approved with changes.

Lenore introduced Zach Owens and Addison Phillips from the Colorado Energy Office, who gave an update on Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations. (Powerpoint attached) They included an overview of the Colorado Electric Vehicle Plan, including the partnership with tourism and the byways regarding charging stations on byways. Some points regarding the EV stations included: Destination charging – tourist attraction/hotel parking lots; universally compatible Level 2 charging 220 volts; Fast charging – closer to a gas station paradigm; located around highways/ plug landscapes are diverse. Most charging (98%) happens at home or some in workplace. But for traveling, the fast option is easy but limited. The Destination model needs to have time. Power levels can vary widely. Energy Office has grant funding through the Charge Ahead Colorado program. They have funded over 800 chargers in Colorado. Applications accepted from almost any entity except individuals and requires a 20% match. Cost is about \$9,000 for fast and \$30,000 for destination. They are looking at collaborations with local utilities. There are three funding rounds per year, now planned for next May & October. The process takes 4-6 months to install and make functional. There are coaches available to help even before application for support. Timeline for electrifying byways is about a year.

What is an electrified byway? (Criteria in PP) The Tourism office is planning on creative itineraries which will enable EV drivers to know what will work, and are also looking at positive user experience. Lenore talked about additional efforts and connections she has made around this issue.

Guest Debra Malone presented on the Highway of Legends Scenic Byway. This was one of the first 5 byways and also a National Forest byway. The byway links Trinidad, La Veta, Walsenburg and Aguilar. Famous for geology, one interest are the dikes formed from igneous rock, which, atypically, run east & west. Legends are a key part of the charm, with more than 50

documented. The byway also has more than 30 sites and historic features. One of the strengths of this byway is that although things have not changed much in 30 years, folks are re-engaging. They now have an advisory board and a part time Huerfano county person updating the Corridor Management Plan. [Spanishpeakscountry.com](http://Spanishpeakscountry.com) is celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and both county tourism boards are now supporting the byway. The planning team is working on bike trail project

Amanda Barker summarized where we are with the 2018 Byways Survey. We do now have info from more, but need to pursue those byways who we have not heard from. Cheryl and Heidi have made some contacts. We need to be able to help byways who are struggling and to update their Corridor Management Plans. The new survey will go out in January.

Andy Hill provided an update from the byways funding and structure working committee. We had been working on an MOU with History and Tourism to help us move forward. However, CDOT's new director values the program and will have Lenore go back to full time in July. It will still be helpful to have some funding for planning and refreshed look at the program. We are a great time to look at what we want to do in terms of partnerships. We need to have a strong relationship with Tourism. The group decided that we will look at our strategic plan and direction at our next meeting, including a funding strategy to build a grant pool.

#### General Byways Updates

Byways photo display will be moving from Capitol Building to History Colorado, and we will need volunteers to make the smooth transition.

Gary Thorson summarized the Byways meeting at CPW's Partners in the Outdoors Conference. It was a great conference and a sellout. Because of the growth of the conference, they are looking for new venues. First day of the conference is reserved for different commissions, etc. so it makes sense for byways to be there. The conference is generally the end of April or first of May. It's a high quality event and a great opportunity to engage more and different people as well as finding grant opportunities. Love the planning to action model.

Lenore updated the Commission on the Byways 30th Anniversary Festivities. We have embossed stickers for byways, welcome centers, etc. We want to have celebration/reception in June during the photo display at History Colorado, perhaps the week of June 24. All photos will be displayed.

Byways commission members shared what's happening out on the Byways. Debra shared thoughts around getting County Commissioners engaged in their byways. Cheryl reported that the problem with signage on Cache de Poudre is getting resolved, and that the Tourism/Marketing plan with Visit Fort Collins is moving forward. The Grand Mesa Byways group will have a meeting in May; Gary will be on the call.

We'll consider changing the time of the July meeting to afternoon.

## 2019 Byways **Commission** Meetings

Friday, July 19, 9:30 am – 12:00 pm location Fort Collins TBD

Thursday, October 31, 9:30 am – 12:00 pm, Colorado Preservation, Inc.

## Conferences and Byways Events

- Governor's Tourism Conference
  - September 29 – October 1, Sheraton Downtown Denver Hotel,  
<http://www.coloradotourismconference.com/>
- Scenic Byways Annual Meeting
  - TBD, 8:30 am – 1:30 pm – (In coordination with the Governor's Tourism Conference), Colorado Office of Economic Development, 1600 Broadway, Suite 2500, Denver, CO 80202

Commission:

Amanda Barker, Member at Large

Nathan Boyless, History Colorado<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

Jill Corbin, Colorado Tourism Office<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

Daniel Cressy, USDA Forest Service

Cheryl Glanz, Eastern Byways

Kathy Hall, Transportation Commission

Rep. Barbara McLachlan, State Legislature

Ilana Moir, Conservation/Open Space Rep

Heidi Pankow, Western Byways

Jack Placchi, BLM Representative

Sheila Sears, Colorado Creative Industries<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

EX-OFFICIO Members (designated through Dept. Executive Directors)<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

\*Andy Hill, representing the Department of Local Affairs

\*Cynthia Nieb, representing History Colorado

\*Gary Thorson, representing the Department of Natural Resources

\*Rebecca White, representing the Department of Transportation

Colorado Dept. of Transportation<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

Lenore Bates, Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways Program Manager

Program Vision:

Guiding travelers to experience and be inspired by treasured places that comprise Colorado's Scenic and Historic Byways. (Commission Approved 5/14/13)

Program Definition:

The Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways program is a statewide partnership intended to provide recreational, educational, and economic benefits to Coloradans and visitors by designating, interpreting, protecting, and promoting a system of outstanding touring routes in Colorado.

Commission Mission:

The Commission is a partnership to evaluate and designate the state's Scenic and Historic Byways and to develop and recommend funding sources and provide administrative support to sustain the byways for future generations. (Commission Approved 12/7/12)

Commission Bylaws:

<https://www.codot.gov/travel/scenic-byways/bywayscommission>

# # #