

Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways - Statewide Annual Meeting Colorado Governor's Tourism Conference Two Rivers Convention Center, Grand Junction, Colorado October 24, 2017 Meeting Notes

9:06 Welcome and Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways Commission update

Amanda Hill, Byways Commission President

9:08 Introductions

Attendance included in email packet from Amanda Barker to attendees and byways point of contacts on 11/15/17.

9:18 National Scenic Byways Foundation Program Update – Charlotte Bumgarner

- Membership with the Foundation is \$150/byway
- Webinars will be free for members going forward (have been \$20/member before)
 - o Foundation puts on 3-4 webinars on each year
 - The annual byways survey from the Commission requires education training, and the webinars check that box.
- Rep. David Cicilline (RI) is working with the "Scenic Byway Coalition" to have an "America the Beautiful" caucus in the legislature
 - o Goal is to have Federal byways programs reauthorized
 - you have a strong connection with your national House Rep in the Federal caucus, be in touch so Cicilline can make the invitation directly to Colorado Representatives.
- Byways Foundation is looking to open nominations again for new Federal byways
- International Pow Wow https://www.ipw.com/ will be in Denver May 19-23, 2018
 - o Foundation has been present for the past four years.
 - o Landing page for byways info related to IPW is at ComeClosertoAmerica.org
 - o The 26 byways in Colorado was represented last year
- Asked about other strong byways programs around the country, Oregon and Florida were noted to have a vibrant program, plus Ohio has a strong coordinator.

9:45 Tourism Office Presentation

Jill Lammers, Director of Destination Development, Colorado Tourism Office

- Slides included in email packet, "Lammers CTO and CO Byways"
- Marketing Match Grant Program http://industry.colorado.com/resources/matching-grant-program
- Colorado Connections monthly newsletter from Tourism on what they're planning and looking for with upcoming promotions
 - o Sign up here http://industry.colorado.com/colorado-connection-cto-newsletter
- CHAMP: Cultural, Heritage & Agritourism Mentor Program (ongoing applications)
 - o More information here http://industry.colorado.com/champ-program



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- Colorado Roots http://www.colorado.com/roots
- Early stage destinations http://industry.colorado.com/overview/destination-development-committee
- Colorado Tourism Office Byways Grant Project
 - o CTO will submit a spring application through the State Historical Fund to redevelop the byways program website and subpages under <u>colorado.com</u>
 - Approach to website will be based on a recent project in Maryland, http://www.visitmaryland.org/scenic-byways
 - o Video and Pictures will be shared for Byways to use for their own uses.
 - o Contract with Miles Partnership who manages the colorado.com website

11:00-11:15 Break

- 11:15 **Characteristics of a Strong Byway** Charlotte Bumgarner, Executive Director of the Gold Belt Byway, Vice President of Byways Commission, and Treasurer of the National Scenic Byways Foundation
 - Document included in the packet, "Colorado Byways Requirements" document
 - Corridor Management Plan –the template was initially based on what a CDOT transportation plan plus the business/organizational plans, goals, and vision for the byway
 - Recommended trainings and webinars that qualify for education requirements: the annual byways meeting, National Scenic Byways Foundation webinars, DOLA webinars

12:00 LUNCH BREAK – lunch provided

- 1:05 **Byways Board Engagement and Sustainability** –Sally Pearce, SJ Peace Consultants
 - Training Kit for Rural Byways Boards
 - Handouts included in email packet:
 - o Pierce Byway Self Assessment
 - o Pierce Grassroots Board Training
 - o Pierce Partnership Tips
- 2:00 News from the Byways, opportunities for collaboration, and next steps
 - Byways Expo planning for 2018, update from Amanda Tomlinson, Unaweep Tabeguache
 - Steve from Larimer Loop Byways inviting all the byways in the state to participate in a meeting on September 29
 - o About a third of the byways were there
 - o Created the "Colorado Byways Initiative" (CBI) Discover Your Byways
 - o Problem statement lack of awareness of byways and what they offer



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- Mission create a cooperative effort throughout the state for travelers to discover the scenery, history, and public attractions along Colorado's scenic byways.
- o Travel Show in March and the "Colorado RV adventure travel show" in January
 - Booth theme, bought by the group and then "pay to play" for byways to participate
 - Have a packet to detail what the initiative is working on
- o Plans might include the Outdoor Rec events
- o Survey to the CTOs to find out who's doing which trade shows
- Debra from the Colorado Department of Transportation
 - o CDOT provids the signage and the wayfinding program
 - o Deb request to hear from byways to see if there are requests for budgeting next year. Contact her at Debra.Perkins-Smith@state.co.us

3:00 BREAK

3:25 Keynote - Cathy Ritter, Director, Colorado Tourism Office

- Shared key insights on visitors to the Scenic Byways program
- Slides included in email packet, "Ritter Scenic driver visitor info"

3:45 Adjourn