

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Ben Vidricksen at 9:05 a.m. on February 8, 2000 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes
Marian F. Holeman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Marion Cott, Dir. Ks. Humanities Council
Victoria Sherry, Associate Dir. Humanities Council
Joan Cales, Winfield Public Library

Others attending: See attached list

Tourism presentation

Marion Cott, Director Kansas Humanities Council informed members that the Council “promotes understanding of the history, traditions, and ideas that shape our lives and the communities in which we live.” Those interested in learning more or joining the Council can contact them by writing to 112 SW 6th Ave., Ste. 210, Topeka, KS 66603-3095; phoning 785-357-0359 or online at KSHUMCOUN@aol.com or www.ukans.edu/kansas/khc/. Ms. Cott introduced Victoria Sherry, Associate Director of the Humanities Council and Joan Cales, Winfield Public Library and Director of the Traveling Smithsonian BARN AGAIN exhibit when it was in Winfield.

Victoria Sherry spoke to members about the Council’s role in facilitating and promoting the statewide traveling exhibition created by the Smithsonian Institution to celebrate the role of the barn in American history and culture (Attachment 1).

Joan Cales, Winfield Public Library and Director of the exhibit in Winfield reported on the wonderful impact of the exhibit on Winfield and surrounding communities (Attachment 2).

Members expressed their appreciation for the presentation. It was brought up that many barns are being destroyed because of the property tax structure which penalizes farmers who maintain these relics of the past when they no longer meet the needs of modern farms. There was some discussion regarding the need to protect these historic barn structures throughout the state as a vital tourism resource.

Approval of minutes

Senator Tyson moved to approve minutes of the February 1 and February 2, 2000 meetings. Senator Harry Stephens seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 9, 2000.