

## **South Park City Museum clears hurdle for nomination to National Register of Historic Places**

*May 16 Colorado Historic Preservation Review Board vote sends nomination to Washington*

*Douglas Stephens, Correspondent*

The nomination to the National Register of Historic Places of Fairplay's South Park City Museum impressed Colorado Historic Preservation Review Board member Ron Sladek of Fort Collins, who told his peers on the board, "Wow what a great nomination."

The comment came as the board discussed the nomination before voting to pass the nomination on to Washington for final review and acceptance by the Keeper of the National Register.



### **Support for South Park City Gathers**

From left, Harley Hamilton, South Park City Museum Board of Trustees president; his wife Penny; Carmela Schweer, trustee; longtime South Park City Museum Curator Carol Davis; Park County Historic Preservation advisory commissioner Jerry Davis; and Trustee Jim Sapp gather May 16 at History Colorado in Denver to support the museum's nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. (Photo by Douglas Stephens/The Flume)

Representing South Park City Museum before the board was nomination author Abigail Christman, survey coordinator for the Center of Preservation Research at the University of Colorado College of Architecture and Planning and Harley Hamilton, President of the South Park City Museum Board of Trustees.

Attending in support of the nomination were Penny Hamilton; Carol Davis, Curator of the South Park City Museum for 42 years; Carlela Schweer and Jim Sapp, museum trustees; Jerry Davis, member of Park County Historic Preservation Advisory Committee; Amy Unger, Park County preservation planner; Erica Duvic, Programs and Grants manager for the South Park National Heritage Area; and this correspondent, chair of the Park County Historic Preservation Advisory Committee.

After the meeting, The Flume spoke to Christman about her authorship of the nomination.

"This nomination was really exceptional," she said.

Christman was excited about the site, the archives and the letters collection on site which made for a, "really interesting nomination," she said.

Christman hoped that the pending inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places would generate more visitations to the museum.

Board president Harley Hamilton also hoped for more visitors.

"I think this nomination is a great thing for Fairplay and South Park City," he said.

Hamilton noted that the South Park City Museum is the largest private foundation tourist attraction in Park County.

"Listing on the National Register puts a location out front for visitor's interest," he said.

Hamilton also spoke of the listing's power to help the museum garner other grants and funding.

For more information on the nomination and South Park City please see *The Flume*, May 9, page 1.

For more information on the museum, hours and memberships, please visit their website at: [www.southparkcity.org](http://www.southparkcity.org)

Linda Balough, executive director, South Park National Heritage Area, wrote an email to *The Flume*:

"South Park City Museum has given the public a real chance to envision what life was like for people living, working and visiting in a high elevation mining town in the 1880s by faithfully using authentic buildings, and articles from the time period and from the area to re-create a moment in history," Balough said. "This grassroots museum has stood the test of time, attracting visitors from all over the world who have glowing reviews of what they saw and experienced there. We couldn't be happier that this Park County treasure has gained national recognition by being recommended for listing on the National Register of Historic Places by the State Review Board of History Colorado."