

# US250-CO150

## Pikes Peak Wonders

### Local Organizing Committee



The meeting began with introductions from various members, including Mayor John Suthers and Donielle Kitzman. Donielle is a newly appointed member of the state advisory commission and represents the Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Suthers provided updates on the planning for the United States 250th birthday and the Colorado sesquicentennial celebrations. The team discussed various commemoration initiatives, including air shows, parades, drone shows, and statewide climbing events. The discussion focused on the need to create a calendar of events to avoid overlapping and to ensure equal opportunities for all communities.

Katie Roach provided an overview of the Colorado Commission, its legislative foundation, and its inclusive approach to commemorating the state's history. They also discussed the commission's focus on community engagement and the proposed signature initiatives. The meeting section involved a discussion on the annual activities of various organizations that could align with events and visits to Colorado Springs.

1. Engage: Creating memorable experiences
2. Educate: Commemorating shared history
3. Unite: Supporting Colorado communities

John Suthers suggested using the upcoming anniversary celebrations to showcase prehistoric and anthropological sites in the Pikes Peak region, particularly highlighting Corral Bluffs and Jimmy Camp Creek. Other participants expressed interest and support for the idea.

#### Other items noted:

- Commemoration Initiatives and Community Engagement
- Showcasing local historical and cultural sites and events
  - Corral Bluffs: Showcasing Prehistoric and Anthropological Sites
  - El Paso County Parks Bear Creek Nature Center
  - Social justice exhibit at CSPM
  - CSPM Lecture Series
  - Trivia Night at CSPM
  - Pikes Peak Read – Summer book clubs
  - Mock Trial
- Planning Statewide Events
- Discussion on Community Contributions and Collaborations
  - Funding ideas: merchandise using logo?; any other grant opportunities
- Collaborating with local organizations and communities
  - How can we get local communities involved?

# US250-CO150

## Pikes Peak Wonders

### Local Organizing Committee



- Co-branding annual local events
  - Pikes Peak Hill Climb
  - AdAmAn
  - El Paso County Bear Creek Nature Center's 50th!; website, special events
  - VisitCOS: Vacation Planner, website, Digital Sign, Social media, two annual events
  - PPLD Regional History Symposium, Oral history project, Summer adventure and Winter Adult Reading
  - Car Show
  - Chili Cook-off
- Ways local organizations can collaborate?
  - The Gazette
  - Unknown stories across all organizations
    - History of school districts
    - Govt/Military alliance histories
    - Diversity of civic leadership
    - Recognition of Indigenous tribes/people on lands
    - History of how Colorado Springs became home to GPS
    - Civil War veterans who built our community
    - The connections between people who lived in OCC and COS
    - Contribution of catho-Americans and those with disabilities

#### Action Items

- Committee will coordinate with local organizations to align annual events with the celebrations.
- Committee members will find a way to align existing programming with the celebration, co-brand it, and ensure it is being advertised.
- Donielle Kitzman will compile a list of annual events and programming in Pueblo that can align with the celebrations.
- Committee members to coordinate with AdAmAn Club
- Possible election of various Committee positions?
- Katie Roach will **convey the expectation to the governor to grow a beard for the event per Mayor Suthers.**

#### Resources

State website: <https://www.historycolorado.org/colorado-150>

News about the [250-150 License Plates](#)

Branding information: <https://www.historycolorado.org/colorado-150/resources>

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 7, 2024, 3:30-5 p.m. at 1401 Recreation Way**

# US250-CO150

Pikes Peak Wonders

Local Organizing Committee

