

## **Downtown Group Report Town Council – October 4, 2016**

### **Museum on the Street**

What better way to experience the history of New Castle than visiting the town's most historic buildings and sites, reading unique and interesting facts about what is in front of you, while viewing photos of New Castle in its early days? That's Museum on the Street.

After nearly a year of work and collaboration, the Downtown Group is ready to move forward with:

- One 4 ft x 5 ft “Map and Guide” sign to be installed in a central location downtown (specific location to be discussed and agreed upon at the Council meeting).
- Ten 2 ft x 3 ft signs to be installed at the following historic sites:
  - Colorado Midland Railroad Depot site
  - Exchange Stables – 503 W. Main
  - Barry Building – 502 W. Main
  - Odd Fellows Hall – 500 W. Main
  - Trimble Block – 303-331 W. Main
  - Rock Saloon – 316 W. Main
  - Old Town Hall and Fire Station – 116 N. 4th
  - MacRae Block – 201-299 W. Main
  - St. John's Episcopal Church – 100 W. Main
  - Highland Cemetery

All of these signs will be presented for review at the Council meeting, with copies provided for reading and sharing. After review with the Town Council, the signs will be printed at MicroPlastics in Glenwood Springs, to be finished and delivered by approximately October 21. The date of installation is still TBD, but we hope to have all signs installed by the end of October. Funding, as discussed and approved at a previous Council meeting, is covered by a combination of grant money and matching funds from the Town.

Our recommendation is to have a commemorative ceremony of some kind at Founder's Day in February 2017, with the goal of drawing attention to this new addition to New Castle's historic heritage (and maybe even get some press coverage).

## Street Sculpture Program



Art has the power to transform a community, as well as spur economic development, no matter how large or small the community might be.

Above is the Sphere Sculpture, which the Downtown Group is requesting Council to approve. Not only will this sculpture add a new excitement to Ritter Plaza, but because it can be rotated, our young people will be able to enjoy art on an interactive level as well.

The Street Sculpture Program can be initiated for a minimal amount of funding. The sculpture would need to be erected on a 30" x 30" flush pad supplied by the Town and would also incur a \$200 delivery and installation fee from the artist. The piece would remain in Ritter Plaza for one year and if sold the Town would be eligible for a 20% commission. At that time a new piece would be installed. Regarding liability, the Town would be required to sign a contract, which is similar to what is being used in Carbondale and will be submitted to the Town for legal review.

Again, we cannot stress how powerful the presence of art can be for a community. We respectfully request Council's approval for a Street Sculpture Program for New Castle.

More details can be provided at the Council meeting.