

Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission

OFFICIAL MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 21, 2019 at Noon

Muscatine County Admin Building

Members Present: Rebeckah (Becky) Allgood, Lynn Pruitt, Mary Beveridge. Tom Furlong, Bill Koellner, Brian Wright and Jane Daufeldt Also Present: Sherry Seright
Members Absent and Excused, Jim Nepple and Lisa Wertzbaugher

1. Order of Business

- A. Reviewed Minutes from January 17, 2019 meeting. Motion to accept minutes by Bill, seconded by Lynn and approved.
- B. Treasurer's Report was given by Tom Furlong, who reported balance of \$15 547.55 and unencumbered balance of \$10 864.55 with Motion to accept by Lynn, seconded by Mary and approved.
- C. With the absence of Jim there was no report on the Community Foundation. Lynn will talk with Jim about the status at the Community Foundation.
- D. On the status of the Historic Jail, at a meeting of the Board of Supervisors Lynn spoke with Mike Nolan, who reported that a new maintenance building is scheduled for groundbreaking in July and completion by the end of 2020, which would make the entire building, except the basement, available for the Historic Jail. Mike Nolan has offered to update the plan for \$5,000. In the meantime, fundraising will begin at a Friends Meeting Mary has scheduled for Wednesday, February 27 at noon.
- E. Status of Planning for Preservation – Lynn reported that of the 5 consultants contacted for the scope and work on an HRDP grant for partial funding of the Country Schools and Churches 3 responded: Jennifer Price, Tallgrass and Spark. Motion to accept Leah Rogers at Tallgrass Archaeology LLC as consultant was made by Becky, seconded by Bill and passed. A contract will be put in place if we are successful with the HRDP grant.
- F. Status of the Muscatine County Fairgrounds – Lynn and Tom reported that there is no update on the Show Ring since Tim Nichols reported at the January meeting. Work is continuing on the replacement for Heritage Hall. Bill added that renovations are paid by private donations.
- G. On the status of the Old Barn, Lynn announced the recent approval and listing on the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service. Members said there should be a commemorative plaque erected at the Old Barn. Lynn will convey this to the previous Friends Group.
- H. On the status of Downtown Nichols, Lynn reported that the SNRC session is scheduled for this fall and Jennifer Price will complete the NRHP application for that schedule. The Friends Group has raised all the money needed for the application but is still looking for some building abstracts.

- I. Status of Downtown West Liberty was reported by Bill, who said the town is moving ahead with determining the condition of two buildings downtown. Bill and Lisa have been serving in an advisory capacity but their tenure is nearing completing.
- J. Becky reported that she has filed the CLG 2018 Annual Report with Paula Mohr.

2. Open Discussion

There was discussion of possible action on preferred mitigation for the County replacement of an historic Bridge (dating from 1925) on 120th Street in West Liberty. More information will be available following a conference call scheduled later this afternoon. Much of the historic documentation has been completed. If the County Board of Supervisors decides to keep the bridge and restore it, it might be included in the County Schools and Churches project.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m. Next meeting date – **Thursday, March 21, 2019 at noon at the County Administration Office.** In the anticipated absence of Becky, Lynn will preside.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Beveridge

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