

Muscatine County Historical Preservation Commission

OFFICIAL MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 18, 2018 at Noon

Muscatine County Admin Building

Members Present: Rebeckah (Becky) Allgood, Brian Wright, Tom Furlong, Jane Daufeldt, Lynn Pruitt

Also Present: Sherry Seright and Mike Nolan

Members Absent: Jim Nepple, Bill Koellner, Lisa Wertzbaugher, Mary Beveridge

Welcome to Jane Daufeldt as a new member of the commission. She indicated an interest in working on the Country Schools/Churches/Cemeteries project.

1. Order of Business

- A. Reviewed Minutes from September 20, 2018 meeting; comments were incorporated and will be reissued by Sherry. Motion to accept minutes as amended, seconded and approved.
- B. Treasurer Report was issued by Tom Furlong. Reviewed and approved.
- C. The status of the Old Jail Museum/Archive Project was discussed. It was noted that Lisa and Mary are working on establishment of a friends group and fund raising. Mike Nolan stated his study of county buildings will be reported to the Board of Supervisors October 29 and the final report should be finished by the end of November.
- D. Jim had sent a report on the status of Planning for Preservation which involved the country schools/churches/cemeteries project. Still waiting for possible grant in January 2019. Presently gathering related information in anticipation of the grant award.
- E. Tom and Lynn reported on the status of the Fair Grounds projects. The replacement building for Heritage Hall is in the bidding stage. The new building will be similar in style to the old building.
- F. Becky reported on the status of Wilton Downtown facade upgrade. Much of the work is completed -- recent painting is really making the area come alive.
- G. Lynn reported the status of Old Barn is still waiting on the State Nominating Review Committee to review the application to the National Register of Historic Places.
- H. Lynn reported on the status of Historic Nichols. A progress meeting with Jennifer Price was held October 16 with about 12 people present. Getting good feedback from the community. Gathering specific information from legal abstracts for downtown properties within the proposed Historic District. Deadline is December 3, 2018. The Friends Group has currently raised \$1,950 with another \$300 pledged and potential more from the Nichols City Council and other citizens.
- I. Status of Downtown West Liberty (Bill/Lisa) -- no report.

2. Open Discussion
 - A. Goals and Objectives for the commission -- Brian verbally presented his update of the goals and objectives. He will get it typed up and distributed to the commission for review and possible action at the next meeting.
 - B. Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine funds -- Lynn suggested we consider combining all the accounts related to our projects to better control management fees. Need input from Jim Nepple and possible action by the commission at next meeting.
 - C. Election of Officers for 2019 -- Possible action at the next meeting.
 - D. Becky noted a Preservation 101 class is being held at Osceola Nov. 10. The commission was reminded of the need for continuing education and the availability of funds for reimbursement of expenses.
 - E. Lynn noted the next Iowa Preservation Summit is scheduled for June 6-8, 2019 in Newton. We should consider presenting on Wilton Facade Restoration and possibly How a Well-Oiled Commission Functions.
 - F. Lynn mentioned the state is soliciting input on Most Endangered Historic Properties -- due Dec.. 3, 2018.
 - G. Sherry noted that the Board of Supervisors approved \$30,000 in the current year as matching funds for debt reduction at the Fair Grounds.

3. Next meeting date – **Thursday, November 15 at noon at County Admin Office.**