



LINN COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

935 Second Street SW ▪ Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404 ▪ 319-892-5141

Minutes
August 21st, 2019

Members Present

Maura Pilcher
Patricia Soukup
Amanda Happel
Nancy Goodlove
Connie Robinson
Michael LeClere

Staff Present

Mike Tertinger, Staff Liaison
Sue Bennett, Permit Specialist

Linn County Board of Supervisors Office Intern Present

Michelle Kumar (late)

Call to Order

Chair Maura Pilcher called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Public Comment

None

Announcements/Communication

None

Approval of Minutes

Soukup motioned, Robinson second, all present voting aye to approve minutes from July 17th, 2019 meeting as submitted.

Budget

Tertinger announced the new allocation to the operating account, as of July 1st, beginning of FY2020, is \$9,545.00. Remaining balance at the end of last fiscal year was \$9,971.23. Tertinger informed the commission that amount can be requested back for the fall amendment.

New Business

- a. HPC Vacancy Update



There are currently two vacancies. Three applications have been reviewed, and two of the candidates have considerably more demonstrated professional experience and/or the educational background the HPC is seeking in its members. Todd McNall has served on the Cedar Rapids HPC and the Brucemore Board, and Steve Ciha was involved in the restoration of the Paramount Theater. Goodlove made a motion to recommend the Board of Supervisors appoint Todd McNall and Steve Ciha to the HPC. Second by Happel. Motion passed unanimously.

b. 2830 Paris Rd National Register Inquiry

Joe Trum, US Bank Wealth, representative of owner, spoke about his interest in having this farmhouse added to the National Historic Register. According to his sources, the house had been used as a hospital during the Civil War. Tertinger stated that this house is listed as eligible in the 1997 inventory done by Leah Rogers. Pilcher outlined the steps in getting a property on the National Register and stated she would send that information to Trum. Pilcher clarified that should the house be added to the National Register, it wouldn't prevent the house from being demolished; however, there might be federal funds available for restoration projects, and possible tax credits for the owner. An audience member added that she knew that property had also been used as a stagecoach stop. She is related to the family and also interested also in getting it on the Historical Register.

FY20 Work Plan

a. Pioneer Cemeteries Inventory

HPC members commended Michelle for all her hard work. Kumar discussed cemetery project. There are 17 pioneer cemeteries. Handed out current spreadsheet and discussed. There are several cemeteries they cannot find. Soukup mentioned that there is no Mounce Cemetery anymore - the bodies were moved after her great-grandfather took the headstones to make the foundation for his house. They discussed the County Home cemetery, in which there are around 200 bodies, but no headstones. Darrin Gage will take over for Michelle Kumar when she goes back to school. He will reach out to the Township Trustees and see if they need any assistance maintaining the cemeteries. There is a plan to provide this information to the public online, once the maintenance issue has been addressed. The data is on the GIS portal, but hasn't been made public. Plans were made to schedule a meeting with Darrin to discuss.

b. Rural Preservation Initiative

Tertinger/Pilcher/Leclere/Thomas met with Daniel Gibbons & Dennis Goemaat from Linn County Conservation to discuss the Wickiup RFP and nomination. Tertinger is completing the RFP draft and will send to the group for review. The plan is have the RFP out for bids by October 1st.

c. Identify next project

Review to see if Sugar Grove is eligible for registry with the National Historic Register. Tertinger or the HPC should reach out to Indian Creek Nature Center to start a discussion regarding nominating the farmstead. The Leah Rogers research report appears to suggest the farmstead is defiantly eligible for nomination.

d. Kiosk Maintenance

HPC received a job bid for \$2000 for repair to the kiosks. HPC will require an itemized bid to see exactly where is money is necessary. Tertinger will forward

the itemized bid email from Will Thompson and a decision will be made and next meeting as to how to proceed.

Next Meeting

September 18th, 2019

Adjournment - Motion by Soukup, second by Robinson, those present voting aye, to adjourn the HPC meeting at 4:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved,

Susan F Bennett, Recording Secretary

Maura Pilcher, Chair