

Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission  
OFFICIAL MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES  
12 Noon, Wednesday, February 8, 2023  
At Muscatine County Environmental Learning Center  
3300 Cedar Street  
Muscatine, IA 52761

Called to Order at 12:02 by Pruitt.

Roll Call and Guests; Introduce and welcome new members approved at the Board of Supervisor's meeting on 02.06.2023 which expands the Commission to 11 members from 9. The board also staggered the terms and members were notified of changes.

Present: Becky Allgood, Mary Beveridge, Jane Daufeldt, Joe Harper, Bill Koellner, Lynn Pruitt, and Ken Snyder

Excused: Rebecca Furlong, Rebecca Bovenmyer, Jimmy Hyink and Sue Hill,

Guests: None

- A. Approval of Agenda- Approved as submitted.
- B. Approval of Minutes- The minutes of the January meeting were reviewed and approved. All present voting yes.
- C. Receipt of Financial Reports (CFGF Friends and County) – Financial were submitted for the County and the funds at the Community Foundation. All present voted to accept.

Old Business

- A. Election of Officers last meeting: Furlong, Chair; Pruitt Vice Chair; Daufeldt, Secretary/Treasurer
- B. Country Schools and Churches Sign Installation Update-Pruitt reported. There was discussion of an alternative size sign to recognize historic schools and churches inside the city limits. Pruitt brought one of the 24x24 inches signs use in the rural township area and a mockup of a sign 18 by 12 inches. It was moved by Allgood and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Harper to go with the smaller signs in the landscape orientation for West Liberty and Wilton. Wilton will need approx. 10 of the smaller signs and West Liberty will need approx. 16.  
Recap: about 6 more of the 24x24; and 16 of the 18x12.
- C. Nichols House nomination update-Pruitt reported that the Nichols house project has been submitted to the State in draft.
- D. Fairport Fish Hatchery nomination update-Pruitt reported that the draft nomination for a Historic District designation has been submitted. The walking trail bridge is almost complete and still waiting on funding for the kiosk/Pavilion. The posts for the trail signage are driven and waiting for the approved signs to be delivered.
- E. Muscatine Fairgrounds Design Study Update-Pruitt and Koellner reported that the Muscatine Co. Fairground project for improvement to the grandstand is estimated at about \$100K. The MCHPC is taking this off our agenda until the Fairgrounds Board request further help.
- F. Request for increased funding from Muscatine County Board of Supervisors-Koellner/Pruitt .  
A request was made to the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors to increase our funding annually from \$5000 to \$10,000 at the February 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. The funding increase would allow the MCHPC Commission to finish the rural signs, match the transportation grant (CLG) and begin other work that was outlined in the Planning for Preservation study completed in 2017.
- G. County Friends Group joining City Friends Group to manage non-profit status-Pruitt/Galoso;  
Motion to endorse merging of funds at Community Foundation into one account but keeping

individual control of individual fund amounts. Discussion and motion approved. The current structure is costing the Friends of Muscatine County a 10% fee structure and the merger will result in a 1% per year fee structure (minimum of \$100/year) by using the City's nonprofit 501 status. The funds will not be comingled for use but stay in restricted accounts at the Community Foundation.

- H. Increase in membership of MCHPC from 9 members to 11 members-Koellner/Pruitt. Moving from a 9-person commission to an 11-person commission was approved by the County Board of Supervisors on 02.06.2023. New members approved are Rebecca Bovenmyer, Ken Snyder and Jimmy Hyink.

#### New Business

- A. Muscatine Fairground Amphitheater Funding for Construction not requested. Will longer remain on the agenda,
- B. Discussion and Possible action for a project to pursue using HRDP 2023 Grant. After some discussion it was noted that the due date for HRDP grants from the State of Iowa are due in May. Wilton will use their own CLG status to apply for an HRDP grant to fund their intensive level survey of historic neighborhoods in Wilton. MCHPC will apply for their 2024 HRDP to fund West Liberty historic neighborhoods.
- C. Annual Work Plans: Review accomplishments from 2022 and develop 2023 Work Plan. Possible action to approve 2023 Work Plan. A draft of the 2022 Work Plan Accomplishments and a copy of the 2023 Work Plan were handed out by Pruitt. These will be presented to the County Board of Supervisors on Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- D. Committee Assignments
  - a. Transportation Survey-Bill Koellner; Approved Koellner as Project Lead for the CLG Grant. Harper to assist.
  - b. Fruit & Vegetable Industry-Hills and Furlong
  - c. Mulberry Project with City-Possible action to appoint project leader from MCHPC TBD
  - d. Fairport Fish Hatchery Friends Group update-Pruitt/Stevens
  - e. Churches and Schools Signage-Allgood
  - f. Historic Neighbors Wilton- Allgood; West Liberty-Koellner
  - g. 2023 May Historical Month-Pruitt & Galoso
  - h. 2025 State Summit-Pruitt & Galoso/Limberg

Tentative Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 8, 12 Noon @ Muscatine County Environmental Learning Center; Discussion and Possible action to change our meeting place and dates/times.

Adjourned at 1:05PM