

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

Call to Order, Roll Call and Guests; Introduce and welcome new members: Bovenmyer and Hyink,

Present: Allgood, Beveridge, Bovenmyer, Daufeldt, Furlong, Harper, Hyink, Koellner, Pruitt

Excused: Hills, and Snyder

Guests: Sandy Stevens

- A. Approval of Agenda- No additions or changes to the agenda. Daufledt move and Koellner 2nd, All present voted to approve as submitted.
- B. Approval of Minutes- February- Koellner and Allgood moved to approve. All present voted to approve as submitted.
- C. Receipt of Financial Reports (CFGF Friends and County) – Daufeldt distributed the financials from the County and from the Community Foundation. Pruitt and Harper moved to approve as received.

Old Business

- A. County Schools and Churches Sign Installation Update-Pruitt reported that there are only a few more sign to be ordered for the cities of Wilton and West Liberty. Allgood reported that Ochiltree had completed 14 of the Wilton Township signs with about a dozen left to install.
- B. Nichols House nomination update-Pruitt reported that the NRHP (National Register of Historic Places nomination has been submitted and is awaiting approval from the State.
- C. Fairport Fish Hatchery nomination update-Pruitt and Stevens reported that the NRHP has been submitted and is awaiting approval.
- D. County Friends Group joining City Friends Group to manage non-profit status-Pruitt; Possible action to endorse merging of funds into one account but keeping individual control of individual fund amounts.
- E. It was moved by Koellner and seconded by Allgood to endorse the combining of funds in the MCHPC Friends groups the City of Muscatine's Friends group at the Community Foundation of Muscatine. All present voted to combine the funds in one account and track County's contribution and the City's contribution separately. In order to reduce the fees from the Community Foundation from 10% to 1%.

New Business

- A. Distribution and review of HPC Information Binders-Pruitt provided new binders for all MCHPC which provides info about the Commission and background.
- B. Review of updated Muscatine County HPC Website-Pruitt reported that several commissions had reviewed the latest revision to the MCHPC web pages on the County's website. "The Planning for Preservation" study and "Historic Country Schools and Churches Survey" book has been linked to the MCHPC page. The names of the 3 newly elected commissioners will be added and the previous commissioners will be deleted.
- C. Discussion and Possible action for a project to pursue using HRDP 2023 Grant update. After some discussion on what would be the most benefit to the County effort for an HRDP grant, it was decided to support the Certified Local Government (CLG) of Wilton in applying for an HRDP funded intensive survey of Wilton Historic Neighborhoods by Tallgrass' Ray Werner.

The application is due by in May 2023. If the commission applied for a CLG or HRDP to help with our other projects, we would be in competition with ourselves for the State's limited funds. Wilton will apply for the HRDP grants with MCHPC support. Allgood is writing the grant. A MOTION was made by Pruitt and seconded by Koellner to support Wilton in the HRDP. All present voting aye.

D. Committee Assignments

- a. Transportation Survey-Bill Koellner, as Project Lead, will utilize our 2023 CLG Grant for this project. An RFP has been created and issued to 4 consulting firms that are recognized by the State.
- b. Fruit & Vegetable Industry-Sue Hills was absent from the meeting, but there was some discussion about organizing a meeting in Fruitland of the original families that have been farming fruits and vegetables in the County and in the Muscatine Island area. Furlong suggested talking to a former commissioner, Wayne Schultz, about the meeting.
- c. Mulberry Avenue Project with City-Possible action to appoint project leader from MCHPC.

Mary Beveridge volunteered to act as the liaison with the City's HPC for this project.

- d. Fairport Fish Hatchery Friends Group update-Sandy Stevens reported that there will be a ribbon cutting that coincides with Earth Day celebrations at the Historic Fish Hatchery at 12:30 on Friday, April 21st.

On April 22, there will be 14 groups of partners to continue the celebration at 10:00am. Media has been invited and advertising is expected through a grant from the Muscatine Chamber. The Friends of the Fish Hatchery are expecting over 200 people to attend and are contacting food trucks to cater the event.

Signs for both trails are expected the last week of March. Students will be helping with the installation of the signs that have QR codes to assist in any interpretation of the trail and pavilion areas. DNR will host the content for the QR codes on their website.

The flatwork for the pavilion floor is expected to be complete by May. The Friends group still need funding for the building.

The foot bridge is almost finished on the southern interpretive trail – it should be completed by the Earth Day celebration.

- e. Churches and Schools Signage-Allgood reported the progress for Wilton under Old Business item A.
- f. Historic Neighbors Wilton-It was decided that this spring the MCHPC would support Wilton's efforts to survey their Historic Neighborhoods.
- g. 2023 May Historical Month-Pruitt invited the commissioners to attend a Joint Historic Preservation Month celebration and luncheon on May 20,2023 at the National Button Museum from 10-3. There will be presentations by both commissions, information about Historic Tax Credits, and a workshop.
- h. 2025 State Summit-Pruitt -- the MCHPC will have a representative on the city planning commission to assist in preparation for hosting the 2025 Iowa Summit
It was noted that the Iowa Summit for 2023 will be held in Sioux City this year.
Information is still pending on the agenda for the meeting.

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



Comm Foundation
Accts 03-08-23.pdf



HPC Financial Report
03-08-23.pdf

Attachment: