

Muscatine County Historical Preservation Commission

OFFICIAL MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at noon

Via Zoom using the following link

We continue using the same link for all our Zoom meetings:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8010716532?pwd=ZDhUSjdRN0E3RGhwRW5TY1pXV3oyUT09>

Meeting ID: 801 071 6532

Password: 633647

Or by phone

13126266799,,8010716532#,,,,0#,,633647# US (Chicago)

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM (CDT)

Meeting using zoom platform conforms with CDC guidelines

Call to Order by Koellner at 12:01 PM

Roll Call and Guest

Commissioners: Allgood, Beveridge, Collins, Daufeldt, Furlong, Koellner, Ochiltree, Pruitt in attendance. Bosten not on the call.

Guests: No guests

Order of Business

- A. Approval of Agenda- Koellner, approved as submitted. Furlong 1st, Allgood 2nd all voted yes.
- B. Approval of Minutes- Daufeldt, Minutes approved as submitted. Allgood 1st, Furlong 2nd all voted yes.
- C. Approval of Financial Report- Allgood reported that she had not received any changes for this month. Koellner concurred that he had not reviewed any bills or receipts. Financials remain the same as last month.

Old Business

D. Historic Jail Museum Preservation and Reuse Funding -Wertzbaugher, Pruitt

1. CLG grant Updates- Pruitt reported that 3 eligible contractors were contacted to bid. May 1, 2021 is the deadline for submissions. Pruitt will work with Wertzbaugher to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors and the Commission for approval. Final awards will be made by the Board of Supervisors.
2. Iowa's Rural Revitalization grant. Pruitt reported the grant request was submitted for \$125,000. Announcements for awards will be May 1, 2021 from the State
3. Friend of the Old Jail Update-Beveridge reported that she has a commitment from two people for donations. However, the money has not been collected and sent to the Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine to date. Beveridge said she would be in contact with Paul Carroll about ideas for fund raising and expansion of the Friends group.

4. Other Action items -Koellner requested that Collins help with marketing promotion of the historic value of the jail. Collins said that film and interviews could be used and broadcast on the Musser Library channel 5 station.

E. Rural Schools and Churches CLG grant-Daufeldt

1. Report Status by townships- all township research has been uploaded to the Google file for the consultant/contractor.
2. Contractor update- Koellner spoke with Leah Rogers and her report will be submitted on Monday, April 19th to the state offices.
3. Draft for review and timeframe for commissioner's response -there will be time for the review and the consultant may need more research. This is still to be determined.
4. Marketing of Historic schools and churches – Furlong reported that she and Tom made a road trip to Scott County to view the signage and educational displays for rural schools. They used plastic signs and posters inside the school... Eagle Grove school.
Koellner appointed a small committee of Furlong, Daufeldt, Pruitt, Ochiltree, and Allgood to further explore possible signage like medallions, plaques, and possible items that could be made by the prison workshop. Ochiltree has an example of a medallion on a post. It was also mentioned that the estimated cost of each sign would be \$250. This is a work in process.
5. Possible action to approve implementation of a signage program for historic country schools and churches in Muscatine County-still under study.
6. Removal of three historic Muscatine County bridges and possible mitigation payments toward signage for historic country schools and churches – Pruitt reported that the County is getting ready to remove 3 historic bridges. They may be willing to provide mitigation funds and would prefer the funds be used for signage for the schools and churches.

F. Nichols Area Historic Grants Updates- Pruitt

1. Historic Commercial District, Ijem Ave (need closure on project)
Press release and National Historic Register designation. Pruitt reported that the City of Nichols does not have a copy of the letter of designation. Will need to request a reissue a letter. Note: Letter found April 16
2. St. Mary's Church update Pruitt reported that the consultant, Jennifer Price, has sent a proposal to the leaders of St. Mary's Church for their consideration in applying for historic designation.
3. Christian Church – Final evaluation by contractor/state. Waiting on Jennifer Price response.
4. Ben Nichols Home – CLG Grant potential/matching funds. Will apply in the next round of CLG grants.
5. Friends of Nichols Group for funding matches. No update on funding.

G. MCHPC Meeting with West Liberty Heritage Foundation Trustees - Koellner

1. Common areas of Historic Preservation
2. CLG status for West Liberty and advantages
3. NHR for West Liberty CRI and P grounds
4. Grants available to WLHF

5. West Liberty Historic Neighborhood – cooperative effort with city of West Liberty
Koellner reported that there is some interest in the City to become a Certified Local Government. Koellner wants to work with Fairgrounds and especially the amphitheater.

H. Wilton Historic Neighborhoods – Allgood/ Ochiltree

Koellner requested a meeting with the Wilton CLG in May to provide an updates of what is happening in the county and the city. He also asked for a June meeting with Tri-County (Durant) to share communications.

H. Historic Fairport Fish Hatchery Master Plan -Stevens, Pruitt, and Bosten

1. Iowa DNR Updates. Pruitt reported the IDNR has approved the nomination for designation on the Historic Register, but without any funding
2. Demolition dates/ contractors and Documentation of Pump House- Pruitt reported that IDNR has not set a date for the demo.
3. Final design MCHPC/DNR of kiosk/pavilion- Pruitt reported still waiting on funding, but the Friends group has \$5K to date.
4. Approval of IDNR of trails and signage IDNR is in favor.
5. Funding for Kiosk, trails, signage -An application was submitted to the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust for \$50K
6. Partners in projects (National Historic Button Museum, COE, IDNR, MCHPC, Friend of the Hatchery) funding plan including grant sources. Need letters of support.
7. Marketing Media (brochure development and media releases) There is a brochure for the Hatchery.
8. Maintenance of kiosk, trails etc after construction Pruitt said the plan is being developed.
9. Mobile Historic Museum – coordination with history of Muscatine area tour – Stevens is checking into the mobile history bus that is available from the State. The commission may need to help with Muscatine County projects creations and this bus could be moved to various sites in the County.... Wilton Freedom Rock, Old Jail, and West Liberty.
Koellner appointed the marketing team of Furlong and Collins to work on information for the mobile bus that will incorporate all the projects the Commission is working on ... Old Jail, Schools and Churches, Fish Hatchery,etc.
10. HRDP grant application by Friends Group or Commission? Pruitt reported that Rebecca McCauley is working on the grant.Iowa DNR REAP grant application by Friends Group

New Business

I. Create National Historic Register Inventory for Muscatine County - Collins

1. Collect existing marketing collateral
2. Prepare documents for each site – digital with potential paper
3. Update MAGIC with locations of historic places (cemeteries, facilities, districts etc. present in the county)
4. Koellner suggested Daufeldt work to coordinate with MAGIC/Mark Yerington.

J. Muscatine County Historic Cemeteries – Furlong Furlong reported that the Muscatine County Genealogy Society has already gathered all the information for the

Muscatine County Cemeteries. It is on the www.IAGenWeb.org website and could be placed on MAGIC. Our Commission just needs to cross reference all their information with ours. Side Note: Daufeldt attended the Genealogy Society meeting via Zoom on April 17th. They have arrangements with MAGIC to GPS in the locations. Daufeldt will see if we can link the layers by contacting Mark Yerington.

K. Plans for 2021

1. MCHPC meet with Wilton Historic Group – Allgood Meeting in May
2. MCHPC meet with Tri-County Historic Group – Allgood/ Ochiltree Meeting in June
3. Collaborate with Muscatine City Historic Preservation Commission
4. West Liberty Fair Grounds amphitheater
5. Location of Grange Halls in Muscatine County
6. Rural Country homes for NHR from Planning for Preservation study
7. Transportation in Muscatine County - Stagecoach routes, railroads, depots, ferry crossings, early highways (Highway 6 and travel cabins), interurban from Davenport to Muscatine, old rail depots and supporting buildings and businesses. old bridges

L. Upcoming Meeting – May 12 (zoom or in person)

M. Open Discussion

N. Adjourned meeting at 1:03 PM