

Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission
OFFICIAL MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
12 Noon, Wednesday, October 12, 2022
At Muscatine County Environmental Learning Center
3300 Cedar Street
Muscatine, IA 52761

Call to Order 12:01

Roll Call and Guests

Commissioners Present: Beveridge, Daufeldt, Koellner, Pruitt by phone (1 vacancy)

Excused: Allgood, Hills, Ochiltree, Furlong

Guests: Kala Naber and Fred Galoso

Order of Business

- A. Meeting called to order by Koellner
 - B. Approval of Agenda- Approval of Minutes- September 14- Daufeldt
 - C. Receipt of Financial Reports (CFGF Friends and County) – Daufeldt
- NOTE: Items B and C were not able to be approved- due to lack of a quorum**

Old Business

- A. **Commissioner vacancy – note from County Administrator that gender equity is required on MCHPC, and that vacancy must be a male. After 3 months posted announcement of vacancy, if it is not filled, then a female can be appointed – No inquiries (2 months remaining)**

- B. **Report from Kala Nabar – Muscatine County Administration**

Nabar reported that the State of Iowa Auditor’s office gave an opinion on the county becoming the fiscal agent for the funds at the community foundation. If this happened, the funds would need to be held by the county in their accounts which would result in additional accounting charges outside the current budget.

After some clarification that the Commission wanted the funds to remain with the Community Foundations, Nabar will contact the Community Foundation administrator and get a explanation of the Friends funds that are held in the Community Foundation. There should be no additional cost to the county and the Friends funds will continue to earn investment interest while maintaining their non-profit status.

- C. **Historic Jail – Report from Muscatine City Historic Preservation on commitment to Preservation. Appointment of MCHPC members to work with Muscatine City HPC on fundraising and plan for restoration – next steps - action – Fred Galoso and April Limberg**
Galoso reported that they are still searching for more members to the City’s HPC. It is still their intention to work in support of County HPC on the Historic Jail funding.

It was also noted that the City's and the County HPCs will work together to sponsor the Historic Preservation Iowa Summit in 2025 working with other partners in the community. The City HPC will begin planning for and HRDP grant to designate a part of Mulberry Avenue as a Historic Neighborhood. Will work with the consultant to decide the number of phases and the area covered.

D. Rural Schools and Churches CLG grant-Daufeldt – possible action items

1. **Copies sold to date** – Pruitt indicated that there are 130 sold copies of the book to date.
2. **Finalization of Beacon Page** –Daufeldt reported that MAGIC map will be updated to show the locations of the signs as they are installed. The signs will be located as close to the original locations along the ROW after adjustments for the 811 locates are determined. The map will go live when the latitudes and longitudes are confirmed.
3. **Marketing and signage of Historic schools and churches update**–
4. **Sign Placement, number signs installed – townships – schedule to complete – Pruitt/Furlong**– Pruitt provided an update... the signs are located in Pike, Lake, Bloomington, Fruitland, Cedar and 76 townships. The location for 811 is marked for Orono, Wapsi, Goshen. Still to be located and installation of signs are Wilton, Moscow, Fulton, Montpelier, and Sweetland.
Sheriff's office and Wilton REC have offered help with pounding the signposts. Pruitt will meet with the Sheriff and Ochiltree will meet with REC.
5. **Report on Iowa Country Schools conference in Cedar Falls** – Paper given by Pruitt on 9/27/2022– said it was well received.

E. Nichols Historic Area Grants –

- a. **Nichols home contract with consultant** – Pruitt reported that Jennifer Price, consultant is working on the project.
- b. **St. Mary's Church** – National Park Service approved the designation on National Park Service Historic Register. St. Mary's parish had an Oktoberfest celebration for the parish and also celebrated the designation.

F. Collaboration with City of Muscatine Historic Preservation Commission on HRDP for Mulberry from River to Musser Art Center. Update from City of Muscatine HPC. MCHPC assist in preparing HRDP. – Fred Galoso and April Limburg - - Appointment of MCHPC commissioners to assist in grant preparation with City selected consultant – the discussion was reaffirmation of the collaboration of both commissions. The City's commission is still trying to fill a vacant position which is needed to have a quorum. The plan is still to support the City's HRDP application with their consultant, Rebecca McCarley to begin the designation of Mulberry Ave as a Historic District. The boundaries are subject to change depending on the consultant, but the first phase could be from the river to the Muscatine Art Center.

G. Discussion of August 22 meeting of Historic commissions and MCHPC collaborate with City of Muscatine on hosting Statewide Historic Preservation event in 2025. – Fred Galoso and April Limberg – appointment of MCHPC commissioners to help organize Summit - Galoso and Koellner both agreed to move forward as sponsoring commissions. Quorums are needed to provide final approval of plans.

H. West Liberty Area

- a. **CRI & P Depot – Signage and dedication – spring – plaques and open house**
- b. **Discussion with Tallgrass on Historic neighborhoods for West Liberty and Wilton following Windshield surveys – Three neighborhoods in Wilton in 2023, and 3 neighborhoods in West Liberty up 2024 – Ray Werner, POC – HRDP grant application, Pruitt and Allgood write base information and Tallgrass finalize+ – funding sources - possible action items**
- c. **Move 1840 historic stagecoach house to WLHF** - Koellner reported the building will be moved by West Liberty Heritage group to the West Liberty Heritage site near the historic depot.

- E. **Historic Fairport Fish Hatchery Master Plan -Stevens, Pruitt - possible action items**
 - 1. **Signage – 175th year – approved by State of Iowa (sign order and deliver date) – update by Pruitt that the sign is in place at the Fish Hatchery. This was part of the Day of Caring activities.**
 - 2. **Historic Trails – Day of Caring provided volunteers to assist in the cleanup and preparation of signs for the site. Total of 8 people were there- 2 in the morning and 6 in the afternoon.**
 - 3. **National Historic Register – Rebecca McCarley is proceeding on schedule and has provided a draft nomination for our review.**
 - 4. **Pavilion Funding status – Still pursuing funding**
 - 5. **Pedestrian Bridge Replacement – removed during Day of Caring.**
- F. **Muscatine County Fair Grounds amphitheater – Koellner/Pruitt/Wertzbaugher Update on Consultant work on Fairgrounds amphitheater Moving forward by Watersmith Engineering-still work in process.**
- G. **CLG application for Survey of transportation development in Muscatine County, Iowa including river, roads, ferries, stagecoach and railroads – Pruitt CLG grant was submitted in September; still waiting on the State. Announcements will be Dec-Jan time frame.**
- H. **Filling vacancy with male Muscatine County resident on MCHPC – suggestions and action.** Daufeldt suggest to Joe Harper that he consider joining. Koellner will also call Harper
- I. **Potential 2022/23 work areas**
 - 1. **Selecting locations for Muscatine County Historic Register and possible signage by townships**
 - 2. **Location of Grange Halls, od Depots, towns no longer in existence in Muscatine County –**
 - 3. **Historic Fruit and Vegetable Industry Survey – Koellner reported that Hills has started to interview growers in the Fruitland area.**
- J. **Additional items**
 - 1. **Other areas to add to potential areas of Historic Preservation**

Next meeting – November 9,2022 At Muscatine County Environmental Learning Center, 3300 Cedar Street, Muscatine, IA 52761

ATTACHMENTS FOLLOW BELOW



HPC Financial Report
10-10-22.pdf



Comm Foundation
Donations 10-10-22.p