

3/24/15 mtg.

Lynn: Call to order at 7pm, Wertzbaugher building in West Liberty
Pam Schnittjer, past present of West Liberty Heritage Foundation was present.
Welcome to Bill Koellner, newest member of the Commission.

Order of Business:

1. Status of CLG Planning for Preservation Consultant Solicitation
 - a. Original RFPs went out and then two additional – the two additional declined due to work load
 - b. No response to date, but the applicants have until April 1
 - c. Bill: Is anyone doing a GIS overlay to place these items on a map?
Tom: The County has a program called Magic, located at Power and Water, and they have overlays.
Bill: It would be nice to have historical sites on the GIS site (Geographic Information System)
2. Status of Fairground Historic District Nomination Project – Lisa
Rebecca McClarley will be submitting the Fairgrounds nomination for historic district status on the National Register April 1st. It will be submitted to the State and reviewed until October.
3. Swine Pavilion Rehab Project – Lisa
Peterson Construction has been selected for the Swine Pavilion rehab project. They have started taking the old roof off and there will be a ceremonial ground breaking on Friday. The project should be complete before the fair. The building will be rehabilitated and possibly have new pens for the livestock.
 - a. Lisa is applying for tax credits for the project. It is a long process, but moving forward with the first application steps.
 - b. The roof will most likely not qualify for tax credits because it is going to be standing seam and not wood shingle roof, but the wood shingle roof was cost prohibitive and the tax credits would not offset the difference.
Tom: The County dealt with the same thing on the Courthouse roof.
Bill: Bill recommended the Fair Board look into signage for historical structures on the fairgrounds.
4. Wilton Downtown – Rebecca's group was applying for HRDP grant. No update.
5. Stagecoach Inn - Dave
 - a. Dave took a copy of his document and made all the changes he could for the eligibility nomination.
 - b. Dave has been following up with several individuals (Paula Mohr, Marlin Engalls, etc.). He is waiting to get responses from Paula.

- c. Dave is thinking that it might be best to hire a consultant. Paula thinks it might be difficult to get a consultant to take the job.
- d. Tom is going to contact Tim Putney and/or Scott Brooks to see what the contract status is with Marlin Engalls. Scott Brooks also has a relationship with the owners. He will have the best insight on next steps.
- e. Lynn suggested considering moving the Stagecoach to the historic site where the West Liberty Depot is located. It's not the best option, but it's better than losing the building and it may be more manageable than owning the property and having to maintain.
- f. Bill said the building looks rough, but the structure is really in good condition.

6. Document Preservation Meeting - Lynn

- a. Tim was there from 10am – 1:30pm. Several Commission members were present and several people from West Liberty Heritage Foundation.
- b. Tim noted in his report that our Commission needs space to store documents. A central storage location for the County would be ideal. He recommended looking at the old jail in Muscatine, which was mentioned by the Commission.
- c. We accepted the proposal. Our cost was about \$20 to cover his travel.
- d. Tom stated that Tim has a lot of knowledge. He ran the Hoover Museum for several years.
- e. Pam stated that she agreed with what he stated. We don't have a lot of documents that are critically important, but what we do have is important to us and we are storing them the best we can. The Heritage Foundation does agree that a central collection location in Muscatine makes sense.
- f. Tom said the historic jail is a nice building, but it would take some work to get it where it needs to be.
- g. Lynn said that we should see the building to see if it could meet our needs. Lynn will contact Sherry for a tour.
- h. Bill took from the meeting that if we have a place, documents and important historic artifacts will surface. People will bring items forward when they feel there is a secure place to keep them.

7. Preservation Summit Down Brief

- a. Mary has agreed to do a brief on the learnings from the Summit for the Commission at the May meeting.

8. Historic Preservation Meeting 3/26/15 - Bill

- a. This meeting will be led by Paul Carol to coordinate efforts between the Historic Preservation groups in the county.
- b. Paul felt that there was enough momentum around historic preservation to coordinate projects throughout the county. Paul also

found that if someone has funds, but has nowhere to park the funds, this would be a way to discuss some of that.

- c. Bill's concern is "who's going to run the meeting?" It could turn into a lot of talk and no action.
- d. Lynn said that he talked to Paul and we are at the head of the list for the meeting. Lynn is going to try and get an organizational structure set up. Lynn is going to present on behalf of our Commission and our projects.
- e. Lisa will send Lynn the power point she wrote giving an overview of our Commission and goals. Lisa thinks that recruitment should be a big focus of the meeting.
- f. Bill thinks each group should present what they're working on as a start.

9. Other items

- a. Pam inquired about the buildings in downtown West Liberty need a lot of work and are in a historical district. What can we do to facilitate this effort?
- b. Lynn recommended hosting a meeting in June in West Liberty with the downtown building owners to educate them on options and our Commission's role in historic preservation.
- c. Tom and Lisa recommended having a Treasurer position.
- d. Bill Koellner nominated Tom for the treasurer position, Lisa Wertzbaugher seconded. Everyone voted in favor.
- e. Bill Koellner requested on our tax status and Dave stated that we are an extension of the County.
- f. Tom Furlong made a motion to moved the meeting to the fourth Tuesday of the month. Dave Nowling seconded. Everyone voted in favor.
- g. Lynn proposed the next meeting be in Muscatine so we can tour the jail.

Motion to Adjourn: Dave

Second: Lisa