

## Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission Minutes of Meeting on Tuesday, August 18, 2015

The Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission (MCHPC) met on Tuesday, August 18, 2015 at the County Administration building. Present were Lynn Pruitt, David Nowling, Helen Thompson, Tom Furlong, Mary Beveridge, Jim Nepple, Rebeckah Allgood and Bill Koellner. Lisa Wertzbaugher was excused.

Lynn Pruitt called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. Minutes of the July meeting were approved as mailed.

The Board of Supervisors has approved the request for two CLG grants including Preservation Planning and Pre-Development Study of OLD Jail Museum/ Archive. Final grant applications will be submitted by September 4.

Bill has had discussions with Mark Warren regarding the GIS mapping on the Muscatine Magic site. Because of restrictions, it was decided to develop our own web page on the County website. Any information could be sent to Sarah Downey. Lynn would like us to keep Sherry and Sarah up-to-date and include all agendas and meeting dates. Helen Thompson will help Sherry and we can give Helen any information to be posted, including any photographs. Bill Koellner suggested the Old Jail be included and Sherry will contribute some Old Jail photographs. Jim Nepple will email us more information and a list of sites.

Regarding the Muscatine County Fairgrounds project, Lynn has information from Lisa Wertzbaugher, who said the Fair Board would meet again in August. Bill and Dave will be in attendance. Our hired consultant Rebecca McCarley will be contacting the Fair Board to schedule a townhall meeting in the next 3 months to discuss our nomination process. Cash and pledges received currently amount to about \$625 000. Tom Furlong said the target amount for the project is \$720 000. A full update will be coming at our September meeting.

Lynn reported on the recent West Liberty Heritage Celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the city's brick streets and electrification.

Becky Allgood, reporting on the status of the Wilton Downtown Historic District, has talked with the state regarding the Wilton survey, which has been completed. They are now working on the application for funding.

Bill reported on the Stagecoach Inn project and said two members of the Ryan Trust will meet with Bill, Tom and Dave in the next couple weeks at the Community Center in West Liberty. Bill will email us the results of the meeting.

Lynn said he met with the Board of Supervisors on Monday and talked about the Old Jail, a meeting that was reported in today's Muscatine Journal. Lynn said we shall be

moving ahead with the project if our grant is approved. He has received an email from Paula Mohr, who said our job is to get the restoration project underway and then form a "friends" group, hopefully in concert with other historic groups in the region, to operate the museum/archives.

Regarding the Preservation Planning project, Lynn reported that county resources will be surveyed and training will be provided to Commissioners and volunteers. He outlined the 5 goals involved in project development: (1) training (2) working on project development to completion (3) educating the community, including groups and officials (4) identifying strengths (5) identifying resources. When we identify the priorities and planning for the future and the scope of our planning, we should keep in mind these goals. The role of the county staff is to provide the fiscal responsibility and some of the secretarial staff. Jim Nepple noted that the hired consultant writes the draft report and then we present it to the County Board of Supervisors.

Lynn also reminded Commissioners they must document all training they receive.

Lynn outlined a timetable with calendar dates, beginning in December and ending in July of the following year, for various phases of project planning. He also said all of our previous and future-planning projects must be documented according to our goals and objectives.

Lynn mentioned some of the progressive steps he has followed in preparing the CLG grant application for the Old Jail Pre-Development Study to be submitted for approval by the Board of Supervisors.

Lynn brought to Commissioners' attention that expenses associated with approved travel for training can be reimbursed. Commissioners must submit receipts along with expense reports before checks can be made out.

Lynn will have completed the Old Jail Project application by August 26 and will ask Sherry Seright to put it on the agenda for the CBS meeting on August 31.

The next meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. on September 22 at the Community Bank in Wilton. This was later changed to 6:00 p.m. on September 24 at the Tri-County Heritage/Genealogy Museum, 820 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Durant.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted  
Mary Beveridge

Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission