

MINUTES OF THE MUSCATINE COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE Meeting
April 26, 2016 at the Nichols Town Hall

The meeting was called to order at 12:39 p.m. All were in attendance. The March minutes were approved, as was the Treasurer's Report. The current balance:

Lisa reported on the Fairgrounds Historic District application. Phase 1 of Tax Credit Application of the Arts Building has been completed. There are 3 phases.

Regarding the County Fairgrounds, Lisa said the application (Phase 1) went well, as is work on the Ryan Building (Exhibition Hall). Scope has been approved for that project. We shall find out in July whether we get the grant and can then move forward with HRDP grant writing, which is being applied for by the Fair Board. Our Commission was involved with Rebecca's involvement. Lisa has mailed the budget to Commissioners today.

Becky Allgood reported that the Wilton HDBFR meeting will be at City Hall with refreshments on June 10 all day until 5 p.m. She asked for the Commission to sponsor the lunch. After lunch all will go to the Candy Kitchen, which has been sold and will be open. Posters of all buildings to be renovated will be displayed. She will get local restaurants and businesses to help sponsor the lunch. Tom moved that the Commission donate \$200 for the lunch and all agreed.

The Stage Coach Inn has now been officially listed on the National Register. Tom said that Bob Cline was key to this and talked with Engels, who had already been paid for the work. Lisa has now proposed that a small group meet with Dave Nowling, who is interested, as well as members of the Ryan Trust, who will then present their findings to the Commission. Bill Koellner will meet with them and also with the owners of the Inn, the Elliots. \$40 000 remains in escrow and perhaps will be matched by the Ryan Trust. The biggest problem is who will be the owner and what is the future plan. Scott has been liaison all along and could be involved, as could the West Liberty Heritage Foundation. Bill will coordinate the project

Jim gave an update on a CLG grant and he will be consulting with Becky McCarley of Spark Consulting.

Helen reported on the status of the Old Jail Museum/Archives. She has been in contact with Doug Steinmetz, who should have a kick-off meeting in early May and will have a plan by mid May with his schedule to proceed. Lisa said Mary Zollner should be interviewed. Her father was the county grounds historian and she grew up in the house. She resides at Sunnybrook. Lisa will forward Mary Zollner's email with contact information and Helen and Mary will interview her.

Lynn reported on the Old Barn project and said the TAN grant has been approved. He has scheduled a meeting on May 5 with Jennifer Price at the Barn. Lisa will get in touch with her. John Haskens will attend the 11 a.m. meeting, as will Rebeckah. The Barn was built in the 50s and if eligible, we shall apply for registration and tax credits.

Bill would like to set up a table at the Muscatine County Fair in July to exhibit and talk about our projects. Rebeckah and Helen will help him on Wednesday of that week (1-7 p.m.).

Lynn said we should be thinking about rural schools in the county and referred us to an email from the state office.

Helen asked about the opening of the black box from the cornerstone of Jefferson school, scheduled this week.

The next meeting will be on May 17 at 12:30 p.m. at the Wertzbaugher building in West Liberty.

Respectfully submitted
Mary Beveridge

Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission