

**Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting on Tuesday, 21 February 2017**

The Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission (MCHPC) met on Tuesday, February 21 at the Wilton Masonic Temple with commissioners Lisa Wertzbaugher, Mary Beveridge, Tom Furlong, Bill Koellner, Rebeckah Allgood and Anna Mack present. Lynn Pruitt, Jim Nepple and Bette Schneider were excused.

Lisa Wertzbaugher presided and called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. The minutes of the January 10 meeting were approved.

Mary Beveridge reported on the status of the Historic Jail project. She said that after the new project design is approved by SHPO, we can set up a Friends of the Historic Jail group with the Community Foundation and begin to raise funds for the project, which will begin with the stabilization of the building. Mary and Anna will contact Doug Steinmetz and Jim Nepple about setting up the Friends Group. The Board of Supervisors has set aside \$70 000 for the project. Also working on the project will be Tom Furlong.

Rebecca McCarley will present the completed Planning for Preservation project at a Town Hall meeting at 6 p.m. on April 20 at the Environmental Learning Center, 3300 Cedar Street in Discovery Park.

Lisa reminded commissioners to log in all volunteer time spent on projects.

Reporting on the Stage Coach Inn, Bill Koellner is awaiting a "go-ahead" from Jim Nepple for a Friends Group.

Lisa Wertzbaugher reported on the Fairgrounds project and said some new construction is going on, which will hopefully be completed before the Fair this summer. An engineer has been hired and plans are to write an application for an HRDP grant. She sees our job at the Commission to help the project and eventually disengage from the project and turn it over to the Fair Board. Plans are for a June ribbon-cutting for the Ryan Building.

Bill reported the Ryan Building at the Muscatine County Fairgrounds is now being rehabilitated and work is scheduled to be completed by April.

Becky Allgood reported on the Wilton Downtown Revitalization project and said that CLG status and \$500 000 have been approved.

Lisa will contact John Haskins of the Old Barn project and ask him what they need and how we can help.

In preparation for the Annual Report, Lisa will email a form for Commissioners to report any additional information.

In open discussion, Bill said that Scott Brooke will be contacting us about putting in a new floor in the West Liberty Depot. Lisa said she had been asked to appear at a Downtown Task Force meeting in West Liberty and they would like us to lead the development of their strategic plan. She said they have different groups but no central leadership. She said our Commission could be a strategic partner but a local group should carry the responsibilities. Lisa will attend the March 15 meeting of the West Liberty Downtown Task Force.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 21 at 12 p.m. at the Regional Learning Center in West Liberty.. The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Beveridge
Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission