

**MUSCATINE COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (MCHPC)**  
**OFFICIAL MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 12:02 PM**  
**Muscatine County Administrative Board Room**

**Call to Order**

**Roll Call and Guests**

**Commissioners Present: Allgood, Beveridge, Bosten, Daufeldt, Furlong, Koellner, Ochiltree, Pruitt**

**Commissioners Excused: Collins**

**Guests: Lisa Wertzbaugher, Sherry Seright**

**Order of Business**

- A. Approval of Agenda- Koellner-** Approved as presented (Furlong 1, Allgood 2, All Ayes)
- B. Approval of Minutes- November 10, 2021- Daufeldt-** approved as presented (Furlong1, Beveridge 2, All Ayes)
- C. Approval of Financial Reports – Allgood-** approved as presented- no change from last month

**Old Business**

**D. Historic Jail Museum Preservation and Reuse Funding -Wertzbaugher, Pruitt (possible action items)**

- 1. Updates** – Lisa Wertzbaugher was present to give her final report on the status of the good work she has provided the Commission regarding the grants and funding for the Historic Jail. All the paperwork is completed for the CLG report and ahead of schedule.

Mike Nolen has finished his part of the project. Wertzbaugher suggested that the Commission have a meeting to review the phase of the project to complete enough of the work to occupy the building for meetings and to provide space for others to rent the space. The grant construction funding is contingent on the approval of the HRDP approval in May 2022.

It was also suggested that in January the Commission request a full review of the project from Mike Nolen.

- 2. Friends of the Old Jail fundraising** – No funding has been secured since the letters were sent last year. Lisa will provide the group with her funding plan so the Commission will have the information
- 3. Other Action items - Marketing promotion-** Daufeldt reported for Collins that research continues on finding the film “Sheriff of Muscatine” and to secure the rights for use.

The drone filming of the jail and the interior spaces is still a work in progress.

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

- 1. Copies sold** -Pruitt reported that about 60 books have been sold to date.

2. **Marketing and signage of Historic schools and churches – – Furlong, Daufeldt, Pruitt, Ochiltree and Allgood**
  1. **Status of Order of 16 signs from Iowa Prison Industries for Pike Township.** Pruitt has mailed the individual letters to the landowners of the 16 sites in Pike Township. An order will be placed for the signs with Iowa Prison Industries for the signs using the logo and QR codes for each site.
  2. **Correspondence with landowners – Response from landowners for placement – timeline for installation-** Pruitt’s letters served as notice to the landowners of the intent of the Commission to place the signs in the Right of Way of the County or DOT and not on private property.
  3. **Plans for 2022 for township sign installation** -At the subcommittee meeting, on December 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. See Exhibit A attached.
  4. **Moved to accept the subcommittee plan for signs-** Furlong 1, Pruitt 2, Plan was approved as submitted all present voting Aye.
  
- F. **Nichols Area Historic Grants Updates- Pruitt –**
  1. **Nichol’s home – NHR nomination status** Waiting for approval of submission.
  2. **St. Mary’s Church NHR nomination status** Parish needs approval of the SHPO to complete the nomination. Most likely in June 2022.
- G. **West Liberty Heritage Foundation – Koellner**
  1. **NHR nomination – 2<sup>nd</sup> round application**
  2. **Historic 175<sup>th</sup> year sign for CRI & P Depot – tentative**
- H. **Wilton Historic Neighborhoods – Allgood/ Ochiltree –**
  1. **Buildings or Districts to be nominated in 2022--** discussion was to have the MCHPC develop guidelines for significant recognition of buildings and sites that have been turned down by the Iowa State Historical Society.
  
- I. **Historic Fairport Fish Hatchery Master Plan -Stevens, Pruitt, and Bosten - possible action items**
  1. **Signage – 175<sup>th</sup> year** Work in process for the verbiage of the sign.
  2. **Nomination for a historic district** McCauley is working on the nomination for the applications in Oct 2022.
  3. **Signs for the trails** will be ready in the spring of 2022 for the upper trails. South trails still TBD. Pavilion has fund raising and grant writing to complete.
  4. **Mural on Houser Janet Hoopes** has completed the work.
  
- I. **Muscatine County Fair Grounds amphitheater – Koellner/Pruitt/Wertzbaugher -** Wertzbaugher has applied for a CLG grant to assess the amphitheater structure and develop a plan for preservation.
- J. **Discussion and possible action regarding Pike Township’s Lacey School**
  1. **Iowa’s Most Endangered List**  
Discussion concerning Pruitt’s visit to the Lacey school ... appears to be structurally sound however substantial construction work would be needed to restore the modifications made by the owner. The building and acreage are for sale, but probably beyond the means of the commission. Bosten will pursue a First Right of Refusal with the owner.

**K. Report of nominating Committee for 2022 Officers – Pruitt/Allgood**

Slate of officers for 2022 were approved unanimously as: Chair, Koellner; Vice Chair, Furlong; Secretary/treasurer, Daufeldt Moved by Allgood and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pruitt all Ayes.

**L. Discussion and possible action for Sign Committee on selecting locations for Muscatine County Historic Register and possible signage**

**M. Selection of areas for study in 2022 – possible action items**

- 1. Location of Grange Halls, old Depots, towns no longer in existence in Muscatine County –**
- 2. Transportation in Muscatine County - Stagecoach routes, railroads, depots, ferry crossings, early highways (Highway 6 and travel cabins), interurban from Davenport to Muscatine, old rail depots and supporting buildings and businesses. old bridges**
- 3. Non-existent business that helped make Muscatine County historic businesses**
  - 1. Fruit and Vegetables Industry**
  - 2. Other businesses which were notable in Muscatine County**
- 4. Placement on MAGIC other historic locations to include cemeteries**
- 5. Other location to be nominated to NHR**

**N. . Upcoming Meeting – January 12, 2022**

**O. Open Discussion**

Exhibit A.

**Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission Rural Schools and Churches Signage Plan**

**December 6, 2021**

Signage Committee Members: Rebeckah Allgood, Jane Daufeldt, Rebecca Furlong, Lynn Ochiltrie, Lynn Pruitt

**Phase I**

Information regarding the rural schools and churches was obtained from the *Historic County Schools and Churches Survey Muscatine County, Iowa*.

Signs parameters were approved and are as follows:

- Signs will have a brown background with white letters.
- Sign will include name of school or church, QR Code and MCHPC logo.
- Signs will be 24" x 24" with exceptions in size if needed due to long names
- Signs will be mounted on one post.
- Signs, posts and hardware will be ordered from the Iowa Prison Industries.

Pike Township was selected as the pilot township for the purpose of developing a protocol to be used for designing, ordering and installing signs for all of the rural churches and schools within Muscatine County. The protocol is as follows:

1. Identify the landowners on which an identified school or church was located.
2. Send a letter to the landowners informing them that a sign will be placed at the location of the school/church. Landowners have 30 days in which to respond to the letter with concerns and/or questions.
3. Send the list of signs needed to the Iowa Prison Industries for manufacturing.
4. Approve proofs of signs from IPI and then order the signs.
5. Install the signs.
6. Revise the process as needed.

**Phase II**

Use the above outlined protocol to procure and install signs for all 14 townships in Muscatine County. Townships will be assigned as follows:

Jane Daufeldt	Lynn Ochiltree & Rebecca Allgood	Lynn Pruitt	Becky Furlong
Sweetland	Fulton	Pike	76
Montpelier	Wilton	Orono	Fruitland
Bloomington	Moscow	Wapsi	Cedar
	Lake		
	Goshen		

1. Landowners will be contacted no later than January 15 with a reply deadline of February 15.
2. Signs will be ordered from IPI by March 1.
3. Installation will begin as soon as signs arrive with anticipated completion date being 10/31/22.

**Phase III**

The above protocol will be used to order and place signs for all schools and churches in municipalities within the county.

**Phase IV**

Other historical buildings, i.e. grange halls, depots, etc., throughout the county will be identified and the above protocol used to order and install signage.

|