

**Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission
OFFICIAL PUBLIC AND MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

12 noon, Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Muscatine County Administration Building

Muscatine, Iowa

Members in attendance (X-present, E-excused, A-absent)

Lynn Pruitt	X	John Kiwala	X
Michelle Elizondo	X	Joe Harper	X
Bill Koellner	X	Sue O'Donnell	X
Elise Shield	X	Chris Brase	X
Becky Allgood	X	Dave Lerch	X
Ken Snyder	E		

Approvals:

- A. Meeting called to order by Chair Chris Brase
- B. Agenda approved (Koellner, Harper)
- C. October 21, 2025 minutes approved (Harper, Pruitt)

Old Business:

- A. **New Members** – The Muscatine Historic Preservation Commission welcomed two new members- Elise Shield and Dave Lerch.
- B. **Historic Transportation** – The Commission is prepared to order 27 signs as the 2nd round. O'Donnell and Pruitt were working on letters to homeowners for the placement of these signs throughout the county. Wilton and West Liberty already have their sites approved. The commission will wait until Spring to send out the letters.
- C. **Fruit and Vegetable Industry** – The Fruit and Vegetable historic book is completed and is uploaded to Amazon. A motion was made to purchase books at \$19+ and sell them for \$20. Motion carried. Several commission members wanted copies of this book.
- D. **Underground Railroad** – Some of the commission members are working with the Friends Group to get the Freedom Trail book published. The commission had a discussion on this topic and agreed that they would help with the signage for locations in the county outside of Muscatine.
- E. **West Liberty Historic Neighborhood CLG Grant** – Koellner reported that the research is almost complete to send to the Historian for documentation.
- F. **Next CLG Grant** – The CLG Grant information has not determined when the 2026 Grant will be open. The Commission has decided to go for a grant to update our Planning for Preservation in Muscatine County and to fund the next historic neighborhood in West Liberty.

New Business:

- A. **Projects for 2026** – Some suggestions for 2026 Muscatine County projects were: Century Farms/Heritage Farms, Identifying Original Settlers, Historic Post Offices, Historic Cemeteries, Orphan Train, POW Camp at Fairport.

- B. Eagle Watch and Preserve Iowa Summit** – The 2026 Eagle Watch will be January 15 – 18 the MCHPC usually sets up two tables for this.
Chris reminded commissioners that the Preserve Iowa Summit will be in Ankeny on June 2 and 3, 2026.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 @ noon

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Rebeckah Allgood

Minutes Approved Date: ____/____/____ by: _____