

Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission OFFICIAL PUBLIC AND MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

12 Noon, Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Muscatine County Administration Center, Supervisor's Meeting Room

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

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

Approval:

- A. Meeting called to order by Chair Chris Brase
- B. Agenda- Motion to approve by Harper, 2nd by, Koellner. Motion passed
- C. April 21, 2026, minutes- Motion to approved by Harper 2nd seconded by Pruitt. Motion passed

Old Business:

1. **HRDP Grant:** HRDP grant for the Mississippi Courts which is a 12-building site has been submitted.
2. **Promoting Flyer update:** Draft of MCHPC brochure was presented by Elizondo. Brochure is a one page double sided. Front side describes who we are and what we do, Back page has pictures of recent and ongoing initiatives. Everyone was pleased with the Brochure. It will be proof and then Brase will talk with the County about printing. Koeller has created a list of Historic Locations within each township. Discussion was held in regard to other ways to promote the historic sites in Muscatine County with New Flyers, Aps or possible setting up a driving route through Muscatine County.
3. **County website and Beacon map upgrade:** The Website is continued to be upgraded by the County. The QR codes are being updated and linked to the new server and should be completed this week. Brase will ask if IT would be able to attend our June meeting.
4. **County Fair Update:** Application for Exhibit space has been returned; we ask to be in the same location as last year next to Heritage Hall
5. **Historic Transportation:** All signs have been installed
6. **Fruit and Vegetable Industry:** Work continues getting QR codes for the 18 site locations. Once received letters will go out to property owner notifying them and asking for input about placement of signs.
7. **Underground Railroad –** Brase has received ideas and suggestions from Barry Jurgensen. Brase continues to work on the project.
8. **West Liberty Historic Neighborhood CLG Grant:** Koeller will be getting a draft for final review, project is running ahead of schedule.

9. **Wilton CLG/Historical Society (Walnut Trees)**: Brase reported that he had received an email from Historic Resource Group, Inc. They are working on a report for the County regarding the Highway project along old Hwy 6 that involves the remaining Walnut tree. They are, at the request of the County, reviewing the historic information and history of the Walnut trees and if they could possibly qualify for NRHP. They are asking if the commission has any information or input, they would like to submit.
10. **Earth-day Fairport Fish Hatchery**: Brase, Pruitt and Lerch attended, Friends of Fairport Fish Hatchery were pleased that the Commission had set up a display. had a few visitors interested in the Commission work
11. **Friends of the Old Barn**: Brase, Pruitt and Harper attended. Friends of the Old Barn were pleased that the Commission had set up a display. had a few visitors interested in the Commission work.
12. **Archaeology/Metal detection**: Sandy Stevens continues to work with the state for approval to investigate the targets found by metal detection.

New Business:

- A. **Big Slough Creek Bridge on Bancroft Ave**: The Iowa DOT has sent out the Phase I Archaeological Survey. Iowa DOT is inquiring as to weather the MCHPC wishes to act as a consulting party to the Section 106 process for this project. Brase will follow up with Iowa DOT.
- B. **2026 Preservation Iowa Summit**: Brase will attend
- C. **CLG Grants**: Brase will contact Rebecca McCarley and ask if she could give an estimate of cost to update the 2017 Planning for Preservation of Muscatine County
- D. **Next Meeting** - Is on Tuesday, June 16th at noon at the Muscatine County Admin building.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Chris Brase

Minutes Approved Date: 6 / 16 / 2026 by: Chris Brase