



LINN COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

935 Second Street SW ▪ Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404 ▪ 319-892-5141

Minutes
February 19th, 2020

Members Present

Maura Pilcher
Patricia Soukup
Amanda Happel
Michael LeClere
Richard Thomas
Todd McNall
Steve Ciha

Absent

Nancy Goodlove

Staff Present

Mike Tertinger, Staff Liaison
Sue Bennett, Recording Secretary

Call to Order

Vice Chair Michael LeClere called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Public Comment

None

Announcements/Communication

Tertinger will forward information to the HPC members regarding the free webinar “Congressional Appropriations for Historic Preservation”, which will be held on February 27, 2020 from 3-4 pm.

Tertinger stated that the Lisbon Historic Preservation Commission has invited us to attend the ceremony celebrating the Downtown District into the National Historic Register. It was noted that May 6 is the night we will be working on grant applications.

Tertinger mentioned that the HPC is still short one member, but there have been applications. The Executive Committee will review the applications and make a recommendation to the rest of HPC.

Approval of Minutes

Happel motioned, Soukup second, all present voting aye to approve minutes from January 15, 2020



meeting as submitted.

Budget

Remaining account balance is \$19,516; \$15,000 of which is allotted for Tallgrass Archaeology proposal to conduct National Register nomination of Wickiup Hill Natural Area.

New Business

- a. The 2019 CLG Annual Review has been sent to SHPO. The state requirements for Certified Local Government status have been completed.
- b. Happel asked if we asked for more money for the HPC operating account or Preservation Grant fund. Pilcher responded that we did not, as she feels we still need to build a compelling argument to justify asking for more money.
- c. LeClere asked if the Board of Supervisors has approved the Professional Services Agreement for Leah Rogers and Tallgrass Archeology to work on the Wickiup Hill nomination for the National Registry. Pilcher said yes. Tertinger confirmed.

FY20 Work Plan

- a. The HPC is approved to hold an event during the May Preservation Month in the City of Coggon to celebrate the Coggon Downtown Commercial Historic Districts successful nomination to the National Register. HPC will need to inform Coggon which date they would like to hold the event. Per LeClere HPC is welcome to use the CABA Center, although the Masonic building may be available. Tertinger will provide proof of insurance to LeClere to forward to Coggon. May 9th was presented as the first choice for a date, with May 2 or 3rd as backup dates if the 9th is not available. Possible time was 2 to 4 pm. There was discussion about what the HPC would do – LeClere volunteered to give a speech if necessary. It was asked if someone from the Wapsi Valley Archeology could attend and give a presentation about their work on the nomination project. Refreshments will be sourced from Coggon. Happel will get in touch with Britt Nielson regarding a county flyer. Happel suggested creating an event page. Once the date and time are confirmed, Planning & Development will send a calendar of the events in March out to all the Commission. LeClere stated that he is not sure if the Masonic building has internet, so a cell phone hot spot might be needed.
- b. There was nothing new on Demolition Review.
- c. There was nothing new on Section 106
- d. There was nothing new on Pioneer Cemeteries. The definition of a Pioneer Cemetery was given as a cemetery at which, in the last 50 years, there have been 12 or fewer burials.
- e. On March 3, 2020, Pilcher will be meeting with Jean Weidenheft, Leah Rogers, Jim Meyers and Scott Koepke to discuss putting the Sugar Grove farm on the National Historical Register.
- f. The webpage for the Historic Preservation Grant Program is now live on the Linn County website.
- g. The FY20 Preservation Grant Briefing is set for 2/29 will be held at the Fairfax Library from 10 am to noon. HPC member attendance is requested not mandatory.
- h. In reviewing the FY20 Preservation Grant Property Condition Worksheet, it was noted that there was no fillable box for Question #3. It's also last year's matrix. Tertinger will work with Ande Hendricks to revise and update.
- i. Ciha is waiting until the weather is warmer to check on the kiosks. He is shooting for early May.
- j. Pilcher suggested that, given all that needs to be done, the HPC not take part in the County Fair this year. No objections from the commission were noted.
- k. Opportunities for young students, Soukup said not at this time.

Next Meeting

March 18, 2020

Adjournment – Motion by Amanda Happel, second by Todd McNall, those present voting aye, to adjourn the HPC meeting at 4:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved,

Sue Bennett, Recording Secretary

Maura Pilcher, Chair