Minutes
May 15th, 2019

Members Present
Maura Pilcher
Patricia Soukup
Amanda Happel
Nancy Goodlove
Connie Robinson
Dick Thomas
Michael LeClere

Absent
Brent Harstad

Staff Present
Mike Tertinger, Staff Liaison
Jessica Black, Recording Secretary

Call to Order
Chair Maura Pilcher called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

Public Comment
None

Announcements/Communication
Tertinger sent members of the commission an email from Paula Mohr asking for participation in the round table discussion to be held at the Preserve Iowa Summit in Newton on June 6th from 9:30 – 11:30. Pilcher & Happel will attend.

Approval of Minutes
Goodlove motioned, Soukup second, all present voting aye to approve minutes from May 1st, 2019 meeting as submitted.

Budget
Remaining HPC account balance is $12,502. Remaining balance in the HPC Grant Program budget is $2,250.
Tertinger wondered status of invoice from Coggon National Register Nomination. LeClere will follow up with Wapsi Valley for more information.
New Business
None

FY19 Work Plan

Demolition Review
No update. Thomas mentioned that Mt. Vernon has not passed their demo review policy yet. Section 106
No update.

Pioneer Cemeteries
Sherry Timmins, who was originally spearheading this project, resigned. Darrin Gage should have some information. Tertinger will follow up with Gage.

Wickiup
Next step is meeting with Daniel Gibbins from Linn County Conservation.

HRDP Grant for NRHP nomination
Pilcher spoke with Mohr about Witwer Farms. Pilcher will discuss Witwer at the roundtable discussion during the Preserve Iowa Summit. There is still some confusion as to how to pass CLG grants on to private property.

FY21 Grant Application Improvements Discussion
Thomas expressed concern for the number of high dollar amount requests on grant applications. He would like the application to state the absolute top dollar amount requests to be entertained. Pilcher agreed.

Tertinger wondered if cities that have their own CLG should be excluded.

Thomas would like the Board of Supervisors to be more involved with the grant program. Pilcher does not, stating that she thinks the Board would restrict amount given to HPC for grants. She would rather add a disclaimer to the grant application, saying that if the applicant already receives money from Linn County, they are not eligible for the HPC grant.

Thomas added that he does not think it’s fair for small, rural communities applying for grants for the repair of five windows to be competing against a bigger community with a larger endowment.

Happel suggested the application be worded differently, adding language that is geared more towards rural or small projects. Pilcher suggested adding, “preference will be given to” or doing two separate grants; a small grant and bigger grant. She also mentioned adding a comment about applicants’ operating budget to help justify why HPC asks for that information on grant application.

Several other members of the commission discussed possible revisions to the grant application and review process.

Next Meeting
June 19th, 2019
Adjournment – Motion by Soukup, second by Robinson, those present voting aye, to adjourn the HPC meeting at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  

Approved,  

Jessie Black, Recording Secretary  
Maura Pilcher, Chair