



LINN COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

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

Minutes
July 17th, 2019

Members Present

Maura Pilcher
Patricia Soukup
Amanda Happel
Nancy Goodlove
Connie Robinson
Michael LeClere

Absent

Dick Thomas

Staff Present

Mike Tertinger, Staff Liaison
Jessica Black, Recording Secretary
Sue Bennett, Permit Specialist
Les Beck, Director of Planning & Development

Call to Order

Chair Maura Pilcher called the meeting to order at 3:59 p.m.

Public Comment

None

Announcements/Communication

None

Approval of Minutes

Goodlove motioned, Soukup second, all present voting aye to approve minutes from May 15th, 2019 meeting as submitted.

Budget

Tertinger announced the new allocation to the operating account, as of July 1st, beginning of FY2020, is \$9,545.00. \$28,800 is in the Historic Preservation Grant Program budget, all of which has been awarded to grant recipients and should reflect a balance of \$0 next month. Remaining balance at the end of last fiscal year was \$9,971.23. Tertinger informed the commission that amount can be requested back for the fall amendment.



New Business

a.) HPC Group Photo

All members of HPC participated in a group photo for the Linn County Historic Preservation website.

b.) HPC Vacancies

There are currently two vacancies. Tertinger received two applications to fill vacancies, but the group agreed to wait a little bit longer prior to selecting candidates in hopes of receiving more applications.

LeClere let the group know he would be helping teach a design studio at Iowa State University from August through December. His schedule may conflict with HPC meetings. He wondered if he could call into meetings. The group agreed it would not be a problem.

FY20 Work Plan

Pilcher passed out new FY20 Work Plan. The group discussed any updates/changes they wanted to make to current objectives and tasks.

Provide education about alternatives to the Demolition of NRHP listed and eligible properties in Linn County

Pilcher and Soukup will work on this.

Conduct Section 106 Review

Goodlove wondered if HPC gets notification of all cell towers being put up in the county, referring to a new tower that was just constructed at the corner of Austin and Barrett Road. Tertinger said yes, they all go through Section 106 committee, however, he does not recall seeing a Section 106 review request come through for that particular tower. Tertinger will verify.

Advance the Rural Preservation Initiative

- **Pursue Wickiup Hill NR Nomination**

LeClere asked for an update on progress made. Pilcher stated the next step is to meet with Daniel Gibbins with Linn County Conservation. Pilcher reached out, but is still waiting to hear back from Gibbins. Once meeting is scheduled, she will draft a Request for Proposal. LeClere asked if Pilcher could send out RFP template to the HPC members for their review. Pilcher agreed.

- **Pioneer Cemeteries Inventory**

Goodlove, Soukup and Happel make up the subcommittee working on this task. Goodlove & Happel discussed what to do with the information once it has all been collected by the Board of Supervisors interns. LeClere suggested adding pictures and/or blurbs next to a few headstones, providing information on the deceased and turning the cemetery into more of a living history park. Pilcher suggested moving this task to an objective; the group agreed. Tertinger will contact Michelle Kumar regarding progress of project. LeClere shared photo examples of a cemetery with similar features.

- **Identify Next Project**

Members discussed possible options for next project. LeClere suggested prioritizing farmsteads. Pilcher explained that one big challenge for farmsteads is public vs. private interest. She mentioned talking with the county attorney to go

over next steps. Beck added that he and Tertinger recently had a conversation about possibly nominating Etzel Sugar Grove Farm, now owned by Indian Creek Nature Center, for the National Registry of Historic Places.

Next Meeting

August 21st, 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