

Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission
OFFICIAL MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, March 9, 2022
At County Administration Building

Call to Order at Noon

Roll Call and Guests

Commissioners: Allgood (excused), Beveridge, Collins (excused), Daufeldt, Koellner, Ochiltree, Pruitt, and Furlong. There is one open position on the commission.

Others attending: Sandy Stevens, Paul Carroll, Sherry Seright, Lena Michalek

Order of Business

- A. Approval of Agenda- Koellner** approved by consent of all present
- B. Approval of Minutes- February 9, 2022- Daufeldt** It was moved by Pruitt and 2nd by Ochiltree to approve the minutes with all present voting, AYE.
- C. Approval of Financial Reports – Daufeldt** It was moved by Ochiltree and 2nd by Pruitt to approve the financial reports from the county and the Community Foundation balances. All present voting AYE.

Old Business

D. Historic Jail Museum Preservation and Reuse Funding - Pruitt (possible action items)

- 1. Mike Nolan – Final drawings on Historic Jail project** Lena Michalek, LEED Green Associate with Horizon Original Architecture, presented the approved plans for the Phase II. Phase I was “mothballing the building’s exterior.” These plans were recently approved by the (Iowa) State Historic Preservation Office. The specs will be included with the plans she will be sending to the commission, which is a copy of what was presented. The presentation will be attached to the minutes.
Some of the items of note are: total occupancy 71, any changes would mean the whole project would need to go back to the State Historic Office for approval, if piecemealed-the costs would likely be higher, total probably project cost for Phase II is \$350K; May 2, 2022 -is the deadline to submit for the HRDP for grants up to \$50K and July being the date for announcement;
- 2. Friends of the Old Jail fundraising – pledges and income to CFGM** There is a total of \$4,771.42 in the account at the Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine. The balance has remained the same since 12/31/2021.
- 3. Other Action items - Marketing promotion – Collins** Koellner reported that Collins will have a film prepared in April.

E. Rural Schools and Churches CLG grant-Daufeldt – possible action items

- 1. Copies sold to date** Pruitt reported that 80 books have been purchased to date.

The books are still available on Amazon

2. **Marketing and signage of Historic schools and churches update-- Furlong, Daufeldt, Pruitt, Ochiltree and Allgood**
 - **Status of Order of 16 signs from Iowa Prison Industries for Pike Township** The signs were delivered to Furlongs and one of the signs was brought to the meeting. The Iowa State Prison still owes the committee the posts for the signs- hardware and signs were delivered for Pike Township. Installation will commence when the weather is favorable.
 - **Correspondence with landowners from the other 13 townships-- Re January 13, 2022, letters** – Response from landowners for placement – The landowners for the most part were positive with their responses. Most called out of curiosity. The timeline for ordering signs the next townships will be confirmed at the next smaller sign committee meeting.

3. **Presentation at Iowa Summit on use of Historic Bridge funds = Pruitt**

It is most likely the presentation will be on the Schools and Churches funding sources.

- F. **Nichols Area Historic Grants Updates- Pruitt – possible action items**
 1. **Nichol's home** – update-A grant was awarded for \$3,700 and the consultant selection is ready to proceed.
 2. **St. Mary's Church NHR nomination status with National Park Service**

The State of Iowa approved the status and still waiting on the Fed.

- G. **West Liberty Heritage Foundation – NHR nomination status with National Park Service-** still waiting on the Fed to approve.

- H. **Wilton Historic Neighborhoods – Allgood/ Ochiltree – possible action items**
 1. **Buildings or Districts to be nominated in 2022** No report

- I. **Historic Fairport Fish Hatchery Master Plan -Stevens, Pruitt - possible action items**
 1. **Signage – 175th year – approved by State of Iowa - - Pruitt and Stevens**

Items of interest were: Most likely it will be April before all DNR locations-sign design spec for templates to be approved, the text for Hatchery signs has been determined, applying for a grant to construct a replacement bridge for the south side trails, DNR is evaluating the control of invasive plants on the trails through the EQUIP program.

- J. **Muscatine County Fair Grounds amphitheater – Koellner/Pruitt/**
 1. **CLG Approved by Cultural Affairs - Kelsey Morris is Fair contact** – still waiting for the grant proceeds of \$9,600

K. Friends Groups and financial reporting – action the following wording was suggested by the Community Foundation for the Commissions funds the item were corrected to include the positions/roles of the those authorized to withdraw funds:

- Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission Chair or Secretary/Treasurer or the Muscatine County Budget Administrator authorized to receive and view fund activity and balance for the Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission Charitable Fund within the Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine.
- Amend the 06-05-2019 Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission Charitable Fund agreement within the Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine to state distributions from the Fund may be recommended by the Secretary/Treasurer or Project Manager of the Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission or the Muscatine County Budget Administrator.

(Struck Chair, and added Project Manager)

All present voted AYE to the changes.

L. Potential 2022 work areas

- **Selecting locations for Muscatine County Historic Register and possible signage by townships**
- **Location of Grange Halls, od Depots, towns no longer in existence in Muscatine County –**
- **Transportation in Muscatine County - Stagecoach routes, railroads, depots, ferry crossings, early highways (Highway 6 and travel cabins), interurban from Davenport to Muscatine, old rail depots and supporting buildings and businesses. old bridges**
- **Non-existent business that helped make Muscatine County historic businesses**
 - Fruit and Vegetables Industry**
 - Other businesses which were notable in Muscatine County**
 - Placement on MAGIC other historic locations to include cemeteries**

M. A request was made to the commission regarding placement of the bridge at Cone Lake on the NHR. It was determined the bridge was already on the NHR. The Commission has no fund or authority to replace the historic bridge.

N. Upcoming Meeting – April 13

O. Open Discussion

No further discussion and the meeting closed.