

WINNESHIEK COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Steven Johnson, Chairperson
David Stanley, Co-Secretary
Elizabeth Lorentzen, Treasurer
Mike Meyer

Julia Wall, Co-Secretary
Ferneva Brimacomb
Roger Bergan
Janelle Pavlovec
Dean Thompson

**Minutes of the Winneshiek County
Historic Preservation Commission
Meeting
Nov. 12, 2011
8:30 A.M.
Vesterheim Gathering Center**

Members present: Steve Johnson, Mike Meyer, Ferneva Brimacomb, David Stanley, Janelle Pavlovec, Dean Thompson, Elizabeth Lorentzen, Julia Wall

Dean moved, Ferneva seconded to approve the minutes; approved unanimously

Treasurer's Report - Elizabeth

cost of the workshop was \$219.12

money market interest is up a little

Steve suggested that we might consider a 5 year CD which has better interest and the penalty for early withdrawal is minimal

It would cost \$16,000 to reprint Vera Harris book. 550 copies have sold and we have 450 left.

Elizabeth suggested an ad in the Decorah paper for Christmas gift ideas -wchpc publications including the Vera Harris books.

We should also sell copies at the Fish Hatchery which attracts many tourists.

Of the \$42,000 total we should leave \$20,000 where it is and possibly put the other \$20,000 in a 5 year CD

David moved to approve the Treasurer's report, Mike seconded; motion carried unanimously

Old business

Des Moines was not contacted about our October regional workshop but it will be in Annual Report

Janelle attended a workshop, so we have our quota for training; Ferneva attended a workshop also.

Some attendees of the workshop wanted a list of those attending Ferneva wondered if that should be given out and it was decided that list should not be given out because of e-mail addresses; Steven thinks that Humanities Iowa would have to give permission to disseminate it.

Steve says that we should have had a disclaimer if they mind sharing email.

Paula would have the comprehensive list of contacts

New Business

Deadline for involvement in preservation Nov. 30th

Projects for 2012

We discussed the following for possible projects:

Rural schools

Steve did a survey of rural schools in the 1980s; grouped them by architectural style; Charlie Stoen Supt of schools in the 1930's noted around 130 in the 1930's; there were possibly 180 originally

Winneshiek County was one of first counties to do a survey of the rural schools

It was suggested that we do a comprehensive inventory of all schools including archeological sites of schools no longer standing.

David stated that we should publish Steve's work on rural schools; that should be the baseline to build on and refine, and we should revisit the sites

A calendar or pamphlet of rural schools could be produced.

National Register nominations in the county

This commission doesn't take on the sole responsibility of National Registry work but can advise others and work with them; we don't have the funds to pay the \$3,000 to \$4,000 for a project.

Washington Prairie Church - Koren family is in the cemetery; Bear Creek Archeology is doing work there; Dave will talk to Paula about the church and cemetery.

Steve suggested we all think about possible projects before the January meeting.

Ferneva will get Steve's report and send it to David who will distribute it.

Visitor

Kevin Lee spoke about the Birdsall Kiln in Freeport built in 1877. This kiln was very important to early manufacturing and was used to cook lime

Jim Stevenson owns the property.

Steve said it has been inventoried.

Kevin said that an archeological study should be done to expand the National Historic site - about 40 acres.

Bear Creek could look into this; Dave said it should be a district nomination.

Dave needs a copy of the nomination and then he will pursue this.

Concerning the Caretaker's House, David shared some info from Lloyd Bolz, but his report is not yet complete; we still need to pay \$250 at some point.

Next meeting will be January 14th, 2012

Motion to adjourn by Dean, seconded by Mike; approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:57.