

**Minutes of the Winneshiek County
Historic Preservation Commission
Meeting
January 11, 2003
10:00 A.M.
Old Winneshiek County Jail**

Present

Kevin Lee, Steve Johnson, Dave Stanley, Ferneva Brimacomb, Steve Klimesh, Elizabeth Lorentzen. Guest; Pat Johnson representing the 3 R's (Residents for Responsible Renovation).

This meeting opened with a presentation by Pat Johnson of the 3 R's, a group organized to preserve the East Side School in Decorah. Pat distributed handouts on the chronology of recent events associated with the East Side School. The 3 R's have requested that the school board seek out an architectural firm that specializes in renovating historic structures in order to get their assessment of whether or not renovation and use as a school is feasible. Pat indicated that Kane and Johnson, a firm from Minneapolis, had done a feasibility study in 1998. The results of this study indicated that renovation and use of East Side as a school was feasible but expensive.

Steve J. asked Pat how the HPC could assist the 3 R's. She was not sure at this stage but was open to suggestions.

Kevin brought up the possibility of the HPC assisting the 3 R's in obtaining grants to help fund a feasibility study.

Steve J. suggested that the HPC obtain a copy of the 1998 feasibility study and the 1996 National Register Nomination of the East Side School for review by the HPC. Steve also brought up the possibility of Decorah forming a HPC. Steve J. indicated that he would look into acquiring a copy of both the 1998 feasibility study and the National Register Nomination.

The discussion then turned to welcoming Steven Klimesh, the most recent appointee to the HPC.

Steve J. provided expiration dates of the present commission members which are as follows:

Elizabeth Lorentzen	2005
Roger Bergan	2005
Steve Johnson	2004
Kevin Lee	2004
Ferneva Brimacomb	2006
Steven Klimesh	2006

Commission member expirations con't.

Dave Stanley	2006
Vacancy	2006

The issue of past HPC files and records was brought up by Steve J. who thought that many of the records were in storage with the records of the Winneshiek County Historical Society or possibly archived at Luther College. Elizabeth volunteered to contact past HPC secretaries and see where the records might be.

Steve J. brought up the issue of funds provided to the HPC by the Board of Supervisors. \$1,500 had been provided for fiscal year 2003 (ending in June of 2004). Not of the funds had been tapped to date and Steve J. indicated the HPC needed a treasurer.

Kevin quickly moved to nominate Elizabeth and Ferneva seconded the motion. Before Elizabeth could respond Dave brought the issue to a vote and Elizabeth was unanimously elected treasurer. She graciously accepted.

The topic then turned to how the funds would be distributed. Dave brought up the issue of attending CLG training sessions and workshops. Several HPC members expressed interest in attending these sessions and Dave volunteered to contact the State Historical Society and see if any were scheduled for this spring.

Other needs included upgrading the HPC's computer (a first generation pentium), file cabinets, a scanner, a color printer (including cartridge replacements), a digital camera, and obtaining a full set of USGS topographic maps for Winneshiek County.

Dave volunteered to look into the cost of upgrading the computer versus the cost of a new one and the cost of the other items noted above.

Prior to adjournment at 11:50 A.M. a general discussion took place concerning developing a list of objectives and goals for this year as well as future years. Individual HPC members agreed to develop a general list for discussion at the next meeting.