

**Minutes of the Winneshiek County
Historic Preservation Commission
Meeting
March 13, 2004
9:30 A.M.
Old Winneshiek County Jail**

Present

Winneshiek County Historic Preservation Commission: Kevin Lee, Steve Johnson, Dave Stanley, Ferneva Brimacomb, Elizabeth Lorentzen,

Guests

Audrey McKinley, St. Ansgar Heritage Museum
Betty Kleckner, Mitchell County Historical Society
Doug Cassman, Mitchell County Historical Society
Edgar Darow, Mitchell County Historical Society

The Winneshiek County Historic Preservation Commission meeting on March 13th included members of the Mitchell County Historical Society and St. Ansgar (Mitchell County) Heritage Museum.

The meeting started with introductions and background information on those attending the meeting. Steve J. and Dave outlined how to setup a certified local government (CLG) and what the advantages were.

Edgar and Betty inquired whether we received financial support from the Board of Supervisors and Steve indicated that the Board has been very generous in supporting the HPC's efforts in historic preservation.

Audrey asked how the HPC gained access to the office and storage space at the Old Jail. Steve J. presented the framework on how that happened.

Kevin provided copies of the HPC resolutions and by-laws for the Mitchell County representatives and also information on how to contact Kerry McGrath at the State Historical Society of Iowa for further information.

Elizabeth summarized the historic walks she has organized for viewing the historic buildings in Decorah. She also described the recent awards the City of Decorah bestowed on property owners who have restored or adapted historic buildings for business use. Elizabeth then discussed how she uses the community's architecture for teaching purposes.

After breaking for refreshments Ferneva asked the Mitchell County representatives about projects they have been working on. Audrey outlined the preservation work her organization carried out in preserving and publicizing The First Lutheran Church in St. Ansgar. She also provided us with a brochure. Doug and Edgar discussed the Mitchell County Historical Society's need for a new museum and historical building.

Kevin conducted a tour of the Old Jail and the material archived by the Winneshiek County Historical Society. He described the content of much of the records, documents, and photographs presently stored in the Old Jail.

We also toured the records of the Winneshiek County Genealogy Society at the Public Library.

Meeting was adjourned around noon.

The next meeting for the Winneshiek Historic Preservation Commission is May 8th, 2004 at 10:00 AM in the Old Jail.