

**Minutes of the Winneshiek County
Historic Preservation Commission
Meeting
February 9, 2008
8:30 A.M.
Vesterheim Westby Education Center**

Present

Kevin Lee, Dave Stanley, Steve Johnson, Elizabeth Lorentzen, Ferneva Bremicomb, Roger Bergan.

Two visitors, Lyle Otte of the Decorah Historic Preservation Commission, and Janelle Pavlovec from Decorah, attended this meeting. Janelle mentioned that the Winneshiek County Historical Society would be meeting in Calmar at the old railroad depot in April. She indicated that there have been serious discussions about using the old depot as an information center and trail head for the bicycle trail. The depot is owned by the City and Calmar City Councilman Luther Anderson is the contact person. Janelle asked the Commission if we would write a letter of support for using the depot as an information center and trail head to the Calmar City Council. After a brief discussion Kevin moved to write a letter. Roger seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Steve volunteered to write the letter.

The minutes from the November and January meetings were presented and Dave moved to approve them. Kevin seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Elizabeth presented the treasurer's report.

Steve brought up the recent Board of Supervisors' meeting which was attended by Rob, Steve, Elizabeth, and Roger. A request for a budget of \$2,800 for the next fiscal year was presented to the Supervisors. However the Supervisors indicated that it was likely that the Commission would receive the same amount as last year, \$2,000.

The next item discussed was the Commission's annual report which had been prepared by Dave. Dave explained the details presented in the report and asked the Commission if there were any additions or errors that should be addressed. After a brief discussion Kevin moved to approve the annual report as is. Roger seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Dave said that he had received a the review comments for the Freeport Hillside Cemetery Survey grant application that was submitted to the State Historical Society for a Certified Local Government grant. The grant was not funded but Dave suggested that the Commission send out a Request for Proposals (RFP) to cultural resource contractors and see if anyone would submit a proposal that would cost no more than the amount of money that was available without the grant. Kevin expressed his concern that the property owner would deny access to anyone that attempted to do the survey. Dave felt that it would be

illegal for the property owner to deny access especially since the Commission had the support from both the Winneshiek County Pioneer Cemetery Commission and the Freeport Cemetery Association. Steve moved to have Dave prepare a request for proposals and Kevin seconded the motion. It was passed unanimously.

Steve introduced Lyle Otte and said he was present to discuss a National Register Workshop that would be sponsored by both the Decorah and Winneshiek County Historic Preservation Commissions. The workshop would be conducted by Beth Foster Hill of the State Historical Society of Iowa and Vesterheim Museum would offer space. The workshop would be scheduled on May 9th. The cost would be \$35 per participant plus \$6 for lunch. Paula Mohr from the State Historical Society offered to contact all of the certified local governments in northeast Iowa to see what the level of interest would be. Steve noted that Paula and Beth both felt we would need a minimum of 15 participants and that a RSVP would be required. It was estimated that a registration fee would be necessary and that a box lunch would be provided to the participants. Roger moved to co-sponsor the workshop and Ferneva seconded the motion. It was passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 A.M. The next meeting was scheduled for March 8th at 8:30 A.M. at the Vesterheim Westby Education Center.