

Winneshiek County Historic Preservation Commission
January 9, 2021

The Winneshiek County Historic Preservation Commission (WCHPC) met at the Winneshiek County Courthouse Annex with the following members present: Roger Bergan, Ferneva Brimacomb, Ashley Christensen, Kim Glock, Steve Johnson, Elizabeth Lorentzen, Janelle Pavlovec, LaVonne Sharp and David Wadsworth.

Minutes of the November 14, 2020 were read. Brimacomb moved and Sharp seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Lorentzen. The Frankville School Project funding was switched to the General Fund as of January 1, 2021. The ending balance shows \$21,110.56. However, much of the balance is reserved for current and upcoming projects. After subtracting these reserved funds, the final ending balance is \$2,477.81. Additionally, the Commission has an Accounts Receivable balance of \$3,624 for the remaining HRDP grant payment and DNR reimbursement. Glock moved and Bergan seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

John Beard, Winneshiek County Board of Supervisors' Representative, was not present to provide a report.

Under Old Business, Johnson provided an update on the Stone Structure Survey. The process has been delayed a few times due to the pandemic, but Shay Gooder of Bear Creek Archaeology has confirmed that the survey will be completed by the end of January. Johnson has invited Gooder to attend our February 13th, 2021 meeting to provide the commission with an in-person update.

Lorentzen provided an update on the Dam Gate Interpretive Sign. The graphic has been sent to Fossil Industries in New York. Fossil Industries will then send a color example for Lorentzen to approve. After approval, the sign will take about 20 days for production and will arrive in February or March.

Johnson provided an update on the Dam Gate Project. The project was delayed due to the permit process, which has now been completed. Concrete pouring will occur this spring. Chuck Gipp plans to attend the dedication in late May/early June. Kayla Lyon (DNR), Nate Hoogeveen (DNR) and the Society of Society for Industrial Archeology have been invited as well.

Wadsworth provided an update on the Old Hospital - Smith Building Project. Doug Steinmetz presented Wadsworth with a report. The report was a little unusual because it was compiled remotely by Steinmetz with Wadsworth providing the pictures and suggestions to be included. The report shows the main issues being with façade: mortar repair, restoration work and windows. The report stated the building could be suggested for the National Register, which would require the hiring of a professional architect. Johnson mentioned his discussion with Paula Moore of the State Historical Society of Iowa, noting that the process for reaching a point to begin repairs on the building could take until 2023.

Under New Business, Johnson and Sharp provided an update on Rebecca Conrad's Iowa Site Inventory work of the Smith Building. Conrad joined with local representatives for a tour of the building one morning. Conrad complimented Sharp on her research work. Discussion took place on next steps for sharing information with the public to possibly uncover private donors. Glock, Lorentzen and Sharp volunteered to lead PR efforts for this project. The idea of offering tours (post pandemic) as another way to garner donations was mentioned.

Wadsworth provided information on the Decorah Historic Preservation Commission (DHPC) effort to possibly move the train tracks from the Ingvolstad Lumber Building. DHPC has talked with the new building owners, who have no interest in keeping the tracks. DHPC asked David if he would want them at his depot; David also

suggested the chiropractor depot location. After further discussion, the commission agreed to provide a letter of support to DHPC for this project, contingent upon an in-person visit by a DHPC representative to provide more information.

Johnson briefly highlighted the recent Tainter Dam Gate coverage in the Calmar Courier and the MiEnergy Press Release.

Date of next meeting will be February 13th at the Annex Building at 8:30am.

Move by Glock to adjourn, seconded by Sharp. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Christensen, Secretary.