

WINNESHIEK COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
January 14, 2023

The Winneshiek County Historic Preservation Commission met at the Winneshiek County Courthouse Annex with the following members present: Don Arendt, Roger Bergan, Ferneva Brimacomb, Ashley Christensen, Zach Fromm, Kim Glock, Steve Johnson, Steve Kelsay, Elizabeth Lorentzen and LaVonne Sharp. Members of the public included: Marta Kelsay and Janelle Pavlovec.

Minutes of the December 10, 2022 meeting were reviewed. Brimacomb moved and Bergan seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Lorentzen presented the Treasurer's Report. The November Treasurer's Report, December Treasurer's Report, January Treasurer's Report and End of Year Treasurer's Report were all reviewed. An ending general operating fund balance less restricted funds was \$3,222.38. It was noted that Lorentzen will make all deposits going forward to assist with recordkeeping. Bergan moved and Arendt seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Steve Kelsay, serving as the newly appointed Winneshiek County Board of Supervisor's Liaison representative, provided an introduction and report. Kelsay mentioned continuing the conversation on restoring the courtroom as a priority.

Under Old Business, Johnson reported on the Smith Memorial Hospital National Register (NR) nomination project. The decision of the nomination application should be announced this summer.

Christensen provided an update on the 2022 Annual CLG Report. The report is due to the State at the end of February. She is nearing completion of the report draft.

Glock and Johnson reported on the change of venue for the Iowa Country School Preservation Conference. WCHPC was intending to host this conference in June 2023, with much time and effort already invested by WCHPC in conference planning over the past 6-8 months. Bill Sherman with Preservation Iowa sent a notice to Johnson earlier this month announcing the unexpected change in venue from Winneshiek County to Clinton, IA. In his notice, Bill Sherman misrepresented WCHPC's viewpoints regarding the conference. Sharp moved and Lorentzen seconded to task a subcommittee comprising of Glock and Arendt with drafting a response letter to Bill Sherman and Preservation Iowa. Motion carried.

Johnson provided an update on the Status of the Winneshiek County Mill Survey. Bear Creek Archeology completed the survey in December, and they are working on the report currently. The report should be completed by early spring.

Johnson provided an update on the Historic Mill Booklet. 26 sites have been selected of the approximately 60 in Winneshiek County. The booklet will be in color. Johnson hopes to publish an article regarding the project in a future publication by the Society for the

Preservation of Old Mills. Discussion on booklet proofing took place. Johnson will contact Charlie Langton for a proofing cost.

Under New Business, group discussion occurred on the Election of Commission Officers. Arendt moved and Bergan seconded to retain the present Commission Officers: Steve Johnson as Chair, Ashley Christensen as Secretary and Elizabeth Lorentzen as Treasurer. Motion carried.

Group discussion took place regarding the Iowa Country School Preservation Conference scheduled for June and unexpected change of venue by Preservation Iowa. Glock moved and Sharp seconded to not hold the Iowa Country School Preservation Conference in June 2023. Motion carried.

Johnson reported on hosting the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) National Register Conference. SHPO in Des Moines reached out to Johnson with the idea of hosting a workshop this fall in Winneshiek County. Discussion took place regarding this opportunity. Glock moved and Sharp seconded to proceed with working with the SHPO office in Des Moines on a Fall 2023 National Register Conference.

Group discussion took place on investigating the possibility of sharing with the Winneshiek County Historical Society (WCHS) fair booth. The Commission would utilize one table at the booth to exhibit information from their mill survey. The WCHS will get back to the Commission once they know of the cost. Sharp moved and Glock seconded to work in sharing with WCHS a fair booth. Motion carried.

Next meeting date will be at 8:30am on February 11, 2023 at the Winneshiek County Courthouse Annex.

Moved by Glock, seconded by Bergan to adjourn. Motion carried.