



## LINN COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

935 Second Street SW ▪ Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404 ▪ 319-892-5141

**Minutes**  
**June 17, 2020**  
**Electronic Meeting**

**Members Present**

Maura Pilcher  
Amanda Happel  
Barb Westercamp  
Michael LeClere  
Todd McNall  
Steve Ciha  
Patty Soukup

**Absent**

Nancy Goodlove  
Richard Thomas

**Staff Present**

Mike Tertinger, Staff Liaison  
Jessie Black Recording Secretary

**Special Statement:** Due to COVID19 restrictions this meeting was held electronically; the Jean Oxley Public Service Center has been closed to the public until further notice.

**Call to Order**

Chair Maura Pilcher called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

**Public Comment**

None

**Announcements/Communication**

Tertinger announced the Jean Oxley Public Service Center is scheduled to open on July 20, 2020. He informed the commission that although the building will be open to the public, they will still have the option to continue virtual meetings if they wish.

**Approval of Minutes**

McNall motioned, Westercamp second, all present voting aye to approve minutes from May 20, 2020 meeting as submitted.

**Budget**



Remaining account balance is \$19,516.00. Small amount remaining in FY20 Grant Fund. Tertinger informed the commission that the fiscal year ends July 1, so any money left in operating or grant accounts will be turned back into the County. County will then re-allocate annual funds into operating and grant accounts. Wickiup Hill project will be invoiced this fall, and kiosk repairs are planned to be done in the next fiscal year, so Tertinger will request remaining funds back in fall amendment.

### **New Business**

Pilcher said Tertinger sent out an email he received from Cari Kriz regarding an old schoolhouse. Kriz is looking for assistance to stabilize the old schoolhouse, known as Stone School. Pilcher said the schoolhouse needs to be re-inventoried to verify whether or not it is National Register eligible. Ciha said the schoolhouse is close to his house and it is very run-down, would need a lot of work. Pilcher wondered if anyone on the commission had any recommendations for someone that could help Kriz restore the schoolhouse. McNall recommended Lynn Boettcher with M2B as a structural engineer. Ciha also offered to look at schoolhouse.

### **FY20 Work Plan**

**a. Provide Education about Alternatives to Demolition**

McNall & Soukup are interested in having a full commission discussion on next steps. Pilcher will put it on the calendar for July.

**b. Wickiup National Register Nomination**

Tertinger will follow up with Leah Rogers for updates.

**c. Grant Program**

Tertinger said the Board of Supervisors approved grant recommendations. Agreements will be sent out and signed. Funds will be distributed once we receive signed agreements from all recipients. Pilcher asked if any other members of the Commission would like to volunteer to join the subcommittee assigned to reviewing and revising grant applications. No members volunteered. Pilcher said applications will stay as-is for another year. She and Happel will work on formatting and interface.

**d. Lincoln Highway Kiosks**

Ciha and Thomas met to discuss kiosks and came up with three that are top priority and may require a contractor. There were four or five others Ciha offered to renovate himself at \$25/hr. Ciha said he talked to Brad Ketels at Linn County Engineering and Ketels confirmed all kiosks that are on county property are the commission's responsibility to maintain. Thomas has ideas of someone who can help with the Mt. Vernon kiosk. Ciha created list of scope of work and estimated costs for each kiosk and sent it to each member of the commission.

McNall will reach out to Lincoln Highway to ask if they would be willing to help renovate kiosk. He also wondered if Linn County would be held liable for any injuries incurred while working on kiosks. Pilcher will find out and discuss at the next meeting. McNall suggested asking Eagle Scouts to work on kiosks. Soukup has worked with Eagle Scouts on other projects in the past. She will reach out to her brother, an affiliate of Hawkeye Area Council.

**e. Provide Educational Opportunities for Young Students**

Soukup will meet with Westercamp to share information on what progress has been made, what next steps are, etc. Westercamp will be on the subcommittee.

**f. Preserve Iowa Summit Recap**

Pilcher took roll call for those who attended summit; LeClere, Happel, Soukup, Westercamp, and Pilcher. Pilcher suggested all attendees share what they learned at the summit at a future commission meeting.

**Open Agenda**

Soukup announced that Johnathan Appell will be coming to Fairfax Cemetery to talk about cleaning and lifting stones, putting them back in place, foundations, etc. The clinic will be open to the public. All donations will go to Fairfax Cemetery. Tertinger will ask Communications to send out a county press release. Soukup reached out to Cindy Hadish, who will also put out a news release.

**Next Meeting**

July 15, 2020

**Adjournment** – Motion by Soukup, second by Westercamp, those present voting aye, to adjourn the HPC meeting at 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved,

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Jessie Black, Recording Secretary

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Maura Pilcher, Chair