MINN COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
935 Second Street SW • Cedar Rapids, Iowa  52404 • 319-892-5138

Minutes
July 21st, 2021

Members Present
Maura Pilcher, Chair
Michael LeClere, Vice-Chair
Amanda Happel, Secretary
Todd McNall
Steve Ciha
Barb Westercamp
Robert Peterson
Nancy Kraft

Absent
Hilary Copeland-Marvin

Guests

Staff Present
Stephanie Lientz, Staff Liaison
Jessie Black, Recording Secretary

Call to Order
Chair Maura Pilcher called the meeting to order at 3:59 p.m.

Public Comment
None

Approval of Minutes
Motion by Westercamp, Second by McNall, those present voting aye, to approve the minutes of June 16, 2021.

Announcements/Communication
Pilcher informed the commission that the Iowa Downtown Conference would be held August 3-4 in Iowa City. She suggested all members of the commission who wish to
attend do so, though she had concerns about registration deadline. Lientz offered to check into registration dates and report back to the group.

**Budget**

The current budget is $9,545.00

Lientz notified the commission of the Board of Supervisors approval to rollover funds from FY21 to FY22. Total funds that will be re-deposited into HPC’s account in November are $11,906. This action takes the place of submitting a request for a budget amendment in the fall.

**New Business**

**WFLA Mural**
Peterson presented a written overview of the two murals which are on display at the Western Fraternal Life Association building. The overview included descriptions of each mural and different removal options for both. Peterson informed the group that he would be reviewing the murals in-person on Sunday, July 25th at 2pm with Tom Barnes, who has experience with removing & re-installing murals. LeClere and McNall may also join. LeClere suggested contacting Bill Miehle or Sylvia Bruckert with the Cedar Rapids Visual Arts Commission. He sent an introductory email to inform them of the project. Pilcher mentioned that Cindy Haddish was working on finding a home for this mural also.

**Revolutionary War Monument**
McNall mentioned that he went to Springville several weeks ago to attend the Revolutionary War Soldier Monument dedication. He thought there were 75-100 other people in attendance. McNall shared pictures of the monument with the group. He thought it would have been a good idea to have a Linn County Supervisor out there for this event.

**FY 2022 Work Plan**

**Section 106: Bertram Road Bridge over Indian Creek**
The blue bridge at the intersection of Bertram and Berry Roads is proposed to be removed by the Linn County Secondary Road department. Cihá talked to Secondary Road staff about salvaging the bridge, but they had determined that it was not feasible. The Secondary Road department is currently proposing to salvage a 30 ft. portion of the bridge and use it as for an education kiosk at the nearby trail head for the Sac & Fox Trail. McNall wondered if it could be used as an on-grade bridge that sits on the trail. LeClere wondered if Secondary Roads could use several 30 ft. sections, salvaging the entire bridge, and placing on the trail as an on-grade bridge. Pilcher suggested contacting the Army Corps of Engineers to propose salvaging the entire bridge in 30 ft. segments, rather
than only one 30 ft. piece. She thought it would be a good idea to involve Indian Creek Nature Center as a co-signatory, so she offered to contact them and find out.

McNall asked Lientz to send out more information with regard to the integrity of the bridge. She agreed to attempt to locate this information.

Ciha suggested sending a letter to Garret Reddish with the Linn County Secondary Road department to explain HPC’s proposal.

Lientz asked the commission members to keep in mind that there are other things to take into consideration when thinking of ways to salvage the bridge including: the land along the trail is currently owned by the City of Cedar Rapids; and the bridge cannot be placed in a floodway.

Pilcher announced that Leah Rogers had recently been diagnosed with cancer and may not be responsive to emails.

Happel offered a quick update on the Lincoln Highway kiosk project: both kiosks are expected to be installed next week or the following week.

**Next Meeting**
August 18th, 2021

**Adjournment**

Motion by Westercamp, second by McNall to adjourn the HPC meeting at 5:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessie Black, Recording Secretary

Approved,

Maura Pilcher, Chair

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