**LISBON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes of Meeting
August 19, 2021**

The meeting was called to order by President Hess at 4:35 p.m. at City Hall. Present: Rebecca Hess, Marc Mohn, Ann Opatz, and Marianne Zahorik. Absent: Amelia Kibbie. Guest: John Bardsley, City Council Liaison, and Curt Blinks (for agenda item relating to quote for stabilization of barns).

Moved by Mohn, seconded by Zahorik, to approve the agenda. The motion passed on a voice vote of 4-0.

Moved by Zahorik, seconded by Mohn, to approve the minutes of the July meeting. The motion passed on a voice vote of 4-0.

Quote for Stabilization of Barns in the Meyers Farmstead Historic District: Curt Blinks of Blinks Brothers Construction was in attendance to answer questions about the quote he submitted for repairing the three barns in the Meyers Farmstead Historic District. His bid of $124,000 included $53,000 for the corncrib, $24,000 for the gabled barn and silo, and $47,000 for the feeder/hay barn. Blinks noted that City Administrator Siggins provided him with a copy of preservation engineer Todd Birkel’s report (without the last two pages that listed projected costs and provided a breakdown of immediate, short-term, and long-term needs). Siggins did not specify that the City was seeking quotes for only the immediate needs identified in the report; therefore, Blinks’ quote included the estimated cost of all work listed in the report. Noting that the City Council voted to move forward with the immediate repairs to stabilize the barns as recommended by Todd Birkel using the insurance payout, LHPC requested Blinks prepare a new quote for those items in the Birkel report designated as immediate needs, and list his own recommendations and a contingency amount separately. Blinks will submit a new quote, likely in time for consideration at the first Council meeting in September. If awarded a contract, Blinks projects being able to do the stabilization work on the barns in late fall/winter 2021.
 Hess will continue her efforts to reach Douglas Steinmetz to inquire about his interest in preparing a preservation plan for the barns. Having a preservation plan in hand will position LHPC and the City as they seek partners and grant funding for rehabilitating the barns.
 Zahorik will contact the Iowa Barn Foundation in an effort to make a connection with this organization and pursue possible funding opportunities as the City seeks to stabilize and rehabilitate the barns.

Signs at Rehabilitation Construction Sites:
 Discussion followed regarding posting small signs in the large flower pots in front of the History Center and Library buildings, noting that repairs are underway and listing the various partners involved in the projects. Opatz will pursue some sign possibilities, with a goal of having signs up by August 30, the start date for the repair work. It was suggested that the signs be removed once the Phase I repairs are done and stored for future use.
 Discussion of a large vinyl sign at the Meyers Farmstead Historic District followed. That sign will remain in place for a longer period of time and note that the barns are closed to the public.

(Mohn departed the meeting at 6 p.m.)

Discussion and possible action on reimbursement for attending NAPC Summer Short Course: This agenda item was tabled.

Other business: Hess reported that local resident Frances Owen has contacted LHPC for our recommendations for knowledgeable contractors to assist in the repair and rehabilitation of the exterior of her brick home located at 227 West Main Street (one of the “twin” homes).
 Noting that the City invited LHPC to be a partner in the development of the Nature Park, Zahorik expressed her concerns regarding the City’s lack of planning and oversight at the Nature Park. Discussion followed regarding the lack of a coordinated effort to develop the park as outlined in the City’s grant application for REAP funds that provided over 40% of the funding toward the purchase of the property; lack of communication to members of the community regarding the City’s plans for developing the park; and the role of the Park and Rec Board in planning, implementing, and overseeing all parks in the City. Council Liaison Bardsley will discuss these concerns with City Administrator Siggins.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Submitted: Ann Opatz, Secretary

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
 Rebecca Hess, Chair