

LISBON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting

April 20, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rebecca Hess at 4:30 p.m. Present: Rebecca Hess, Marc Mohn, and Ann Opatz. Absent: Amelia Kibbie. Guest: Council Liaison John Bardsley.

The agenda was amended to move Item #4 Updates to Item #7. Moved by Hess, seconded by Mohn, to approve the amended agenda. The motion passed on a voice vote of 3-0.

Moved by Hess, seconded by Mohn, to approve the minutes of the March meeting. The motion passed on a voice vote of 3-0.

History Center Building Rehabilitation Project:

Weather permitting, R&W will begin work on Monday, April 24. RCTech, the company that provides security camera services to the City, installed a camera on the utility pole across the street from the History Center. RCTech submitted a quote for the installation and rent of a camera, and a quote for editing and producing the video. Moved by Hess, seconded by Opatz, to approve the installation (\$199) and rental (\$80/month) costs. The motion passed on a voice vote of 3-0. Due to the quoted cost of producing the video, LHPC will seek other options for this part of the project.

A Consent to Photograph and Videotape form has been provided to R&W by the City. The City Administrator has also been in contact by email with Cheryl Peterson, the SHPO Project Staff Manager, to provide an update on our project as it relates to the HRDP grant.

Silos & Smokestacks Collaboration:

Candy Streed, Director of Partnerships with SSNHA, facilitated a meeting on April 5 involving representatives of LHPC, City staff, Parks & Rec, Tree Board, and the History Center Board. Street provided an overview of SSNHA and offered guidance for strategically moving forward with the development of Pleasant Grove Heritage Park.

Moved by Opatz, seconded by Mohn, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding as discussed and presented at the April 5 meeting. The motion passed on a voice vote of 3-0.

Meyers Farmstead Historic District:

Discussion and Possible Action on Proposal from OPN Architects for Preservation Plans for Structures in Meyers Farmstead Historic District: Based on previous discussions regarding the need to secure preservation plans for the barns, moved by Hess, seconded by Opatz, to accept OPN's proposal in the amount of \$24,150. The motion passed on a voice vote of 3-0. LHPC plans to apply for a Linn County Economic and Development grant in June to cover the entire cost (no match required).

Update on Stabilization Efforts: Mohn reported that Blinks is currently working on storm-related projects at other sites, and will inquire about Blinks' schedule for finishing stabilization work on the gabled barn and the corn crib.

Documenting Stabilization Efforts: Mohn reported that he will take photos when Blinks returns to work on the barns.

Iowa Voices Project: Opatz reported that this project is still on schedule to be done when the weather is warmer.

Handling and Recording Donated Items: Opatz will meet with the History Center Board in May to discuss LHPC's request to use the History Center's system for handing donations.

National Historic Preservation Month: Kibbie is planning to work with the third grade classes again this year on the mapping activity. Kibbie and Opatz have prepared an article regarding National Historic Preservation Month to be sent to The Sun in early May, and a proclamation has been prepared for Council action.

Google Drive Issues: Scott Cannon of Market Street Technologies facilitated a Zoom workshop on April 20, providing a hands-on session for working with Google Drive. We can now begin to reorganize the files we wish to store in the LHPC Google Drive, with a reminder to always upload files directly to the LHPC Google Drive and not share files from our personal drives. Opatz moved, Hess seconded, to pay Market Street Technologies \$175 for the April 20 Google Drive workshop. The motion passed on a voice vote of 3-0.

Updates:

Vacancy on LHPC: One position remains open on the LHPC.

Lincoln Highway Interpretive Sign: Hess reported that the new sign has been ordered and will be installed in Lincoln Park in the coming months.

Tour of Main Street Historic District: Kibbie will report on this at the May meeting.

Downtown Reinvestment Grant Program: The City has posted the revised guidelines for the grant program but the supplemental documents do not yet appear on the City's webpage. Hess reported that City Administrator Brandon Siggins has requested approval from the State to use TIF funds designated for the program in FY23 for the History Center west wall project.

Library Building Rehabilitation Project: Hess reported that she spoke to David Bennett about completing the two remaining projects in Phase II of the Preservation Plan. She will follow up with Amy White at the Library.

Chew on This Event with History Center of Cedar Rapids: Opatz reported that she has been in discussion with Jenny Thielman of the Cedar Rapids History Center regarding re-scheduling this event to September 26, and Gwen has confirmed her willingness to host the event at her restaurant.

Photo-Op Cutout: We will work on this as time permits.

Historic District Street Sign Toppers: Hess has sent an example of a lamp post hanger to Rickard Signs and requested a new quote for this type of signage.

Mark Benesh Prints: Hess reported that Amy White has delivered the two framed prints donated by local artist Mark Benesh to City Hall and Southeast Linn Community Center.

Prairie Rivers of Iowa Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway Survey: Prairie Rivers reached out to Opatz requesting correct mailing addresses for several surveys that were returned as undeliverable.

Other Business: None

The meeting adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Submitted: Ann Opatz, Secretary

Date Approved: _____

Signed: _____
Rebecca Hess, Chair