

**Old Fort Commission
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Wednesday, September 21, 2016 at 5:30 PM
Old Fort Replica**

PRESENT: Dave Moehn, Sharon Harp, Carol Foss, Joe Thurman, Richar Abel, Dr. Eugene Watkins (Site Manager), Linda Baxter (gift shop), Richar Abel, Marie Brady-Whitcanak and David Varley (City Manager)

ABSENT: John Luna (Management Analyst) and Charles Block

GUESTS: Shelly Dawling, Andy Andrews (NLCHS), Ted Kolbet and Zephan, a junior member.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: by Harp at 5:30 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: With one correction regarding signature, Brady-Whitcanak MOVED, and Thurman SECONDED, to APPROVE the MINUTES of the August 17, 2016, Regular Meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

SITE MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. Siege
 - a. Went very well. Attendance was up and visitors seemed impressed.
 - b. 44 reenactors participated. 20 were from out of state. NE, MO and IL were represented.
 - c. There were 15 Fife and Drum Corp members.
 - d. 1200 cartridges and 7 artillery rounds were used.
 - e. 300 visitors attended.
 - f. Income for Saturday was \$1,501.51, Sunday was \$806.02 and Labor Day was \$1,100.
2. Tours.
 - a. This year there have been visitors from 48 states, 22 countries and 126 Iowa towns.
 - b. 2 tours are scheduled for October.
 - c. August 4-7 \$1,450.00 was received in admission.
 - d. People from St. Louis, Chicago and the Great River Road have seen advertising.
3. Repairs:
 - a. Refurbishing has begun.
 - b. Upstairs wall is finished.
 - c. Ceilings will be done in the barracks.
 - d. A fireplace repaired.
 - e. Bunk beds will be placed in the Quarter Masters area.
 - f. Still need shelving, a new porch and pine planking.
 - g. Price quotes have been gathered.
 - h. Northwest wall in the garden needs replacement.
 - i. Blacksmith shop will be rebuilt and enclosed like a shed for more protection.
 - j. Sign for days and times open is still needed.

INCOME / EXPENSE REPORT:

A detailed expense report was not given due to John's excused absence. A brief revenue and expense total as passed out. These totals will change as the year progresses. Hotel/Motel Tax will come and the Mid-West One Bank grant of \$5,000.00 has been received.

GIFT SHOP REPORT: Given by Baxter

1. August there was 7 days with the heat index over 100° which effected attendance and income. Even so, attendance was good.
2. 55 visitors in 2 days. 35 one Saturday and 153 in 4 days.
3. The number of children, families and under 5 years was close to 2010 figures.
4. The air conditioner on site was installed in the orderly room August 25th.
5. RiverFest increased attendance.
6. Temporary parking signs for the Fort usage might help next year.
7. September attendance has been good due to pleasant weather.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Volunteers are needed. We have applications.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. New member Richar Abel was introduced and welcomed to our Committee.
2. Guest Andy Andrews Report:
 - a. Congratulated all the participants on the success of the Siege.
 - b. Security system removes some of the worry about the historical site.
 - c. Grounds need to be mowed and weeding done outside fort.
 - d. Suggested another mailing done in the Fall for donations to the Battlefield site.
 - e. Should have some staff and volunteer parking signs. Permanent, year round signs should be installed.
 - f. Would like to have an Appreciation Banquet to honor volunteers.
 - g. Is in need of more brochures.
3. Thurman had wonderful siege pictures that he showed on his computer. He was thanked for his fine work

ADJOURNMENT: Brady-Whitcanack MOVED, and SECONDED by Richards, to ADJOURN the MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.

MEETING was ADJOURNED at 6:02 PM

Submitted,
Carol Foss, Secretary
Old Fort Commission