

**Old Fort Commission
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 5:15 PM
City Hall**

PRESENT: Dave Moehn, Sharon Harp, Joe Thurman, Carol Foss, Dr. Marie Brady-Whitcanak, Dr. Eugene Watkins (Site Manager), John Luna (Management Analyst), Charles Block, Richar Abel, and David Varley (City Manager)
ABSENT: Linda Baxter (gift shop)
GUESTS: Andy Andrews (NLCHS) and Ted Kolbert

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Moehn MOVED, and Thurman SECONDED, to APPROVE the MINUTES of the October 19, 2016, Regular Meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

SITE MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. Open House
 - a. Was held November 26, 2016, went well.
 - b. Received \$20 in donations and \$60 in gift shop.
2. Cannon Ordered:
 - a. 2 3/4" barrel, double chamber Howitzer.
 - b. Cost \$4,000-\$5,000 and is funded by Quality of Life bond.
 - c. From a company in Freemont, Ohio.
 - d. Explodes small charges.
 - e. Should be here this summer.
3. Donation:
 - a. A friend of the Old Fort is interested in making a burned out log canoe.
4. Interpretive Items:
 - a. New items have been ordered.
 - b. New shirts and uniform jackets are being designed.
 - c. 1st Artillery uniforms look unusual.
 - d. Have had infantry uniforms.
5. Points of Interest:
 - a. We have portraits of Indians who were at the Old Fort for the purpose of trading.
 - b. Among notable ones were Osh Kosh and Tacumsa.
 - c. Some were portrayed with war paint.
 - d. Hand prints on the body signified he had killed in a battle.
6. Projects Planned:
 - a. Hopes and plans to move the blacksmith shop. Also, looking for an actual blacksmith.
 - b. The Officer's Quarters will be done later, too cold to work on now.
 - c. Planking in the enlisted men's quarters.
 - d. Wood planking has been donated.
 - e. Wall replacements-30 feet yet to do.
 - f. Chink the buildings, time consuming but not difficult.
 - g. Laundry area to be made.
 - h. Pillory and stocks need to be built.

- i. 2 kitchens; one outdoor historically correct, one indoor modern and meeting health standards.
- j. Phil Hoenig will fix the bellows when we have a protective building.
- k. Enlisted men's quarters need heat; fireplace or other means.

GIFT SHOP:

No report

INCOME / EXPENSE REPORT:

John Luna provided the revenue and expense totals:

Revenues:	MTP Actual	YTD Actual	Budgeted	%
	\$48,254.11	\$84,494.72	\$99,100.00	85
Expenses:	\$5,402.88	\$66,735.58	\$108,010.00	62

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Volunteers are needed. We have applications.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Was a good year. Looking for an even better year to come.
- 2. Discussion of Marketing and Promotional Events:
 - a. Harp Proposed a "Family Fun Day at the Fort".
 - i. Children's old fashion games from 1812.
 - ii. Drawing for gifts such as free Old Fort admission.
 - iii. Demonstrations.
 - iv. Firing of cannon and perhaps the new cannon.
 - v. Candle making and rope making.
 - vi. Farm station to teach how farming used to be done with horses and vegetable growing instructions.
 - vii. Molly Butler's food van could be there during the day's activities.
 - viii. Proposed date: May 27 (Memorial Day weekend) 10am-4pm
 - b. The Memorial Service will be at the Battlefield site at 9:30am.
- 3. Friends of Old Fort Madison:
 - a. Work has started on the 1812 Battlefield Site.
 - b. Dump trucks and an excavator are lined up and clearing started.
 - c. The proposed quote for work was \$115,000.00, all donated so far.
 - d. A site for the dirt and debris to be hauled to for disposal has been offered.
 - e. Mohrfeld started to grade it which will take several days.
 - f. No charge for disposal of removed debris.
 - g. Removal of concrete blocks on site will also be moved at no charge.
 - h. New fund raising will be done by the end of January.
 - i. Barriers will be placed on Avenue H to keep mud from the street during landscaping.
 - j. It was suggested to have displays during the August "RiverFest".
- 4. Viking Cruises:
 - a. Propose to start sailing March 2018.
 - b. Licensing and the Maritime Commission has held up the start of the ship sailing and landing in Fort Madison.

ADJOURNMENT: Harp MOVED, and Thurman SECONDED, to ADJOURN the MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.

MEETING was ADJOURNED at 6:28 PM

Submitted,
Carol Foss, Secretary
Old Fort Commission