

Old Fort Commission

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Wednesday, June 21, 2017 at 5:15pm

Old Fort Replica

PRESENT: Sharon Harp, Joe Thurman, Dr. Eugene Watkins (Site Manager), Dave Moehn, Dr. Marie Brady-Whitcanak, John Luna (Management Analyst), Carol Foss, Richar Abel, and Linda Baxter (Gift Shop)

ABSENT: None

Guests: Andy Andrews (NLCHS), City Manager David Varley, Michelle Slater and Jeremy Thurman

Meeting called to order by Harp at 5:15pm.

Approval of minutes: The minutes of the April 19, 2017 meeting were approved as read.

Site Managers Report:

1. Tours:

- a. 5 School Tours.
- b. Prison Tour Day brought 300 visitors to Old Fort.
 - i. Brought \$1,500 profit.
- c. Memorial Day Ceremony went well at the Battlefield Site.

2. Improvement Update:

- a. In enlisted rooms 7 and 8 the ceiling, shelving and painting are done.
- b. Rooms 3 and 4 are next to be done.
- c. The Kingsley Room needs the door fixed.
- d. West side will hopefully be done by fall.
- e. Chinking needs to be done.

3. Pamphlets:

- a. Running out of them.
- b. Recreated soon with updates and new pictures.
- c. Last update was 2010.

Income/Expense Report:

1. No financial report. Will have one next month.

GIFT SHOP:

1. A printed report was passed to all present.
2. Have had visitors from 12 foreign countries, 36 states and 56 Iowa towns.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **July 4th Activities:**
 - a. Open 9am-5pm.
 - b. Kiddie parade in the morning.
 - c. National salute at 1:00pm.
 - d. Guns will be fired 18 times at the Fort.
 - e. May have the Howitzer gun by then.
2. **Volunteers in Place of Ill Employees:**
 - a. Volunteers are needed to fill in for sick employees.
 - b. Sharon and Joe filled in on May 27th.
 - c. They will need training to watch for theft, talk to people and communicate among each other.
 - d. John suggested Eugene take volunteers on a tour to educate them, segments before each meeting.
 - e. At beginning of meetings, Eugene could explain to Commission members the history, security, building usage, etc. so members would have knowledge to volunteer.
 - f. Eugene's 16-year-old son has been volunteering, sometimes 9 ½ hours.
3. **Students Need Community Service:**
 - a. Students need 20 hours of Community Service.
 - b. Gave school principals information on ways students could help

Friends of Old Fort Madison:

1. Battlefield is progressing well.
2. Had to spend money on bulldozers, but had some donations. Some were \$3,000-\$4,000, for a total of \$77,000.
3. Spent \$56,000 on bulldozers, Green Oak, Mohrfeld and other truckers.
4. Scott's will donate the seed and Trees Forever are donating the trees.
5. \$3,000 has been donated for the flagpole and \$228.00 for the 10x15 vintage flag. A current flag costs much less.
6. Once listed on the Historic Registry and Historic Battlefield list, hopefully tombstones can be obtained by next spring.
7. Lone Chimney needs to be moved. Large cracks near the top in back. Need to contact the town about this.
8. 2020 is the goal to finish all of this.
9. Joe brought up the need for more postings on Social Media. All local events, hours, locations and activities.

Next Meeting will be Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at 5:15pm.

ADJOURNMENT: Marie Moved, Carol Seconded, to Adjourn the Meeting. Motion Carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:35pm

Submitted,

Carol Foss, Secretary

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