

Old Fort Commission

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Thursday, March 19, 2018 at 5:15pm

City Hall Council Chambers

PRESENT: Dave Moehn, Dr. Marie Brady-Whitcanak, Dr. Eugene Watkins (Site Manager), Joshua Sessions, Richar Abel, Joe Thurman

ABSENT: Carol Foss, Linda Baxter

Guests: Andy Andrews (NLCHS)

Meeting called to order by Joe Thurman at 5:19pm.

Approval of minutes: The minutes of the Feb 21, 2018 meeting were approved after amending the following: The pole that was ordered was for the battlefield not the fort. The fort will be open weekends in October with the hours of 9-5pm.

Marie made a motion to approve minutes and Joshua Seconded

Site Managers Report:

1. Improvement Update:

- a. West wall in block house (going to ask Alliant for more utility poles)
- b. Bought cant hook and ice tongs to move logs (Can be displayed in the summer)
- c. Iron on loan original handle broken (John Johnson bought a pair in 1808 for \$1.29) used to iron clothes and came in pairs
- d. Orderly Room done except desk (need to put up duty roster)
- e. Added a shelf in factory but still need to build desk

2. Tours:

- a. Need to get displays ready for tours
- b. New London in April
- c. Lincoln 2nd grade April/May
- d. Jean mentioned someone wanted to set up a tour
- e. Audio tour recorded (stop 4 has not been added, it needs to be rewritten)
- f. Need to build wickiup for stop

3. Items needed:

- a. Flint (Franz will order)
- b. Gun powder

4. Chimney:

- a. Dave does not want the chimney moved because it marks the original block house
- b. It needs repair even if we don't move it
- c. City has design for Avenue H and has 11 parking spots by the chimney and 11-15 in front of turn lane (City Manager will present the plans)
- d. If the chimney is damage during construction who will fix it
- e. Park dept mows around chimney
- f. Talk to DAR about chimney
- g. Could Elks club donation for battlefield expenses be used to repair chimney if it isn't moved
- h. Abolt has been asked to give bids to (1) repair chimney (2) move it (3) repair and move
- i. Looking into grant from National DAR to help cost of chimney (probably paid out in September or October of 2018)

5. Misc:

- a. Transcribing civilian receipts - 700 planks being cut & stuff bought
- b. Contractors cheating army after siege saying things were stolen
- c. Employment ad is being advertised in the Democrat, Iowa Workforce was released a week or two (need 1 part time to help Linda & 2 full time weekends in May, September, October & wed-sun June, July, August. 1 part time 4 days a week in June, July & August. Would like them to start April 21 or 22 to train)
- d. Still need a member for the Commission Board
- e. Looking for volunteers for April 21, 22
- f. Flag is nylon, would like to get a bigger flag and move to the center of parade ground
- g. Utility co may give us a pole

6. Tabled Business:

- a. Riverfest with Charles Craft

7. Events:

- a. Sunrise service April 1st 7am at the fort
- b. Macomb April 7th 9-11am will take cannon

GIFT SHOP:

Linda Baxter was absent no report was given

Income/Expense Report:

- 1. Dave Varley (City Manager) – Marie approved budget & Joshua seconded

Friends of Old Fort Madison:

1. Still waiting to be put on the Historical Registry
2. Flag & pole ordered
3. Trees by Dollar General ordered through Ritters (\$2800 grant by Trees Forever)
4. Order tombstones when battlefield is on registry
5. Crosses need to be put back up

Next Meeting will be Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 5:15pm.

ADJOURNMENT: Joshua moved at 5:58pm and Dave Seconded to Adjourn the Meeting. Motion Carried.

Submitted,

Richar' Abel

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