

**Old Fort Madison Commission
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Wednesday, August 15, 2012 at 5:15 PM
City Council Chambers**

PRESENT: Martin Graber, Charles Block, David Moehn, Roxanna Crail, Carol Foss, Sharon Harp, Dr. Eugene Watkins (Site Manager).

ABSENT: Neal Boeding (Council Liaison) and John Luna (Management Analyst) – Excused.

GUESTS: Sterling Mills, Bob Foss, Linda Baxter, and Ted Kolbet.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: by Moehn at 5:23 PM.

APPROVAL OF July 18, 2012 MINUTES: Block MOVED, and Harp SECONDED, to APPROVE the minutes.
Motion CARRIED 6 – 0.

SITE MANAGER’S REPORT:

- A. Visitor activity at the Old Fort is slowing down.
- B. Old Fort personnel are gearing up for the Siege.
- C. Moehn reported that he had received a letter from the Friends of Old Fort Madison (FoOFM).
 - a. FoOFM will meet at The Ivy Bake Shop on Friday, August 24, at 9:00 AM to discuss the Lewis & Clark Fife & Drum Corps financing shortfall.
 - b. Moehn will attend the meeting.
 - c. Moehn requested that Commission members attend if possible.
 - d. FoOFM did NOT receive the \$100 requested from Main Street.
 - e. FoOFM did NOT receive the \$250 requested from Chamber of Commerce.
 - f. FoOFM DID receive the \$250 requested from the Tri-State Rodeo Committee.
 - g. Total funds on-hand are about \$400 toward having the St. Charles, Missouri, Lewis & Clark Fife & Drum Corps appear in the Rodeo Parade and at the Siege.
 - h. FoOFM still needs either \$1,000 or \$1,500 to cover expenses for the group.
 - i. The City will provide free housing for the group in the Riverview Park Pavilion.

INCOME / EXPENSE REPORT: None.

GIFT SHOP REPORT: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Informational Signage along 4th Street.
 - a. Block has re-emailed photos of possible mounting schemes (from Quincy Mounds Park and from Salem Library) to Watkins and Commission Members.
 - b. Watkins will talk to Steve Hayes (Public Works) about constructing sign mounting support hardware and then mounting the signs along 4th Street.
 - c. There was some discussion regarding permanence of the signs since the status of the Battlefield Site is unknown.

- B. Bicentennial Projects for Old Fort.
 - a. Moehn said it would be nice if we could raise the \$1,000 or \$1,500 needed to bring the St. Charles, Missouri, Fife & Drum Corps to Fort Madison to participate in the Rodeo Parade and the Siege.
 - b. Moehn read an email from Mary Ottonson outlining a proposal for a lighted Christmas celebration at the Old Fort, based on an idea from St. Charles, Missouri.
 - i. In the letter Ottonson indicated that lights for events such as this could often be obtained from area merchants at no charge.
 - ii. Several members of the Commission recalled that Christmas at the Fort fund raising events had been held in the past and were quite successful.
 - iii. A suggestion was made that an event such as this could be held in conjunction with the annual, post Thanksgiving, Fort Madison Parade of Lights.
- C. Neal Boeding was looking into the status of a new member with the Mayor.
 - a. The name of a potential member for the Old Fort Commission, to replace Boeding, has apparently been submitted to the Mayor. Boeding was not at the Commission meeting and status of that potential appointee is still unknown.
- D. Status of Battlefield Site owned by Holy Trinity.
 - a. Moehn has discussed this in the past with the City Manager.
 - b. An organization called The Archaeological Conservancy (TAC) is apparently interested in purchasing this site for archaeological study and preservation.
<http://www.americanarchaeology.com/aawelcome.html>
 - c. It is rumored that a private group is interested in purchasing the site for the purpose of construction a hotel.
 - i. It is further rumored that construction could start as early as this fall.
 - d. Moehn has been unable to get on the agenda for a Holy Trinity school board meeting to discuss concerns.
 - e. Moehn has called John Doershuk, State Archaeologist, to discuss the situation.
 - i. Salvage archaeology is expensive.
 - ii. Doershuk is not aware of current status with TAC and Holy Trinity.
 - f. There continues to be many questions and few answers regarding this Historic Site.
 - g. Graber will invite the City Manager to address these concerns at the next Old Fort Commission meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Postcards.
 - a. Foss reported that she had obtained pricing information for producing postcards that could be sold at the Old Fort Gift Shop.
 - b. Possibility of creating and selling calendars was raised and discussed.
 - c. Discussion on the relative merits and fundraising potential for each idea ensued.
- B. Rodeo Parade.
 - a. Possibility of having a float in the September 8, Rodeo Parade was discussed.
 - b. Consensus was obtained to have a float.
 - c. The float would consist of having the cannon on a trailer pulled by a truck.
 - d. An entry form has not yet been submitted.

ADJOURNMENT: Graber MOVED, and Block SECONDED, to ADJOURN. Motion CARRIED 6 – 0.

Meeting was ADJOURNED by Moehn at 6:27 PM.