

**Old Fort Commission
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Wednesday, April 17, 2013 @ 5:15 PM
City Council Chambers**

PRESENT: Martin Graber, Charles Block, David Moehn, Carol Foss, Kris Schoene, Chuck Ford, Dr. Eugene Watkins (Site Manager), John Luna (Management Analyst), and Neal Boeding (Council Liaison).

ABSENT: Sharon Harp – Excused

GUESTS: Chris Ford

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: by Moehn at 5:15 PM.

APPROVAL of March 20, 2013, MINUTES: Block MOVED, and Graber SECONDED, to APPROVE the MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED – Unanimous.

ELECTION of CHAIR and VICE CHAIR: Graber MOVED, and Foss SECONDED, that the following volunteers be elected to those positions. Motion CARRIED – Unanimous.

- **CHAIR** - David Moehn
- **VICE CHAIR** - Kris Schoene
- **SECRETARY** - Charles Block

SITE MANAGER'S REPORT:

- A. The Old Fort is now open for the season.
 - a. The past two weekends have been very busy.
 - b. Gross income is approximately \$750 - \$800 to date.
- B. Tours.
 - a. Waiting to hear from FM Partners regarding possible tour.
 - b. On Friday the Tipton Christian Academy (grades K – 12) will tour.
 - c. On May 9, the DAR will tour at 5 PM.
 - d. On May 24, approximately 100 5th Grade Fort Madison Middle School students will tour.
 - e. There is a potential for tours for passengers from several riverboats throughout the season.
 - f. The Delta Queen will dock in Fort Madison in October.
- C. As part of General Macomb's 231st birthday celebration, Watkins and volunteers put on a demonstration in Macomb's Chandler Park on April 3.
 - a. Watkins also gave a talk, along with PowerPoint presentation, on the War of 1812 that evening in the Western Illinois Museum.
 - b. The events were well received.
- D. Jimmy Wendorf (Old Fort Marketing Director) is continuing to add activities to the Rifles, Raptors and Reenactors event scheduled for June 13 – 16. Featured will be:
 - a. Raptor Show.
 - b. Iowa DNR Aquarium.
 - c. Possible DNR exhibit of native animals.
 - d. The 7th Iowa Civil War group.
 - e. Possible restored Military Vehicles.
 - f. Displays from the Illiniwek archaeology group.

- E. A Home Depot grant application will be submitted tomorrow.
- F. The fireplace repair was successful.
- G. Fire damage to the Old Fort.
 - a. Estimates for the repair are in the range of \$150 - \$200,000.
 - b. The City Council will be asked to approve the additional cost to add interior walls, for structural integrity and authenticity, to the Enlisted Men's Quarters.
 - c. On April 23, there will be a Pre-Bid Meeting with the Architect and Contractors at 3:00 PM at the Old Fort site.
 - d. It may be necessary to deconstruct and rebuild the entire north building.
- H. A \$1,500 grant for uniforms has been awarded by Alliant Energy.

INCOME / EXPENSE REPORT:

- A. Luna emailed the written report to Commission Members on April 12.
- B. The report was discussed; highlights are:
 - a. YTD Budget: Revenue = \$95,170 Expense = \$95,170
 - b. YTD Actual: Revenue = \$57,353 Expense = \$67,764
- C. Moehn purchased a book on the War of 1812 and will lend it to anyone interested.

GIFT SHOP REPORT:

No Report was available.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Bicentennial activities for 2013.
- B. Status of insurance claim for Old Fort Madison.
 - a. Highlights of status were covered in the Site Manager's Report.
 - b. Moehn expressed concern about additional repairs, not fire related, necessary to maintain the integrity of the structure.
 - c. It was mentioned that a portion of the stockade may have to be removed to work on the west walls of the buildings.
 - i. Security could be an issue.
 - ii. Block suggested bringing this up at the Pre-Bid Meeting.
 - d. Moehn mentioned that in the original Fort Madison, the fireplaces in the Enlisted Men's Quarters were located in the center of the buildings, not on the end as presently exists in the reconstruction.
 - i. Moehn would like to see the fireplaces relocated for authenticity and to better utilize the buildings in the winter as a part of the repair.
 - ii. This was not included in the bid request because it was assumed that it would cost too much.
 - iii. Watkins will review this with the City Manager to determine whether these items can be included as add-ons to the scope of work.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Election of Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary.
 - a. This was accomplished earlier under the Agenda Item: "ELECTION of CHAIR and VICE CHAIR".

ADJOURNMENT: Graber MOVED, and Foss SECONDED, to ADJOURN the MEETING. MOTION CARRIED – Unanimous.

MEETING was ADJOURNED by Moehn at 6:10 PM.