

**Old Fort Madison Commission
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Wednesday, July 17, 2013 at 5:15 PM
City Council Chambers**

PRESENT: Martin Graber, Charles Block, David Moehn, Carol Foss, Sharon Harp, Chuck Ford, Dr. Eugene Watkins (Site Manager), and Neal Boeding (Council Liaison).

ABSENT: John Luna (Management Analyst) - Excused.

GUESTS: Linda Baxter, Chris Ford, and Bob Foss.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: by Moehn at 5:15 PM. Moehn opened the meeting by reading the titles, showing and discussing five books he had purchased. He then offered to loan these books to anyone who might have an interest.

APPROVAL OF June 19, 2013, MINUTES: Harp MOVED, and Block SECONDED, to APPROVE the MINUTES. Motion CARRIED - Unanimous.

SITE MANAGER'S REPORT:

- A. The Old Fort site was closed from June 28 to July 7 and for much of June.
- B. On Friday July 26 kids from an FM Art Center class will tour the Old Fort from 2:30 to 4:30.
- C. Last week was busy, this week not so much because of the heat.
- D. The contractor has not yet started repair work of the Old Fort fire damage.
- E. There are no plans for a Siege because of uncertainties of the repair schedule.
 - a. May just do the usual stuff because the reenactors do not want to camp here.
- F. Old Fort personnel worked on preparing a scale model of the Fort during down time.
 - a. It should be ready next year.
- G. Old Fort personnel repaired the upper deck on one of the Officers' Quarters buildings.
 - a. Still need to repair the west end.
 - b. Rotten wood is being replaced.
- H. Per Wendorf, a grant from Prairie Meadows for museum betterment of up to \$100k may be available.
- I. No activities took place at the Old Fort on July 4 due to the Mississippi River flood.
- J. Contract for fire repairs has been awarded but not yet been signed.
 - a. The contractor awarded the bid (Abolt) is seeking a change order to cover additional cost of an alternate lumber specification.
- K. Many other repairs are needed on all buildings.
 - a. Question was raised if prison labor could be used.
 - b. Some repairs will require replacing individual logs.
 - i. This will in turn require skilled construction labor.
 - c. First area of concern is to focus on the Gift Shop (Factory) Building.

INCOME / EXPENSE REPORT:

- A. Luna emailed the detailed (unaudited) financial report to Commission Members on July 15.
- B. Through the end of the Fiscal Year Revenues are under budget and Expenditures are over budget.
- C. YTD Revenue: \$95,170 Budget vs. \$78,653 Actual
- D. YTD Expense: \$95,140 Budget vs. \$96,619 Actual

GIFT SHOP REPORT:

- A. Baxter distributed a written report.
- B. Weather and flood unfavorably impacted receipts.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Bicentennial activities for 2013
 - a. Plans are not to hold a Siege due to fire damage repair uncertainties.
 - b. Consensus was that it would still be nice to do something.
- B. Flooding in Riverview Park affects Old Fort schedule.
 - a. On many days the Old Fort itself was not flooded but the access roads and parking lots were under water.
- C. Schedule for repairs from fire damage.
 - a. Nothing scheduled for start of fire damage repair.
- D. Opening for new Commission member.
 - a. Still need a new Commission member.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. RAGBRAI - Saturday, July 27, 2013.
 - a. Park closes at 6:00 AM.
 - b. Bikers dip tires in front of Old Fort Madison.
 - c. State Archaeologist will have a display.
 - d. Vendors will be in the east end of Riverview Park.
- B. Old Fort desperately needs repairs due to continuously delayed maintenance.
 - a. Architect needs to examine all Old Fort buildings and give estimates as to costs for repairs.

ADJOURNMENT: Graber MOVED, and Block SECONDED, to ADJOURN. Motion CARRIED - Unanimous.

MEETING was ADJOURNED by Moehn at 6:18 PM.