

**Old Fort Madison Commission
Minutes of Regular Meeting
October 16, 2013 at 5:15 PM CDT
City Council Chambers**

PRESENT: Martin Graber, Charles Block, David Moehn, Sharon Harp, Chuck Ford (5:30), Dr. Eugene Watkins (Site Manager), John Luna (Management Analyst), and Neal Boeding (Council Liaison).

ABSENT: Carol Foss.

GUESTS: Linda Baxter, Ted Kolbet, and Chris Ford.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: by Moehn at 5:22 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Graber MOVED, and Block SECONDED, to APPROVE the Minutes of the September 18, 2013, Regular Meeting. MOTION CARRIED: 4 – 0.

SITE MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. We are nearing the end of the Season.
 - a. The Old Fort will only be open weekends through the end of the month.
 - b. Watkins will be in his office in City Hall Wednesday through Friday.
2. A school tour for a group from Tipton has been rescheduled.
3. Tours for passengers of the riverboats are scheduled for the following dates:
 - a. October 24 – American Queen
 - b. October 31 – Mississippi Queen
4. American Battlefield Grant:
 - a. The first round of paperwork was completed before the government shutdown.
 - b. The purpose of the Grant is to create a preservation plan for the War of 1812 Battlefield site west of the original Fort Madison.
 - c. Watkins is not sure if the Grant will cover archaeological work.
 - d. Watkins distributed the written plan to the Commission.
5. Watkins emailed proposed plans for the US – Canada Commemoration to the Consul General of Canada.
6. Abolt (fire damage repair contractor) is progressing with repairs.
 - a. Roofs are being installed on the two Enlisted Men's Quarters buildings.
 - b. New logs still need to be installed in the walls.

INCOME / EXPENSE REPORT: Luna stated that the report is not yet available.

GIFT SHOP REPORT: Baxter provided a written report to the Commission.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Status of repairs from fire damage.
 - a. Mostly just roof work is being done so far.
 - b. Logs will be coming from Missouri.
 - i. They were ordered in May or June and have not yet arrived.

2. Opening for new Commission member.
 - a. The opening still exists.
 - b. Moehn has contacted three prospective members with no success.
3. Architect needs to examine all Old Fort buildings and give estimates as to costs for repairs to be reported to the City.
 - a. Report preparation is underway.
 - b. First submission did not include the estimated cost to prepare the estimate.
4. Status of Battlefield Site owners.
 - a. Watkins has asked City Manager to talk to Holy Trinity Catholic to determine asking price for the property.
5. Status of Park Service Grant to research Battlefield and to hire consultant for battlefield design.
 - a. See Site Manager's Report.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Dr. Eugene Watkins' office has moved.
 - a. Watkins moved next door to his old office to make room for the new Tourism Director, Jean Peiton.
 - i. Peiton will be in the office Monday – Thursday for 27 hours per week.
 1. Peiton may help with marketing of the Old Fort.
 - b. It is possible that a tree won't be erected at the Old Fort this year due to construction.
2. Commemoration of the burning of the Original Fort Madison in early November 2013.
 - a. Moehn would like to see a commemoration of the event in Riverview Park but has not heard of any plans to do so.
 - b. Watkins will write an article for the paper about the abandonment of the Fort.
 - c. Moehn will write an article on the history of the painting of the abandonment of the Fort.

ADJOURNMENT: Graber MOVED, and Harp SECONDED, to ADJOURN. MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0.

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED by Moehn at 5:49 PM.

David Moehn
Chair, Old Fort Commission

Date