

**Old Fort Madison Commission  
Minutes of Regular Meeting  
November 20, 2013 at 5:15 PM  
City Council Chambers**

PRESENT: Martin Graber, Charles Block, David Moehn, Carol Foss, Sharon Harp, Chuck Ford, John Luna (Management Analyst), and Neal Boeding (Council Liaison).

ABSENT: Dr. Eugene Watkins (Site Manager) – Excused for Illness.

GUESTS: Jean Peiton (Tourism/Marketing Coordinator), Chris Ford, and Bob Foss.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Harp MOVED, and Block SECONDED, to APPROVE the MINUTES of the October 16, 2013, Regular Meeting. MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0.

SITE MANAGER’S REPORT: Watkins was absent due to illness. The report was given by Moehn.

1. Rebuilding of the outside walls of the enlisted men’s barracks is complete.
  - a. Not sure if inside walls will be added.
2. Watkins has submitted plans for archival research in accordance with the requirements of the American Battlefields Grant.
  - a. Moehn plans to accompany Watkins to DC.
  - b. Anyone else interested in helping with the research should contact Watkins.
3. Watkins has yet to hear back from the Canadian Consul General.
4. Moehn questioned whether the salary for the new Tourism Director will impact the Budget for the Old Fort.
  - a. Luna stated that it wouldn’t.
5. Watkins will be starting work on next year’s budget.
  - a. Work will begin Thursday and Friday of this week (November 21 & 22).
  - b. Anyone interested in helping is welcome.
6. At this point Luna introduced Jean Peiton, Tourism/Marketing Coordinator.
  - a. Peiton stated that she has been on the job for about a month.
  - b. The Old Fort is a tourism focus for Fort Madison.
  - c. Peiton is trying to pull together focus groups on the Old Fort plus other events to generate ideas for tourism.
  - d. Peiton has met with the City Manager to come up with ideas to more fully utilize the Old Fort.

INCOME / EXPENSE REPORT: Not available, per Luna. Budget preparation is in process.

GIFT SHOP REPORT: No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Opening for new Commission Member.
  - a. Russell Savage has expressed interest, according to Moehn.

2. Architect needs to examine all Old Fort buildings and give estimates as to costs for repairs to be reported to the city.
  - a. Moehn hasn't heard if this has been done.
3. Status of price of the Battlefield Site administered by HTC (Holy Trinity Catholic) School Board.
  - a. Moehn had talked to the Holy Trinity Catholic Principal a couple days ago.
    - i. It is his understanding that the asking price is \$200,000 and that it is appraised for \$500,000.
    - ii. Moehn contacted the Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) with price information to relay to the Archaeological Conservancy.
  - b. Fraise Realty has approached the School Board with a potential buyer.
  - c. Graber questioned whether HTC would sell the half of the block containing the battlefield.
  - d. Moehn questioned whether the City has a contingency fund.
    - i. Luna deferred to Boeding.
    - ii. Boeding will meet with the City Manager in the morning.
4. Status of Park Service Grant to research Battlefield and to hire consultant for battlefield design.
  - a. Covered in the Site Manager's Report.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of whether to hold a December Commission Meeting.
  - a. Graber MOVED, and Block SECONDED, to carry any December business over to the January Meeting. MOTION CARRIED 6 – 0.

ADJOURNMENT: Graber MOVED, and Harp SECONDED, to ADJOURN. MOTION CARRIED 6 – 0.

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED by Moehn at 5:39PM.

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David Moehn  
Chair, Old Fort Commission

Date