

**Old Fort Madison Commission  
Minutes of Regular Meeting  
March 19, 2014 at 5:15 PM  
City Council Chambers**

PRESENT: Martin Graber, Charles Block, David Moehn, Sharon Harp, Chuck Ford, Russell Savage, Dr. Eugene Watkins (Site Manager), and John Luna (Management Analyst).

ABSENT: City Council Liaison (Replacement for Boeding to be named).

GUESTS: Jan Garza, Chris Ford, Ted Kolbet, and Bob Foss.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: by Moehn at 5:16 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Graber MOVED, and Block SECONDED, to APPROVE the Minutes of the January 14, 2014, meeting (No meeting was held in February because Watkins and Moehn were traveling.) MOTION CARRIED 7 – 0.

**SITE MANAGER'S REPORT:**

1. Watkins is awaiting the report on condition of the Old Fort from the Architect.
  - a. The Architect wants to go through the Fort again with a consultant to check the materials of construction.
2. Watkins is working on the NPS Battlefield grant.
3. Watkins and Moehn spent two weeks in February at the National Archives researching the original Fort Madison.
4. Watkins has a number of Old Fort Tours lined up for school groups.
5. Watkins will travel to make presentations at two offsite events:
  - a. April 3, from 3 to 5 PM at Macomb, Illinois.
  - b. August 23 – 24, at Credit Island (Davenport, Iowa City Park) for 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the War of 1812 battle which took place at that site.
6. The Boy Scouts will be having a campout in the Old Fort on March 29 – 30.
7. Luna mentioned that the terms of Commissioners Graber, Moehn, and Block are expiring.

INCOME / EXPENSE REPORT: Luna reported that, again, no Report is available due to budgeting process.

GIFT SHOP REPORT: No report was prepared since the Gift Shop is closed for the season.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Results of Architect's examination of Old Fort building, his estimates of repairs, and how they affect the future of the Old Fort Madison Replica.
  - a. Moehn and Watkins walked around the Fort with the Architect.
  - b. The Architect will call out materials that are not authentic.
2. Status of the Battlefield Site administered by HTC School Board.
  - a. Moehn has tried to talk to several people with the HTC system.
    - i. No one has returned his calls.
  - b. Moehn related several rumors regarding parties who may be interested in purchasing the site.

- c. The Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) has sent letters to the HTC School Board and to the listing Realtor citing historical considerations of the Battlefield site.
3. Report on research trip to Washington, DC, by Eugene Watkins and Dave Moehn from Feb. 16 – March 1, 2014.
  - a. Moehn gave an oral report of the trip and mentioned several highlights. A written report will follow at a future date.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Russell Savage is the new member of the Old Fort Commission.
  - a. Savage was introduced to the Commission by Moehn.
2. Jan Garza on Easter morning, April 20, at the Old Fort.
  - a. Garza presented a proposal by the Fort Madison Parish Partners to hold an Easter Morning (~ 7 AM) Church Service inside the Old Fort.
  - b. Graber MOVED, and Foss SECONDED, to give approval to the proposal. MOTION CARRIED 7 – 0.
3. Raptors, Rifles, and Re-enactor's Weekend June 13, 14, 15.
  - a. This will be the Second Annual occurrence for this event.
  - b. Jean Peiton will assist with Marketing.
4. Work on non-profit status for "Old Fort Madison, Inc."
  - a. This group was established in 1965 in conjunction with the first archaeological investigation of the original Fort Madison.
  - b. The Charter was taken over by Friends of Old Fort Madison but lapsed in 2010.
  - c. Apparently the Charter cannot be renewed.
  - d. The group may have to re-incorporate.
    - i. An attorney and an accountant will be needed to make this happen.
    - ii. Bill Napier had done some work on this but is now retired.
  - e. This would be a good vehicle to get donations.
  - f. A Board of Directors will be required.
5. Old Fort Madison's schedule for 2014: Weekends in April; Tuesday – Sunday in May and June; Wednesday – Sunday in July, August and first week in September; Weekends for the rest of September.
  - a. Some adjustments may be necessary due to worker availability and budget revisions.
  - b. Hours can be altered without Commission vote.
6. Jan Garza mentioned that the Old Fort folks may want to participate in the Fourth of July Parade to help publicize the Fort.

ADJOURNMENT: Graber MOVED, and Block SECONDED, to ADJOURN. MOTION CARRIED 7 – 0.

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED by Moehn at 6:15 PM.

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David Moehn  
Chair, Old Fort Commission

Date