

**Old Fort Madison Commission
Minutes of Regular Meeting
May 21, 2014 at 5:15 PM
City Council Chambers**

PRESENT: David Moehn, Sharon Harp, Chuck Ford, Russell Savage, Dr. Eugene Watkins (Site Manager), John Luna (Management Analyst) and Councilman Brian Wright (City Council Liaison).

ABSENT: Charles Block and Carol Foss

Guests: Andy Andrews, Chris Ford, City Manager Byron Smith, Linda Baxter.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of minutes was made.

SITE MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. June 13-15 – Rifles, Raptors & Re-enactors will be at Fort
2. 4th of July - 18th Shot from Gun at 1:00 PM
3. Staffing – will be doing interviews next week for position.
4. Eugene and Linda Baxter attended the “ Retired Teachers Conference “ at Comfort Inn
5. The following groups will be touring the Old Fort:
 - a. May 9 – Holy Trinity.
 - b. May 15 – Danville School.
 - c. May 27 – New London School.
 - d. May 30 – Lincoln Elementary
6. May 10 was “Mayhem on the Mississippi” and several people toured the Fort.
7. Renovations at the Fort have occurred in Blockhouse #3. It used to be used for fur display now it is a Quarter Master room.
8. Kent Kruse from Abolts was at the Fort May 21, 2014. He said they will return May 22, 2014 to finish up work (painting).
9. Squirrels are tearing out insulation at the Fort above the Smithsonian display.
10. Traps need to be put out because there could possibly be a bobcat around.

INCOME / EXPENSE REPORT: No report. Luna said he would send it out in an email when he receives it.

GIFT SHOP REPORT: Linda Baxter handed out a break down sheet. She stated there has been a lot of people that come to the Fort and tour the gift shop but don't have the money on them.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Moehn reminded commission a new member is still needed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. City Manager Byron Smith stated the City had engineering evaluate the condition of the Old Fort. Here is the outcome:
 - a. The cement in the Fort that was used in the walls was the wrong kind, causing water to stay inside the walls. Constant moisture has been building up in the walls.

Recommendation was to remove the “chunking: in walls so the walls can “breathe” better.

- b. Test soil to see if foundation is acceptable.
 - c. Fund raising needs to come about to help with these renovations.
 - d. \$10,000.00-\$20,000.00 per building was estimated.
 - e. Extend the foundation walls up so the wood does not come in contact with water.
 - f. Re-facing of the eight buildings. City Manager Smith stated if the timbers are too far gone it could be as much as \$250,000.00 to replace
2. Fire repairs:
 - a. Oak timbers were purchased by the City to repair. There are some extra left.
 3. City Council meeting June 2, 2014 at 7PM – The council will be discussing repairs at the Old Fort.
 - a. Fundraising ideas are needed.
 4. Andy Andrews, historical museum, stressed that funding is needed badly and the Fort needs to be incorporated. A non-profit committee of “Friends of the Old Fort: would benefit the Old Fort tremendously.
 5. There is a potential donation in the works.

ADJOURNMENT: Ford MOVED, and Harp SECONDED, to ADJOURN. MOTION CARRIED.

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED by Moehn at 6:15 PM.

David Moehn
Chair, Old Fort Commission

Date