

**Old Fort Commission
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Wednesday, September 16, 2015 at 5:30 PM
Old Fort Madison Factory in Riverview Park**

PRESENT: Charles Block, Dave Moehn, Carol Foss, Sharon Harp, Russell Savage, Dr. Eugene Watkins (Site Manager), David Varney (City Manager), John Luna (Management Analyst), Linda Baxter (Gift Shop).

ABSENT: Brian Wright (Council Liaison) and Chuck Ford.

GUESTS: Andy Andrews, Shelly Dowling, and Karen Gaede.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: by Moehn at 5:35 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Block MOVED, and Foss SECONDED, to APPROVE the MINUTES of the August 19, 2015, Regular Meeting. MOTION CARRIED 5 – 0.

SITE MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. The Fort was very busy in August.
 - a. 538 people passed through the Fort.
2. The Big Thing was the damaged wall section was replaced.
 - a. Need to finish Officers' Quarters Porch.
 - b. The Fort Madison Democrat interviewed Watkins about the work being done on the Fort by Volunteers.
3. The Siege went well.
 - a. Had six (6) guys here from Missouri.
 - b. The Lewis and Clark Fife and Drum Corps was here.
 - c. There was excellent participation from many volunteers.
 - d. Quarry Creek provided a display and sent meat.
 - e. The Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) had a display on Saturday.
 - f. Attendance was:
 - i. 150 on Saturday.
 - ii. 100 on Sunday.
4. Fort Osage has a large US Flag compared to the one at Fort Madison.
 - a. Watkins will investigate obtaining a larger flag.

INCOME / EXPENSE REPORT:

Luna sent the July and August reports to Commission Members on September 11.

GIFT SHOP REPORT:

1. Baxter presented a written report.
2. Baxter also provided verbal highlights:
 - a. Visitors included:
 - i. 20 Countries.
 - ii. 130 Towns in Iowa.
 - iii. 47 States.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Need a new member for the Old Fort Commission.
 - a. Still need a new member.
 - b. Moehn has spoken to several people about the opening.
2. State level discussions on City sewer line which will cross over Old Fort site.
 - a. Moehn reported there was no new information on this topic.
3. Repairs to Old Fort's wall on west side.
 - a. Watkins discussed this in the Site Manager's Report.
4. Old Fort Madison Activities for Rodeo Weekend.
 - a. The activities were covered by Watkins in the Site Manager's Report.
 - b. Per Moehn, there was excellent coverage of the events by the Burlington Hawk Eye.
 - c. A remark was made that there was nothing about the event on the City's website.
 - i. Luna reported that he had only been given the information today (September 16).

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Friends of Old Fort Madison activities. Next meeting will be Tuesday, September 22, 2015.
 - a. Andrews (Guest) stated that another fund raising mailing request will be sent out this month.
 - i. The letter will stress educational activities.
 - ii. Andrews is hoping for \$25,000 to cover costs to clean up the former parking lot that covers the War of 1812 Battlefield Site.
 - b. Andrews reported a communication problem with the Rodeo Committee on use of the Parking Lot.
 - c. Andrews reported that Roundup© has been sprayed to kill weeds but another application will be needed.
 - d. Andrews reported that collections fell \$300 short of meeting expenses for the Fife and Drum Corps.
 - e. Andrews reported that we are still waiting for the final OK from the National Park Service (NPS) on the report prepared by the Walker Collaborative.

ADJOURNMENT: Foss MOVED, and Harp SECONDED, to ADJOURN the MEETING. MOTION CARRIED 5 – 0.

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED by Moehn at 6:09 PM.

David Moehn
Chair, Old Fort Commission

Date