

Clayton County Historic Preservation Commission
Minutes for Friday, March 13, 2020. Held at CCDG office at 9:00 AM

Agenda unanimously approved in a motion by Milt Johnson and seconded by Gary Goyette.

February Minutes approved unanimously in a motion by Ellen Collins and seconded by Lee Lenth.

Those in attendance were John Nikolai, Lee Lenth, Milt Johnson, Roger Thomas, Ellen Collins and Gary Goyette. Absent: Betty Buchholz.

Old Business:

Ellen reported about her contact with Brennan Dolan, Principal Investigator for the McDermott-Byrnes Creamery Cellar located in Osborne, Iowa. Brennan explained that this property is a substantial reminder of how much that property meant to the whole dairy industry at that particular time period. The property is on the state right of way. He was asked if a sign at the site would be appropriate? He responded that the site access is a challenge near the creamery. If there was a request that came into the D.O.T. they would not recommend a sign for safety reasons. Ellen suggested that perhaps a story board be placed at CCConservation property across the road(if approved by CCC). Brennan thought this would be a good idea. John N. motioned that Commission contact CCC to discuss story board idea. Gary G. seconded-motion passed unanimously. Ellen will contact CCC Director to discuss. Brennan also suggested a video put together by a professional group showing some of the interesting sites in NE Iowa. Maybe a u-tube video and a shorter version on FaceBook promoting tourism sites.

Brennan Dolan stated that he will be in the area during spring/summer time to aid in the repair of the Keystone Bridge in Elkader. It was discussed with

Commission maybe havind a cook out for those from the state working on the bridge. More discussion to follow. All agreed.

New Business:

Use of podcasts as a means to publicize NE Iowa tourism. Suggestion from Jenna Pollack, CCC Director for CCHPC to provide some funding for development of a podcast. She has asked various community boards for assist in doing this. Darla Kelchen, CCDG Director feels that Podcasts are not universally used by people and questions whether money invested would reap benefits. Most podcasts are longer than she feels is warranted and are expensive. It was decided for the CCHPC to wait until county tourism makes a decision on whether to proceed or not. Motion by Ellen Collins, Seconded by Lee Lenth. Motion approved unanimously.

Darla Kelchen asked the commission to let her know if CCHPC wants to submit anything for the new brochure for CCDG.

Motion by Lee L. and seconded by Ellen C. to approve ordering more CCHPC business cards promoting our website and to order more flyers developed last year for the State Fair. Motion approved unanimously. Ellen will follow up with Heritage Printing to order.

Commission also approved ordering a banner for the commission to be used at various places e.g. state fair. Cost is approx. \$80 to the commission. Motion made by Lee L. and seconded by John N. to make purchase. Motion approved unanimously.

Ellen C. suggested to the group that our Commission be part of the 175th celebration of Elkader's founding. Ellen will contact the City of Elkader to find the who, what and when information.

Ellen C. reported that she is now a member of CCGenealogy and Roger T. suggested a possible alliance be formed with them since we have similar

goals-to enhance our history. Ellen suggested that perhaps we have an annual combined meeting and have Lee Lenth give a monthly report to the Genie group about us and that he report to us what they are involved in. Group thought this to be a good idea. More info to follow.

Elected Official Report:

Roger has submitted the CLG yearly report to the CC Supervisors and has e filed it to the State of Iowa.

Public Comments/Open Discussion:

Preserve Iowa Conference in June.

Roger will talk to CC Auditor to determine if they can issue one check for the 5 people who wish to attend. He will also see if he can sign up all 5 people so billing can be together.

Roger T. discussed follow up on putting a sign on HWY 13 to direct people to the historic Mederville Bridge. OK must be obtained from county engineer first to put supplemental directional signs along Emblem Road to guide people. Once he agrees to do this then a contact can be made to the D.O.T. for signage on HWY 13. Roger T. to follow up on this.

Lee L. and John N. will proceed to put up the new/old signs for the Mederville historic bridge. It was suggested that we have a rededication of the signs at the time of the new canoe landing is established. More to come in the future.

General discussion regarding the form Roger T. has from the National Barn Alliance. It is felt the form is basically good but needs some additions e.g. the date barn was built, and the type of barn that it is etc. Roger is working on a letter to be sent to barn owners advising them of help they may get from our CCHPC and other groups. Various barns in the area were discussed including the Alan Johnson barn. The importance of saving them was discussed.

General discussion also regarding the proposed state law to eliminate Historic State Tax Credits for owner occupied historic dwellings. Gary is to get more information by the next meeting.

General discussion about the repair of the Indian monument in the park at Guttenberg.

Next meeting on Friday, April 10, 2020 at the CCDG office.

Motion to adjourn by John Nikolai and seconded by Milt Johnson.
Motion passed unanimously.

Ellen Collins
Secretary