

Florence Township Heritage Preservation Commission

HPC Meeting Notes from 11 December 2018

Attendees: Bill Bruce, Cathy Kouchich, Bill Flies, Lorry Wendland (via telephone) and Jan Bruce

Guests: Ellen Stewart, Linda Flies and Allen Anderson (via telephone)

The meeting began at 6 PM.

The previous meeting minutes were emailed to commission members and interested guests prior to the meeting. No objections to the minutes were heard from members and no guests requested that the minutes be read, so we moved on to normal business.

The Frontenac 160th Anniversary Celebration

The web site:

Bill Flies gave a progress report on the frontenac160.com web site. Comments were offered regarding the information on the web site and the format of that information. Bill explained his ideas for implementing a historic tour. Guests with a smart phone will be able to use the 'Tours' button on the web site to access an interactive map of the village. Information about the historic homes on the map can be accessed by selecting site numbers from the map. Paper copies of the map will be available for people that do not have access to a smart phone.

Large event ordinance:

Bill Bruce stated that both the township and Goodhue County have large event ordinances, but the county ordinance is minimal. No update was available regarding the progress of writing the large event application. Bill Bruce will pursue this.

House signs:

We discussed the commemorative signs that we will be providing to the owners of each historic property. A proposal was made previously, to post these signs at each location, but further discussion is needed.

Notifying village residents:

We discussed when we would do this. June is the target date. Jan suggested getting information about the event in the annual township newsletter. That information must be provided, preferably, by the end of February. Consensus is we should invite both Old Frontenac and Frontenac Station residents.

Insurance:

We need to confirm with the Town Board that the event will be insured.

Commemorative items:

Bill Bruce presented a document that itemized the costs of producing commemorative mugs. These costs are from Deneen Pottery. Consensus is these costs are very high. We will seek bids from other pottery firms. Suggestions are Red Wing Pottery and ... Bill Bruce will continue to get information.

Security:

Cathy made contact with Paul Gileau at the Goodhue County Sheriff's department about security for the event. His advice was, given that no alcohol will be available, and the event will primarily take place during daylight hours, the requirement for security is minimal. The one concern is traffic handling, primarily at the intersections of County 2 and Highway 61. Do we need to hire professionals to direct traffic or using volunteers? Cathy will also inquire about getting riders on horseback to participate (the Sheriff's posse?).

Pearl of the Lake boat trip:

After discussions, it was decided that Pearl of the Lake boat trips would not be a part of the event. The primary concerns were, 1) how to integrate the limited time the boat would be available with the other events during the day, and 2) the boat might draw people away from the events in the village. Other events on Lake Pepin will be available.

Israel Garrard flag:

We discussed procuring a recreation of the Israel Garrard flag. We have a vendor that can do that. Since several members were not aware of the existence of this flag, Lorry will send a picture. The decision to proceed with this will be put off until a future meeting.

Budget:

Lorry presented the budget report. All grants have been accepted. We have \$9700 available. If additional money is needed, Tom Gnotke suggested we approach the Prairie Island Indian Community.

Marketing:

Allen presented the marketing report. Allen identified two main groups of attendees, 1) the 'Hard Core' audience, and 2) the diversionary audience. The first group will see an advertisement for this event and will make plans beforehand to attend. The second group can be lured in by placing signs at the intersections of County 2 and Highway 61. They will be in the area with no definite plans and their curiosity will draw them in. We need to determine what the requirements are for posting signs adjacent to state highways.

Miscellaneous:

We need a list of 'go to' people, that specifies the person taking responsibility for each aspect of the event.

We need to determine how event organizers will communicate with each other. Cell phones, FRS radios (Family Radio Service radios, aka walkie-talkies), or ?

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.