

Florence Township Heritage Preservation Commission

HPC Meeting Minutes from Tuesday, 8 January 2019

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

Guests: Ellen Stewart, Jane Lorentzen 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.

Township Related Business

The Town Board has approved the bid from Don Dopkins to paint the trim on the town hall. Thank you, Cathy for pursuing this. Bill Bruce is attempting to get some confirmation from the Minnesota Department of Health that states that the painter does not need to be lead paint certified.

The Frontenac 160th Anniversary Celebration

frontenac160.com web site:

Bill Flies gave a progress report on the frontenac160.com web site. Bill proposed developing both a printed tour book (commemorative handout) and an identical online tour. The online version will be available to the public even if they can't attend the celebration and it will also be a great way for the planning committee members to review the tour book as it is being developed. The printed book will be a commemorative item that everyone that attends the event may take away with them.

Commemorative item:

We previously considered mugs or tee-shirts, but it's difficult to estimate how many to make. The committee agreed to forego these items in favor of the commemorative booklet discussed above.

Large event application:

No update was available regarding the progress of writing the large event application. Bill Bruce will pursue this.

Committees:

Lorry is maintaining a spreadsheet that identifies the committees and the committee contact person. Some committees have not been organized yet and Lorry pressed the need to get the committees staffed with a volunteer leader. Jane Lorentzen related her past experience with similar events in Red Wing and put forth the idea of finding a volunteer coordinator, possibly hiring someone to perform this work. That idea was seriously discussed, but no ideas were forthcoming as to how to find such a person.

Bill Flies suggested that we move ahead with the current structure and fill out the committees with volunteers as we further publicize the event and make it known that we are seeking people to help.

Resident notification/volunteer recruitment:

We still intend to Invite Old Frontenac and Frontenac Station residents to a community meeting to announce the anniversary event to the community. No date has been set. This will also be an opportunity to recruit volunteers.

Israel Garrard flag:

After discussion, it was the consensus of the committee to purchase a replica of the Israel Garrard Civil War flag. Signworx of Red Wing can do this for us.

House signs:

We are still on track to purchase house signs for the century homes in Old Frontenac. Signworx of Red Wing will produce these.

Road signs on highway 61:

We intend to place signs at the intersections of State Highway 61 and County Highway 2 to guide people to the event and to catch 'diversionary' traffic? Allen suggested banners. The marketing group will pursue this.

Budget report:

Lorry stated that \$9850 has been raised in grants and donations and a \$2500 donation was expected from John Rupp (the Villa Maria developer). Tom Gnotke has encouraged Lorry to seek a donation from the Prairie Island Indian Community (PIIC). We discussed how much additional money we may need and the timing of making a request to the PIIC. We also discussed what to do with money that was unspent. The consensus was to return this money to the PIIC, as they would likely be our largest contributor.

Marketing report:

Allen had some additional marketing ideas. He suggested that we should invite several dignitaries to the event, such as the Governor and out state government representatives. He also suggested publicizing the event at the 100-Mile Garage Sale event in May and Water Ski Days (in July?). Jan is seeking copy for the annual township newsletter. Allen suggested using the Frontenac 160 press release.

Miscellaneous:

Lorry stated that 2 vendors have requested another meeting with our committee. They will be invited to attend an HPC meeting in future, yet to be determined.

Action Items for the Town Board meeting on January 23rd

- 1) Request installation of 240-volt receptacles at the ball park building for food vendors.
- 2) Cancel the February 12th HPC meeting, due to no members being available.
- 3) Reschedule the Tuesday, March 12th HPC meeting to Wednesday, March 13th, due to a conflict with the township annual meeting.