



LINN COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
935 Second Street SW • Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404 • 319-892-5138

Minutes
April 30, 2025

Members Present

Kim Hanna, Chair
Todd McNall, Vice-Chair
Barb Westercamp, Secretary
Steve Ciha
Stacey Colledge-Skelton
Matt Kenney
Maura Pilcher

Members Absent

Hilary Copeland-Marvin
Nancy Kraft

Guests

Staff Present

Bradley Wylam, Staff Liaison
Jill Hansen, Recording Secretary

Call to Order

Chair Hanna called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Public Comment

None

New Business

Discuss & Decide FY26 historic Preservation Grant Funding Recommendations

The Coggon Historical Hall Sidewalk project's eligibility was of concern to commissioners. Pilcher made a motion to disqualify the Coggon Historical Hall Sidewalk project from grant consideration, second by Westercamp. Discussion was held with Ciha making statements in support of the project's eligibility. A written statement from non-present commissioner Nancy Kraft was read. Pilcher called the question, second by McNall. The motion carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 2 nays.



Commissioner Matt Kenney arrived at 4:10 pm.

The Brucemore project, Leading the Culture of Linn County: Historic Tours of Brucemore was discussed. A statement from Kraft was read regarding her thoughts on the project. A recommendation to fund the project at the \$5000 requested amount was made by McNall. There was no opposition to the recommendation.

The question was asked if projects could be funded at a higher rate than requested with the Central City and Linn County Fair Associations projects being mentioned. It was confirmed that projects could be given more money than requested. Colledge-Skelton asked about money being left over and if a second round of grant applications would be allowed. Commissioners verified only one application round was allowed, and any money leftover fund would not be carried forward to next the next grant cycle. Ciha asked if a letter of explanation was sent to all applicants regarding receiving or not receiving grant funds. Grant applicants are sent a letter of explanation.

The Seminole Valley Farm Museum Shed Roof Replacement project was discussed. The project had not been officially submitted and Wylam had been unable to reach the applicants after several attempts. Hanna recommended not funding the project. McNall made the motion to not fund the Seminole Valley project due to the application not being officially submitted and the proposed roof not meeting the Secretary of Interior's rehabilitation standards, second by Pilcher. Motion carried with all those present voting aye.

The Central City Historical Society's grant proposal for their History Book 1839 - 1989 project was discussed next. Hanna recommended the approval of \$500 with the option to give more. McNall discussed concerns about the lack of information on their overall budget for the project. Hanna wondered if the grant application process needed more clarity on how and where to attach budget information. Colledge-Skelton moved to fund the Central City Historical Society's project at \$750, second by Pilcher. Motion carried with all those present voting aye.

The Iowa Masonic Library Association's Civil War Flag Plexiglass Restoration Project was brought forth and discussed. Kraft's written statement regarding the project was read by Hanna. McNall made the motion to fund the Iowa Masonic Library Association's project in the amount of \$5000, second by Westercamp. Motion carried with all those present voting aye.

Pleasant Grove Heritage Park Inc's Meyers Farmstead Historic District Hog House/ Corn Crib Restoration and Rehabilitation Phase 1 project was discussed. McNall moved to fund the Pleasant Grove Heritage Park's project in the amount of \$5000, second by Westercamp. Colledge-Skelton thought HPC could fund the project at a higher amount if there were funds remaining after other allocations had been determined. McNall withdrew the motion. McNall then made a recommendation to fund the project at the \$5000 amount with no opposition to the recommendation.

The Linn County Historical Society, dba The History Center, submitted the project Digital Access to Home and Business Records for grant consideration. The commissioners discussed the project with Pilcher making the recommendation of \$3000 in funding with no opposition.

The Linn County Fair Association project to Refurbish Windows in the Garden Building was discussed by the commission. Commissioners wanted to recommend the replacement of the wood instead of wrapping the windows. It was the desire of HPC commissioners for the Fair Association to use the Secretary of the Interior's rehabilitation standards to repair the windows. McNall made a recommendation to allocate \$2000 extra to the Fair Association to help meet the standards. Hanna is to send the recommendation for the proper way to fix the windows under the Secretary of the Interior's rehabilitation standards in the grant funding letter.

McNall recommended adding \$2000 to the Pleasant Grove grant amount as well.

Pilcher moved to amend all previous motions for grant funding and accept the recommended amounts of \$8000 for the Linn County Fair Association, \$7000 for Pleasant Grove Heritage Park Inc, \$800 for the Central City Historical Society, \$5000 for the Iowa Masonic Library Association, \$3000 for The History Center, and \$5000 for Brucemore Inc., second by Westercamp. Motion carried with all those present voting aye.

Hanna is to send grant acceptance and rejection letters to applicants.

FY 2025 Work Plan

Discussion was held on the progress of the graphic design on the Lincoln Highway kiosk at Wanatee Park. Colledge-Skelton will send out the design proof to the commission. Wylam will notify CR Signs of the forthcoming graphic panel design and check to see if fabrication of the framework has started.

Next Meeting

Next Regular Meeting, Wednesday, May 21, 2025.

Adjournment –

Hanna adjourned the meeting at 4:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Jill Hansen, Recording Secretary

Approved,


Kim Hanna, Chair