



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

**Minutes**  
**March 18, 2026**

**Members Present**

Barb Westercamp, Vice-Chair  
Hilary Copeland-Marvin, Secretary  
Steve Ciha  
Stacey Colledge-Skelton  
Matt Kenney  
Nancy Kraft  
Maura Pilcher

**Absent**

Todd McNall, Chair  
Mary Evans

**Guests**

None

**Staff Present**

Bradley Wylam, Staff Liaison  
Jill Hansen, Recording Secretary

**Call to Order**

Vice-Chair Westercamp called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

**Public Comment**

None

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes by Kraft, second by Kenney with all those present voting aye, to approve minutes of February 18, 2026.



### **Announcements/Communication**

Wylam said all new communications were from the Grant Final Reports to be discussed later in the agenda.

### **Budget**

\$14,929 with no outstanding bills. It was clarified that the money is to be used prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>. Ciha mentioned HPC can ask the Board of Supervisors to roll the remaining funds into the next fiscal year's budget. It helps with the approval if HPC would have a designated use for the money. Ciha asked Wylam to add the budget expenditure to the next agenda for discussion. The Abbe Creek site prep and Lincoln Way kiosk projects were mentioned as possible earmarks for the funds. Colledge-Skelton asked if HPC could pay the Linn County Conservation Department to take on the concrete work for the Abbe Creek project and work with the contractors they use for their own projects. Wylam is to check on it. Ciha mentioned hiring a landscape architect for the Lincoln Way site. Wylam said attendance for the commissioners to attend the Preserve Iowa Summit in Ankeny is another possible use for the remaining funds. The Summit starts June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Wylam will have more information on the Summit at the next meeting.

### **New Business**

#### **Preservation Grant Discussion on Potential Applications**

As no one was present to speak or ask questions on potential projects, Copeland-Marvin gave an update on the online applications. So far there are applications started from seven different groups with one group starting grant applications on two different projects.

### **FY 2026 Work Plan**

#### **FY25 Preservation Grant Final Report/Marion Historical Society**

A final report was submitted for Marion Historical Society door project. Wylam let the commissioners know the group returned about \$1000 of unspent funds. They were able to get statements and cancelled checks to satisfy the receipt requirement. Colledge-Skelton made the motion to accept the final report as submitted, second by Pilcher with all those present voting aye.

#### **FY26 Preservation Grant Final Report/ Central City Historical Society**

Wylam noted the book project had been completed and all was in order. Kraft made the motion to accept the final report as submitted, second by Colledge-Skelton with all those present voting aye.

#### **FY26 Preservation Grant Final Report/Pleasant Grove Heritage Park**

Wylam said Pleasant Grove Heritage Park was asking for an extension to submit their final report as they ran into construction delays and difficulty getting permits.

Discussion was held on the project and what was needed for them to complete the permit process. It was noted they were being asked to provide engineered plans for the repair work. Pilcher made the motion to extend the final report date for a year, second by Kenney with all those present voting aye.

More discussion was held on the project with questions about whether they should return the money and reapply for a new grant from Pilcher. Copeland-Marvin reminded the group that the money would just return to the general fund. Colledge-Skelton brought up the suggestion that maybe the group should be given until November instead of a full year. It was agreeable to commissioners to amend the due date. Colledge-Skelton made the motion to amend the final report extension on the Pleasant Grove Heritage Park project to November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026, from the full year extension in the previous motion, second by Pilcher with all those present voting aye. Wylam will notify the group of their final report extension.

#### Paris Bridge Section 106 Review Discussion

Wylam presented the information regarding the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in the removal of the historic Paris Bridge. A sign featuring information about the Paris Bridge was offered as compensation for the removal of the bridge which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Ciha said HPC needs to figure out what it wants in return for the historic bridge and stated he was not in favor of accepting the proposed kiosk sign. Wylam said the Paris Bridge was of similar style to the Bertram Bridge. Pilcher noted it was not about choosing the lowest cost option as was mentioned in the proposed options sent by the Linn County Secondary Road Department and more of what would be an appropriate replacement. Ciha presented some suggestions to the HPC members as he is very familiar with the bridge as it is located near his property. One suggestion was to take a piece of the bridge to display with a bronze plaque with wording to be determined. Central City's interest in the bridge was also discussed. It was noted Central City did not have the funds to move the bridge. Westercamp asked about the timeline for HPC's response. Wylam said the normal timeline was to reply within a month. Other possible ideas were discussed including having a piece of the bridge near the canoe launch. It was decided to form a subcommittee to come up with some ideas to present to the rest of the HPC board. Ciha, Pilcher, Kenney and Colledge-Skelton volunteered to be part of the subcommittee. Ciha will respond to the Section 106 recommendation and will send the response to the subcommittee for input.

#### Work Plan Review

It was decided to move the work plan review to a future meeting as the next meeting will likely be taken up by the grant process.

#### **Next Meeting**

Next Regular Meeting, Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

Special Grant Meeting, Wednesday, April 29, 2026

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Westercamp at 4:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved,

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Jill Hansen, Recording Secretary

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Barb Westercamp, Vice-Chair