

MUSCATINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

May 20, 2024

Minutes

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 5:15 p.m.

Members present: Fred Galoso, Chris Post, Moriah Ellis, and Jim Hetzler

Members absent: Mary Beveridge

Staff present: April Limburg

Others present: Lynn Pruitt and Kevin Coon, City of Muscatine Engineer

Consent Agenda

Approval of the minutes from April 22, 2024 – Moriah made a motion to approve the draft minute. Jim seconded; motion passed.

2. Comments from Citizens – Lynn discussed the surveys are coming along and consultants will be selected for the fruit and vegetable grant. Kevin introduced himself to the Commission.

3. Review List of Issued Permits –

April

- 401 E 3rd – gutters and slate roof restoration
- 403 W Mississippi – install furnace and air ducts to each unit (6 total)
- 202 Mary Place – replace water valve documentation

4. New Business

- Upper West Branch of the Papoose Creek Tunnel** – Kevin addressed the Commission with concerns regarding the Upper West Hill Branch of the Papoose Creek. The City of Muscatine is currently working the West Hill sewer separation. The Papoose Creek has several areas in which the bricks and the tunnels under the ground varies in size with the normal being 4ftx5ft brick arch design. During a test site, a hole was dug close to the tunnel in the future area of Muscatine where the tunnels actually run under several houses as well as several roads. At the test site, the bricks in the tunnel as well as the limestone in and around the tunnels are in poor condition with the possibility of a collapse in the future. A report was done back in 1952 in which it was documented at that time the condition of the mortar was poor, several bricks are missing and the limestone was deteriorating at the time as well. Kevin advised the Commission he has been in contact with SHPO about the concerns of the tunnel. He also answered several questions the Commission had. The Commission agreed it was in the best interest of the homes in the area as well as future infrastructure to remove the tunnel and complete the project as deemed fit. The Commission would like to have the process documented as the main Papoose Creek is more important than the branches of the creek. Kevin will update the Commission as information comes in.

5. Update from Subcommittees

- Preserve Iowa Summit** – Nothing at this time.

- b. Intensive Survey** – Staff was working with SHPO to finalize the RFP for consultants.

6. Other Business

- a. Paul Bruhn Updates** – The final updates to the guidelines are being completed for the final review from the NPS. Once the guidelines are complete, a letter will be sent out inviting building owners to apply for the grant as well as publish an RFP for consultants.
- b. HPC Guidelines Certificate of Appropriateness, and booklet** – Chris gave everyone a copy of the proposal for the certificate of appropriateness to look over and give comments on.

7. Adjourn

- a.** Adjourned at 6:30 pm, the next meeting will be May 24, 2024 at 5:15 pm