

Community Development Department

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**MINUTES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
April 12, 2023, at 6:00 pm
GLOVER STATION SCHOOL**

HPC Members Present: Heidi Heinze (chair), Jayne Hoffman, Mark Anderson, Julie Huebel, Pam Friede, and Jeff Bjork – Council Rep

HPC Members Absent: N/A

Staff Present: Kendra Ellner-Planner, Emily Shively – Assistant Community Development Director

Others Present:

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 6:01p.m.

HPC MEMBER VOLUNTEER HOUR REPORT

Heinze – 10 hours
Huebel – 5 hours
Hoffman – 30 hours
Anderson – 1 hour

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE March 8, 2023, MEETING

M/Bjork S/Friede 6-0 motion passes

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Items

Bjork shared that the Library Board members praised HPC’s work and enthusiasm with the upcoming display. The Library board also received some funding to replace some historic signage downstairs to be cohesive with the space and HPC will work with them to update the narratives.

Bjork also mentioned a resident named Mike Miller and his wife; they have a lot of boxes of artifacts they want to eventually share with the public because the wife is Standish. Bjork stated the importance to highlight families that have strong roots in River Falls and why the community is the way it is. Heinze agreed there are a lot of stories to tell and to continue to make those connections.

Heinze shared the History Advocacy Day experience in Madison on March 22nd. Heinze mentioned there were limited interaction with the state representatives because they were in session for most of the day. Heinze was able to chat with their assistants/staff and they said they would relay the information to the representatives. Heinze told the group that promotional items were given out and she thanked them for their efforts to get funding for the history commissions. Heinze noted the importance of acknowledging other regions in WI for the local

history - the River Falls Historic Preservation Commission, Pierce County Historical Association, other local affiliates and the districts.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Admin Updates

a. April 21-22 WAHPC conference in Marshfield

Heinze mentioned she will be attending the conference and described some details. Heinze declared that it's an opportunity for networking and learn how they do things in other communities. Heinze is interested specifically in the archeology topic. She asked the group if there were any archeology studies completed in the City limits. Huebel responded that there has been some in Pierce County but uncertain if any were done in River Falls. Heinze said she will update the group on her experience next meeting.

b. CLG Grant updates

Ellner shared that there were minimal updates, but the memorandum of agreements and scope of work should be drafted this week but it's likely a year long process. HPC will continuously be in the loop about what's next and choosing a consultant.

2. Library Exhibit

Hoffman distributed a packet of information about the preview of the library display. Hoffman described the many interesting stories that are being discovered within her research and connections being made with the community. She announced that HPC can start moving items into the cabinets on May 1st and it may take a week. Bjork said leaving some open spaces may provide options for people to want to add or share their historic artifacts. HPC agreed they should have a promotion/marketing on social media and a notice the newspaper around mid-May.

Bjork asked about how the social club presentation went. Hoffman mentioned it went well and the audience was engaged they stayed well after library closing asking many questions. There will likely be a few more presentations in the future.

3. Glover Station School sign/photos

HPC went outside and had a discussion about what to do with the signage. There was a consensus about possibly doing lettering in the window and Ellner will connect Heinze to Erica Ellefson the new Public Works Manager to see if there's any information or guidance that Public Works could provide, since they will likely be maintaining it.

HPC returned indoors to discuss the maps with the frames. HPC seemed to be in consensus with a wood grain or brown color frame option. Another possibility that HPC may explore are adding them to foam core. Anderson offered to bring the framed birds eye view to share next meeting as well.

Heinze shared other potential photos to include for the building or kiosk. Heinze showed the St. Croix County plat map that could be enlarged (similar size to maps 36" X 28") from 1920 to show the railroad through the town of Troy and where Glover Station School was located.

Heinze asked HPC what their opinions were on the primary or secondary sources that were shared in the packet. Bjork made a point that it would be better to include more general one room schoolhouse stuff as Glover Station was in Troy township and not necessarily directly

related to River Falls until recently. Bjork also suggested to include a sign up or contact information in the building for people to contact HPC on images or artifacts if someone wants to share more with HPC. HPC agreed on the direction of the sign and photos or inside and kiosk.

Bjork suggested after Glover Station HPC could more information to Wells or Hoffman Park as there is history to be shared there, too.

4. Next Interpretive sign - "Kinni Bridges"

Anderson discussed the concept for the new sign and described making the Birds Eye View image enlarged from the North with additional pictures of the 12 different bridges. There was a discussion on the narrative and where to put the signage. Anderson will return next meeting with further progress to show.

5. Promotion and Giveaways

Heinze mentioned there are a variety of postcards and posters at City Hall. Heinze believed there should be a new postcard using a new image such as the one in the packet. Huebel said next meeting more options could be shared.

ACTION ITEMS

6. Bylaws and Ethics Presentation

Ellner presented the bylaws, ethics and procedures to the group. The HPC had some questions and agreed to table their action to the next meeting, so that they can review the bylaws further.

ADJOURNMENT

HPC adjourned at 7:11 pm.

M/Friede S/ Heinze 6-0, motion passes.