

Community Development Department

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**MINUTES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (JOINT MEETING WITH PARK BOARD)
March 8, 2023, at 6:00 pm
CITY HALL TRAINING ROOM**

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

HPC Members Absent: N/A

Park Board Members: Melissa Pedrini, Matt Janquart, Brandon Dobbertin, Brenda Gaulke, Patricia LaRue, and Natasha Schaefer

PB Members Absent: Alyssa Mueller (council rep)

Staff Present: Kendra Ellner-Planner; Cindi Danke-Recreation Manager; Brenda Rundle-Recreation Assistant; Erica Ellefson-Public Works Manager; Emily Shively-City Planner; Sam Burns-Planner; and Ellen Massey-Management Analyst Fellow.

Others Present: Sean Downing, Tony Steiner, and Ben Fochs

CALL TO ORDER (JOINT MEETING)

Meeting convened at 6:07 p.m.

HPC MEMBER VOLUNTEER HOUR REPORT

Mark Anderson – 1 hour
Jayne Hoffman - 6 hours

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE January 11, 2023, MEETING

M/ Bjork S/ Hoffman 6-0 motion passes

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Items

JOINT MEETING DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. The Glen sign

Heinze introduced the context of the HPC member work behind the sign. Ellner mentioned it's at Public Works ready to be installed. This is the first of many signs that HPC hopes to put around town. HPC and Park Board discussed some details about the size and the funding of the sign. Ellner answered that the sign cost \$2,175, funded by the CIP. Ellefson mentioned that vandalism was a concern for the protection of the sign. Park Board and HPC discussed that pursuing a protective coating or cover would be ideal. There was further discussion about when the installation would occur. This discussion transitioned to item #3. There was consensus that the sign could be installed before the official unveiling and there could be a sign made promoting the birthday celebration.

2. Glover Station School

Heinze began the discussion about HPC gathering information for Glover School, stating the difficulty for finding photos and creative a narrative. Gaulke mentioned some family names and HPC was thrilled and requested that Park Board connect them with some of the potential families that had went to Glover Station School. HPC would also like to hang a sign in the front of the school, similar to the original school sign that says "Glover Station," possibly on the triangle or the window above the door. There was a discussion about the size, placement, and color of the sign. There seemed to be a consensus about the sign having a dark burgundy background with the white lettering, stating 'Glover Station School', and have it mounted directly on the building. They would revisit this item again at their joint meeting in May.

3. Glen Park 125th Birthday Party

The Glen sign discussion folded into the Glen Park 125th Birthday Party item because there was a suggestion that the unveiling could be tied with this celebration. Danke mentioned that the Glen Park Pavilion is challenging to reserve, therefore during the week of a typical Park Board meeting (Wednesday, July 19th from 6-8pm) would be ideal since that is the closest date to the official day when the City signed to buy the park on July 15, 1873. That way it's its own day and not competing with River Falls Days. The community could be invited for historic slideshow, postcard, free swimming, cake, possibly old-time games, and a ribbon cutting for the Glen sign. Janquart asked about the marketing and promotion of the event. Bjork suggested a Facebook Page to be created. There could be a photo contest, or a Guinness Book of World Records entry for singing 'Happy Birthday' to a place. Park Board and HPC agreed to meet again on May 10th to finalize the details of this event such as what to bring, who can participate, maybe purchase merch for the event for both committees.

ADJOURNMENT

The joint meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER HPC Meeting

Meeting convened at 6:55 p.m.

HPC DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. Admin Updates

Ellner shared the budget with the group to confirm the current expenditures and remaining budget for the year.

Heinze added that HPC has a vacant spot and there was a conversation with Casi Radford who wanted to join the commission and she is an architect, which would fulfill that role stated in the bylaws. Casi Radford will be reaching out to the Mayor for the request to serve.

Lastly, Ellner asked about the captions that were approved last year for the inside Glen Park Pavilion images and Train Depot at City Hall. Heinze confirmed that she will check in with Hub70 about the status.

5. Library Exhibit

Ellner shared the library release form with the group to sign and requested that it would be returned to Alice Olson the Library Aide that is coordinating the display. Hoffman shared that the display will now be slated for May, which works out because it gives HPC more time and it is

Historic Preservation Month. Hoffman discussed that the theme for the display is 'diverse voices' and they hope to continue to work with Alice to coordinate.

6. HPC Presentation to the RF Social Club

Hoffman shared the activities and dates. Heinze and Huebel mentioned that it was a lot to commit to and hoped that these events could be promoted more publicly. Hoffman expressed confidence that there were many people from the community that are a part of the group therefore it would be good participation. Below are the proposed dates and activities.

- Lower Library Display - April 10; Jayne Hoffman, Heidi Heinze and Julie Huebel
- Topic: River Falls History - The Railroads, Mills and White Pathway. Speakers and guides: Mark Anderson, Jayne Hoffman and Heidi Heinze; Saturday, July 29, 2023, 10:00 AM in the RF City Hall Training Room. A guided walk along the White Pathway will follow the lecture.
- Topic: The First Families of River Falls. Speaker: Jayne Hoffman, Heidi Heinze; Monday, August 14, 2023 at 6:00 PM in the RF Public Library Community Room.
- Guided Walk: The First Families of River Falls, A Walk Through History. Guides: Jayne Hoffman, Heidi Heinze; Saturday, August 19, 2023. Meet at the entrance to the Wastewater Treatment Plant at 10:00 for a guided walk to the Foster Cemetery.

7. CLG Grant Application Update

Ellner updated the group to celebrate that HPC was awarded a reimbursable \$12,000 grant for hiring a consultant to nominate the two individually eligible properties. Ellner mentioned it was a long nine step process therefore she will keep HPC up to date on the steps but Jason Tish the state representative will be in contact to help assist with the process.

8. Glover Station School sign/photos

Already discussed during the joint meeting (item #2).

9. Next Interpretive sign - "Kinni Bridges"

Tabled for the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

HPC adjourned at 7:15pm.