



Cherokee Historic Preservation Commission

Minutes of Meeting at the Cherokee Depot

Wed. May 15, 2024

Commissioners Present: Adamson, Pingel, Younie, Samsel, Snapp, Busch-Mott, Wilberding

Commissioners Absent: Greenwood, Caldwell

Guests Present: Administrator Letsche

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Adamson at 5:20
2. Minutes of meeting from April 17, 2024 reviewed and approved. Motion to approve by Busch-Mott, second by Cindy Wilberding. All ayes.
3. MHI Land Sale Update:
Tom L:
John Nitz talked with the State of Iowa's representative Paul Carlson. They have received the city's proposal for MHI land of \$200,000 and mentioned the City of Cherokee is the only interested buyer. Tree removal and maintenance were included and we have a good starting point for negotiations. No definitive deadline. The state will respond in a letter in 10-14 days.
4. Pillars at 500 Park St. (Fountain House entrance):
Administrator Letsche:
Our Hotel/Motel tax grant application was declined because we "didn't qualify." Administrator Letsche encouraged us to reapply in July as there will be more money available then. Only \$8500 to work with this time around so \$5000 went to skatepark to get it finished, \$2500 went to CYSBA. The rest didn't meet criteria. The fund is replenished monthly. 50% stays in account and 50% goes out to grant winners.
5. Updates on **Wilson Bldg**
Administrator Letsche: City mowed the Wilson property on 5/17/24 and Shaun F. was billed. Tom has invited him to come to the next City Council meeting and he has not responded. Maybe request a quarterly report from him?

Jim A: Foutch informed Jim he will be working on framing next.

Updates on **Brummer Bldg** from John Snapp:

Building façade on west door front is finished. Rear lobby bathroom is gone and new bathrooms are complete. Lobby tiling is complete. Building was vandalized. One wooden door and 2 windows broken. Also new door lock broken. Electrical box has to come in yet then electrical can be finished up. Terry Phillips has signed a contract to work on some of the windows (on Main St. side) to get us

started. Hoping he will teach others what needs to be done to do the update on the windows. Marcus Industrial Arts students are still in mind for help as well as a Boy Scout troop.

Updates on **Lewis Bldg**: from Jim Adamson:

Zach Zoul now has the Lewis Hotel apartments 100% complete! Apartments are very nice! Plumbing and heating are still being worked on downstairs.

6. **Pilot Rock National Registry Update** from Busch-Mott, Snapp:

John S: John has done much research and everything we need for the NRHP nomination is ready. Thomas' will put a large fenced area around the rock to keep the cattle away from it and the site. There is a gated field access road that goes out to it from the gravel road, not the highway. Paula Mohr doesn't think she should be the one to do it but should instead be an archaeologist. She suggested Tall Grass Archaeology LLC or contacting the Office of the State Archaeologist. We could also contact Libby Wallinga.

7. History Week September 23-28, 2024

Steele Mansion: Sat. Sept. 21st mansion open house. We will plan to charge \$20 and be available for 4 hours possibly 11-3? Cindy has already purchased booties. Some may prefer to use stocking feet. Have people call in for a reserved time slot for the tour after we know how long a tour might take. We plan to have a handout on the history of the house. Pingel will be making a advertising poster for the Steele house tour. Possibly have a Venmo account set up?

Chamber Coffee on Fri Sept. 20th at 9:30

Pilot Rock Tour on Fri Sept. 27th at 1:00

Mark Anderson from Sanford Museum would like to do the tour on Friday Sept. 27 @1:00. Discussing whether he would be willing to do it during the week instead and possibly after 5:00? Maybe have everyone meet at the museum and drive out?

Sept.28th Fall Family Festival

Highlight MHI area with tours on golf carts and possible activities to get people out there on the grounds.

8. Bills:

Mick: made more pamphlets for \$67+ Motioned to reimburse by Snapp, seconded by Busch-Mott.

9. Balance for CHPC/CCF account \$3602.79

10. Balance CFHP Account \$3021.47

11. Update on plans for Skateboard Park from Cindy Wilberding:

The crew from California working on the skatepark have had many good things to say about the friendliness of Cherokee folks.

12. Other Business:

Alyssa Herbold is resigning as the city attorney. They will offer the job to other local attorneys. CHPC status clarification is still in question at this time.

13. Items not on the agenda:

Mick: Quilt and Kaboodle Building is having some issues with their building exterior. Cement stucco is degrading. There is a new owner so we should mention it to them after we have info from State Historical Society. Mudd on Main building is having issues on the southeast corner and south loft with water coming in. There is emergency money every year thru State Historical Society.

14. Next meeting scheduled for Wed. June 19, at depot at 5:15. Meeting adjourned at 6:30. Motion to adjourn made by Snapp, second by Wilberding. All in favor.

Kerisa Pingel, Secretary