



# Cherokee Historic Preservation Commission

## Minutes of Meeting at the Cherokee Depot

Wed. Nov.13, 2024

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

**Commissioners Absent:** none

**Guests Present:** Madeline Combs from Chronicle Times

1. Meeting called to order by Jim Adamson at 5:15 and greeting of guests.
2. Minutes of meeting from Oct. 16, 2024 reviewed and approved. Motion to approve minutes by Busch-Mott, second by Wilberding. All ayes.
3. Update on Pillars Project at 500 Park St. (Fountain House entrance):

Busch-Mott: We need to have all bills for this project submitted to the city by middle of June so we will need to plan ahead. Have a plan in place by April, 2025?

Samsel: Bensons will use a water sprayer/vacuum to check foundation, being careful NOT to use it on the pillars themselves. Mitch Loucks with Elite Masonry is likely busy thru the fall but will be available to do the work this spring for \$1400. Project needs to be done by June 15. We have \$500 or more from CHPC, \$500 from archives, and Hotel Motel Grant of \$2500. Samsel working on historic sign design to put on one of the pillars- rectangular and possibly bronze. Possibly get a QR code posted that would direct people to more info about the Fountain House and pictures, etc? Greenwood said he thought Rotary would likely be willing to cover any remaining costs that private citizens don't cover. Greenwood suggested we put a time capsule under it when we do repairs. The Commission will discuss it further this winter.

4. Update on **Wilson Building** from:

Adamson: Received a text update from Fouch: We've completed the first phase of the new roof. Removed all old asphalt and other failed materials. Patched holes and cracks in concrete and applied to 10 year elastomeric roof membrane. We've cut in two new skylights and repaired the existing curbs on four other skylights. We placed temporary coverings on all of them until the final skylights can go in. As you know, we've also completed all of the sidewalk work except right out front where we're doing waterline work. Our plan is to complete the waterline into the building and complete the

sidewalk out front and the stairs to the south doorways before Thanksgiving. In the meantime, we're continuing to do more steel framing inside.

#### Foutch Tentative Timeline:

June- Focus on outside cleanup, painting and some steel framing inside.

July- Complete sidewalks and new roof covering installed

August-Nov.- Interior framing, electrical, plumbing, HVAC rough in, all utility connections, install parking area subgrade gravels.

Winter 2024/2025- Final interior utilities, drywall, replacement windows

Spring 2025- Finish drywall, painting, interior finishes, cabinets, flooring. Parking lot paving.

Summer 2025- Final construction, cleanup, leasing.

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

Snapp: Still no renter for west side on first floor. There will be a Chili and cinnamon roll fundraiser on Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> (Night of Lighted Christmas Parade) specifically to raise money for windows which will be the next project. 48 sets of 3 windows left to repair.

#### Pilot Rock National Registry Update from SHPO:

Snapp: Approval of pre-evaluation from SHPO came back and they gave us the go ahead with National Registry Nomination. Steve Thomas said the family wants to go ahead with project. Snapp contacted Lorinda Bradley at SHPO to set up a consultation date. Archaeologist firm will follow.

5. Request from Cherokee State Bank in regard to suggestions on a volunteer project for President's Day Feb. 17, 2025 (1:30-3:30):

Adamson: Cherokee State Bank wanted every non-profit to think of projects that they might need help with. Their staff will be available on President's Day 2025 from 1-3:00.

6. 2024 Flood impact on residential and commercial bldgs., any historic bldg. impact, etc.:

Barb Busch-Mott (and Dan) are working on taking pictures of all the buildings on the list of flood impacted buildings from Justin Pritts in case any of them get torn down. They will be available on flash drive at the Archives for anyone who is interested.

7. Review our 2024 Goals and Plans and also discuss annual report coming due in 8-10 weeks. Also document that Jim, Mark and Jonathan have agreed to serve for 3 more years on CHPC.

Busch-Mott: Asked if any members have taken part in any training sessions. We encourage least one member to take part each year for our Annual Report. John Snapp had several hours that will qualify. Some things on last year's report needed to be modified or removed.

8. Update from Sanford Museum staff and CHPC members (John and Barb) on the human remains found at North end of Hallett's gravel Pit. Discuss possible DNA testing, reburial ideas and upcoming visit by State Bioarchaeology Project Director with the Office of the State Archaeologist Office (OSA), Dr. Laura Nolder.

The land owner and Hallett Materials have been notified of the situation by Dr. Noldner.

Pingel: Hallett Materials have put out boulders marking the boundary where they have agreed to not to dig beyond (to the North and Northeast). Museum archaeologist Mark Anderson, Snapp, Busch-Mott, and Pingel hope to go out to the area to look for any markers that might remain and locate potential parameters of the cemetery on Nov. 21 with Dr. Noldner. There were some headstones there as late as the 1920's according to old newspapers.

Busch-Mott:

Dr. Heather Garvin-Elling, Forensic Anthropologist with the U of Des Moines, has been contacted and has given us some suggestions with the DNA testing.

9. Communication with building owners of historic building deterioration and possible remedies:

No new info

10. Update on Cherokee History Website and any queries:

No new inquiries

11. CHPC Christmas tree ideas at Sanford Museum Festival of Trees:

Highlight CHPC events for this year in photo ornaments. Have ornaments with commissioner's names and use City ornaments to fill in.

12. Bills:

Busch-Mott: \$33.90 website

Snapp: motion to pay Busch-Mott. Second by Greenwood. All ayes

13. Balance CHPC Account \$7086.12. We will have to put in a Budget Amendment and it has to be sent in to Des Moines and then Council has to approve it.

14. Balance CFHP Account \$3031.47

15. Items not on the agenda:

Thank You's from History Week have all been delivered.

16. Next scheduled meeting for Wed. Dec. 11 at 5:15 at the depot.

Motion to adjourn at 6:50 by Snapp, second by Younie. All in favor.

Kerisa Pingel, Secretary

