

June 30, 2021

Greetings members of the Cherokee Historic Preservation Commission,

Following are the minutes of our virtual meeting via Zoom held on June 29, 2021. The minutes are based upon notes made by me at the meeting.

Cherokee Historic Preservation Commission

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting (due to Covid-19) on June 29, 2021

Commissioners present Adamson, Busch-Mott, Greenwood, McLaren, Pingel, Samsel, Snapp, Story, Wilberding

Commissioners absent: none

Guest present: Mayor Craig Schmidt

Meeting called to order by Chairman Adamson at 5:20 p.m.

1. Minutes of the May 25, 2021 meeting were reviewed and approved on motion by Busch-Mott and second by Wilberding. All ayes.
2. Commissioners discussed resignation of Paula Mohr with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Ms. Mohr's last day will be July 8, 2021. Chairman Adamson sent her an email expressing his sorrow in learning that she will leave her job at SHPO because she has been and continues to be helpful to locals and in solving historic preservation issues at the local level. He wished her well in the her transition to teaching and her new consulting practice. Busch-Mott stated that her position will be filled.
3. The Preserve Iowa Summit was presented online June 3-5, 2021. The following commissioners taking part: Adamson, Busch-Mott, McLaren, Pingel, Samsel, Snapp, Wilberding.
4. Preservation Month was celebrated in Cherokee in May in support of the traditional National Park Service nationwide effort to publicize the importance of preserving the built environment for future generations. There were minimal in-person activities due to COVID-19 pandemic. CHPC featured two owners and their properties which have been listed in the NRHP and that feature the bronze plaque of the NRHP. The plaque reads: "This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places by the United States Department of the Interior". CHPC met at 427 W. Main Street (Philips Law Firm & Alyssa A. Herbold, owners) and at 210-212 W. Main St (Cassady Rider, DDS, owner) for pictures of the buildings and plaques which were then featured in the Chronicle Times newspaper. The newspaper articles expressed the value of historic preservation to the community and the important role of property owners in taking care of these buildings. Another property with an upcoming feature will be 206 W. Main Street (John and Mollie Loughlin, owners). CHPC announced that the Cherokee History Week in May will be a joint effort between the CHPC, Depot Renovation, Inc., Sanford Museum, Cherokee Public Library, and Cherokee Trails Committee.
5. Cherokee History Week – September 17-26, 2021 – ideas and plans. The Cherokee Public Library, Sanford Museum, Depot Renovation, Inc., and Cherokee Trails Committee will collaborate with the CHPC. The Brummer Building will also be celebrating its 125th anniversary and may have some activities (perhaps tours) during the week.

- **Kickoff for Cherokee History Week will be September 17, 2021** hosting the Chamber Coffee at the Depot and will publicize History Week's upcoming events. The commission thanks Greenwood for volunteering to provide coffee and treats.
- **Tuesday, September 21, 2021, 11 am and 2 pm**, Kerisa Pingel, Sanford Museum Educator, will lead tours of the Oak Hill Cemetery. Sign up will be requested.
- **Wednesday, September 22, 2021, 6 pm**, Sanford Museum Archeologist Quinn Black will present his research of the White Mill area/Phipps cabin/farm areas on the Little Sioux River. There will also be photo slides provided by Trails Committee members, John Snapp, Barb Busch-Mott, and Laura Jones presenting 12-13 historical markers/signs being created for the new Magnetic/Fountain House Trail. Quinn will discuss these historical areas.
- **Thursday, September 23, 2021**, Cherokee Trails Committee will host walking tours of the new Magnetic/Fountain House Trail and its signage along with food and wine/beer trucks at the barn.
- The evening of **September 17 or 24 2021** The Cherokee Depot will present a display of artist Wendell Mohr's watercolors of depots and trains in Iowa.
- Depot Renovation, Inc. will be celebrating the 125th anniversary of the Cherokee Depot and hosting their annual Fall Family Festival at the depot on **Saturday, September 25, 2021 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**
- **Saturday, September 25, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.** - Sanford Museum will host author Bob Spurlock to speak regarding a book he has written about Martin Treptow. Martin Treptow died in combat in France during WWI. The American Legion Posts in Cherokee and in Bloomer, WI are named after Treptow. (Treptow's grandnephew will be in town July 16, 2021. Some CHPC members will give him a tour of places significant to Treptow.)
- **Sunday, September 26, 2021 at 2-3 p.m.** - The Depot Renovation, Inc. will be hosting father and son hobo graffiti consultants at the Depot to explain the history of hobo graffiti in the Cherokee Depot. (CHPC and Depot Renovation, Inc. will share the cost (approx. \$300) to host the graffiti consultants - approved by all on motion from Snapp and second by Greenwood.)
- **Sunday, September 26, 2021 from 1-4 pm**, Sanford Museum and Quinn Black will host Archaeology Day with activities for children and adults.
- **Throughout the week:**
 - Sanford Museum will provide an informational display about the painter, Helen Johnson Hinrichsen, and her painting "Prairie Pioneer" which hangs in the Cherokee Courthouse. Hinrichsen is best known for her association with Stone City Art Colony and Grant Wood as well as her work as teacher at the School of Art Institute in Chicago. A replica of the painting will be hung in the museum. Ms. Hinrichsen's grand-daughter, Lynn Bermeister, will provide the museum additional insight to Ms. Hinrichsen and her life.
 - CHPC will facilitate self-guided walking tours of the historic downtown area of Cherokee as well as driving tour maps of the National Register of Historic Places sites. Maps of the historic buildings in Cherokee and the National Register of Historic Places sites have been created by Commissioner Story.
 - Cherokee Public Library will have children's activities and featured books.

6. Wilson School Apartments – Nothing new to report.

Brummer Building — A 501C3 has been created to purchase the building. The Brummer Legacy Foundation is currently raising funds to purchase the building. The first phase of improvement will be to

secure the stone façade. Several committees have been created by the Foundation on which citizens can serve. Many donations have been received and fun fundraising events are being held.

7. NW Iowa Regional Heritage Tourism (Cherokee, LeMars, Sioux City) - Chairman Adamson asked that we continue to think about tourism ideas in preparation for in-person meetings with the committee once it is safe to do so. Items to consider: 1) developing a calendar for Cherokee similar to one created for LeMars by Richard Zietlow; 2) developing a Northwest Iowa Heritage Tourism map highlighting historic sites, districts, features, and buildings in LeMars, Cherokee, and Sioux City.
8. Window Repair and Restoration Workshop in LeMars was held May 14 and 15, 2021. Terry Phillips, Historic Window Rehabilitation Specialist from Washington, Iowa was the presenter. Commissioners Snapp, Samsel, and Adamson along with Marilyn Samsel attended the workshop. The commission presented the idea of hosting a window workshop in Cherokee at a future date.
9. Bills to turn in by commissioners: none
10. Cherokee Community Foundation balance (CHPC) \$2,839.40
11. Friends of Historic Preservation balance \$2317.09
12. Follow up on the discussion regarding the demolition of the buildings in Cherokee. The commission would like to have the opportunity to document proposed lost/changed buildings with photos, etc. CHPC will contact Eric List regarding the commission's desire to be notified of any demolition or significant changes to a property in order to document the property for historical purposes.
13. Items not on the agenda: CHPC has bronze plaques set aside for the Brummer Building and the Gillette house.
14. Next regular CHPC meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 27, 2021 at 5:15 at the historic Cherokee Depot.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 on motion by Snapp, second by Wilberding. All ayes.

Julie McLaren, Secretary

Cherokee Historic Preservation Commission Work Plan for 2021

1. Plan and coordinate History Week (possibly a week in September 2021).
2. Continue to work with the Sioux City and Le Mars Historic Preservation Commissions in the development of a Northwest Iowa Heritage Corridor.
3. Continue to promote saving Cherokee's endangered buildings including the Brummer Building and the Wilson School.
4. Work on additional driving/walking tour maps and cell phone tourism for the both the Cherokee Commercial Historic District and the historic residential districts of Cherokee.
5. Continue to assist with the development of signage highlighting the historic sites along the new walking and bike trail in Cherokee.
6. Continue to update the Cherokee Historic Preservation Facebook page and add additional photos and historical information to our website.
7. Award a plaque to highlight the work of a local property owner to honor their work in the preservation of their building or home for our annual history week event.
8. Discuss applying for a grant to nominate/create a historic residential district near the new Magnetic Park trail system which is under construction.
9. Create a brochure and map of our twelve buildings and homes that are on the National Register of Historic Places.
10. Host in partnership with the Sanford Museum and Depot Renovation, Inc. a presentation by Bob Spurlock, author of a new book on Martin Treptow, a former Cherokee barber, who lost his life in WWI. This hopefully will be in conjunction with history week in September which will also be the 125 th anniversary of the renovated depot. This to celebrate and note the importance of the Railroad to our town's establishment and prosperity over the years. Also, to recognize the thirty years of preservation practices in renovation and maintenance of the Depot and grounds by the volunteers of Depot Renovation, Inc.