

Heritage Conservation Council

Thursday, February 7, 2013

Douglas County Courthouse, 7:00 – 10:10 p.m.

Minutes

Members Present: Gary Price, Ken Grotewiel, John Bradley, Julia Manglitz, Shelley Hickman Clark, Dennis Domer, Jeannette Blackmar (Coordinator)

Members Absent:, Larry McElwain

Guest Present: Gary Flory, John More

Meeting Kick-off 7:00 pm

1) Review and approve agenda

- Agenda was reviewed and approved.

2) Review and approve minutes of December 6, 2012

- Minutes were reviewed and approved.

2013 Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) Application 7:10

3) Discussion regarding the 2013 HPF application

- Jeannette recommended the HCC submit an HPF grant to support the 2013 historic and cultural resources survey in Wakarusa Township. The Council approved this recommendation by consensus.

Long-range Planning Discussion 7:15

4) Discuss long-range plan for the Heritage Conservation Council with facilitator, Gary Flory

- Gary Flory introduced himself and set the discussion guidelines. Gary Flory facilitated discussion focused on future tasks the HCC should engage. Key tasks discussed included “getting the word out” about HCC activities (grant program recipient projects and the historic and cultural resources survey), education, partnering with “like-minded” organizations, and developing a “speakers bureau.” Essential to these activities is the incorporation of technology and use of social media. The Council identified the need to develop a Facebook presence and to redesign and enhance the HCC webpage so that it can be an educational resource and promote the HCC activities.
- Another area the Council discussed was developing the HCC’s identity. This includes mission development and “branding” via logo development.
- The Council agreed by consensus to work toward developing an identity (mission and logo), establishing a Facebook page, and facilitating public interaction through either a speakers bureau or hosting speakers at pre-established events occurring in Douglas County throughout the year. Website development is important but will occur later.

- Council members proceeded to discuss these activities in more detail.
 - Ken and Gary volunteered to work on the mission statement. Jeannette agreed to send out background information about mission statement development.
 - Julia agreed to investigate the cost of professional logo design and development.
 - Julia agreed to create a Facebook page and administer the site. Dennis, Gary and Ken also agreed to serve as Facebook administrators. It was suggested the Facebook site could serve as a repository for all HCC projects organized as series of photo albums.
 - Shelley will contact Dennis Brown of Lawrence Preservation Alliance about Preservation Week and the possibility of partnering with a speaker. Council members will continue to think about additional events. It is especially important to include events associated with the natural heritage of Douglas County.
- Council Members discussed ways to partner with other natural and cultural heritage organizations. Key issues include the role the HCC should play in bringing partners together and the issue of HCC capacity. It was suggested one goal of facilitating a round table of potential partners is to learn from other organizations and their interests. This may help all organizations envision ways to “connect dots” with one another, avoid duplication, and strengthen individual organizations through collective action.
- Discussion centered on whether to hold a larger round table meeting or several small round table meetings with potential partners. There was weak consensus to organize a large (greater than 20 partners) round table. There was greater consensus to organize a round table consisting of a smaller number of potential partners. It was suggested that a first step is to brainstorm a list of all potential partners. Jeannette requested the Council email her the names of potential partners. This will be addressed at the next HCC meeting.
- Gary Flory concluded by asking if any item from the handout remained unexplored. One item was capital funding. Gary Flory mentioned the need in the future to establish timeframes for each activity and task assignment. He also indicated the round table seemed critical but more work was needed to flesh it out.

Future Tasks 10:10 pm

5) Next meeting: Thursday, March 7, 2013 at the Douglas County Courthouse, 7:00 p.m.

Adjourn 10:10 pm