



Iowa Mississippi River Parkway Commission
Meeting, 10:00 a.m. October 17, 2022
6568 Toolesboro Avenue, Wapello, IA 52653

Statement: The members of the Iowa Mississippi River Parkway Commission are holding this meeting by electronic means pursuant to the provisions of the Iowa Open Meetings Law, Section 21.8, Code of Iowa. The meeting is being held by conference call 1-309-205-3325 ID 7969353384# Passcode: 742240#
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7969353384?pwd=N3JyQjNZbFdKT0xCalpHRXAzbDNaUT09>

MRPC Call to order and roll call

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Martin Graber.

Present: Lisa Walsh, Katie Hammond, Jim Janett, Paul Carroll, Lesley Webster, Jared McGovern, Roger Thomas, and Ann Geiger

Absent: Paula Mayer, Jane Regan

Others Present: Emily Whalen, Iowa DOT; Leslie Kliptsch, Putnam Museum; Lora Friest, Iowa Tourism Office; and Lorna Artz-McComb, Iowa Naturalist

Graber welcomed the visitors, and Freeze introduced herself as the new liaison to the tourism office. The office has been recently reconfigured and new personnel assigned to the various committees and commissions.

Approval of July 18, 2022 minutes

Janett moved to approve the July 18 minutes. Thomas seconded the motion and it carried.

Review and approval of Treasurer's report

The Commission reviewed the report and it was noted, for the record, it was incomplete. Reicken explained the missing expenditures. Walsh moved accept the treasurer's report as explained. Hammond seconded the motion and it carried.

Budget discussion and allocation

Friest said there is one billboard left on the IDEA's annual buy, and it is in Minneapolis. After discussion Webster moved to purchase the space for May and June in the amount of \$2,100. Carroll seconded the motion and it carried.

The annual radio ads were discussed and divided into two portions. One portion would run February through March, and the second portion would run April through



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May. Each section would be approximately \$2,000. Geiger moved to approve the ads for a four month period NTE \$4,000. Janett seconded the motion and it carried.

National committee appointments and Reports

Marketing Committee – No report

Transportation - The biggest portion of the meeting was discussing the electric charging stations. Francis and Linsey asked for state update when they returned home. Geiger said she sent a list a while ago, and the DOT is no longer keeping track. It said most people get their information from websites or social media, so it quit making that report. McGovern suggested contacting the ICenters on a regular basis to see if they had, or added charging stations. Francis was happy to report she has secured all missing documents for the 10 states.

Environment – There was a lot of discussion at the national meeting about pollinators. IDOT has a program to help with that. McGovern said he would look into it. Hammond said there is a pollinator patch at Toolesboro

Recreation and Agriculture - Nothing

Heritage and Culture - Still working on better communication between ICenters. The current national chair is resigning to move up the governing ladder and inquired as to whether or not Janett would be interested in chairing the committee. The Commission congratulated him and encouraged him to take the position.

Chairman's Report

Walsh, who attended the board meeting at the Memphis meeting on behalf of Graber gave a brief report on the comments regarding Commission's letter to the National Board. She said there was a mix of responses with two members being angry, and others recognizing the concern. Graber said he is going to request a written response to the comments from the board.

The Commission asked about the amount of money the national office gets every year. Graber said if all ten states pay, the amount of \$150,000. Right now the number of payments amount to \$72,500.

Comments from Interpretive Centers

Hammond thanked everyone for coming to Toolesboro and gave a brief update on the facilities. She also said she was working the the DOT to get signage on H61 from both directions as to how to get to the site.



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Reports and Updates

Zebulon Pike project

Carroll apologized and said he was over-committed and said Geiger previously offered to help and he declined. Geiger and Carroll will get together with Elias and put together a sheet to give to potential funders for the project.

Railroad Merger

Geiger said it is wait and see for the most part to see if the Surface Transportation Board will approve the merger. She said there has been no response from Senator Grassley.

Future meeting date – The next meeting will be in January with the date and location to be announced later.