

Lincoln Exhibits Committee
Urbana Free Library, Conference Room
210 W. Green St., Urbana
Tuesday, September 4, 2007 – 4:30 p.m.

Call to Order

The meeting of the Lincoln Exhibits Committee was convened at 4:30 by Barbara Wysocki, Committee Chair.

Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Barbara Wysocki, John Hoffman, Ray Cunningham, Kent Tucker, Anke Voss, Kay Grabow

Committee Members Absent: Vern Zehr

Also Present: Cheryl Kennedy and Barbara Garvey, Early American Museum

Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve agenda by Roy Cunningham, second by Kent Tucker. Motion carried

Approval of August 7, 2007 Minutes

Committee members noted several spelling errors in the minutes. Motion to approve minutes as corrected by Kent Tucker, second by John Hoffman. Motion carried.

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

Follow-up on Taylor Studios

Kent reported that the only examples of exhibit design technology that Taylor Studios has is on their website. They do however have large format stills of exhibits if we need them.

Proposed Resource List for Teacher Planning Forum

Cheryl reported that Ray Cunningham has agreed to present on the second day and staff would like to involve the teachers in a conversation at the Courthouse as a focus group. Brian Ellis, a storyteller, has been contacted to see if he would be available for the final presentation. A proposed cost for the workshop has been emailed to Kathy Barbour to see if the AHTC program would fund the complete workshop.

Kay shared ideas of teacher resources with committee members offering additional suggestions. Committee members were asked to submit ideas by email that will be consolidated and organized by Anke Voss. It was suggested that members focus on Lincoln material that can be downloaded or is available locally and to look specifically for resources relevant to the sites, specifically the Courthouse, the teachers will see during the workshop.

Status of the DVD Narrative

Barb distributed her section drafts of the DVD. Ray shared that he had already reviewed the narrative and really liked the direction Barb had taken. Both Ray and Barb recognized that they needed to see how they might propose something for the African American audience. Committee members were asked to read the sections and send their comments as well as ideas about images and interviews to Barb by September 14th.

Barb will work to revise the text accordingly and she will prepare information on production companies for the next meeting.

Proposed Exhibits Project Scope for RFP Development/Report on RFP Process

Cheryl met with Denny to Inman to determine how to develop a Request for Proposal and learned that the logical first step would be a Request for Information. This request should address both exhibits. Denny volunteered to craft an example to follow and Cheryl will use it to develop something specific to the exhibits. This needs to be turned around quickly. The goal is to get the RFI out the week of September 17th.

This information will help the committee develop a focus for grant writing and fundraising. Barb Wysocki suggested that the committee develop a list of potential donors and a strategy for fundraising in a future meeting.

Bicentennial Commission

Barb Wysocki reported that the Policy Committee of the County Board will be addressing a resolution to establish next year as an anniversary year for Champaign County. That will be coupled by a resolution in Urbana and the two governmental units will be collaborating on projects and activities. A second County resolution will deal with establishing a Bicentennial Commission. This resolution will call for a 16 person committee, 5 appointed by the County and 5 appointed by the Cities with the University appointing Vernon Burton as their representative. The County Board Chair will call the group together sometime in October and the committee will serve through December of 2009.

Other Business

Kent Tucker suggested the Exhibits Committee consider ideas like creating a Happy Birthday, Mr. Lincoln card with a 2009 Lincoln penny on it that could be sent to every school child.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on October 2, 2007, 4:30 p.m. at the Urbana Library Conference Room.

Adjournment

Motion by Kent Tucker, second by Anke Voss. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Kennedy, Recording Secretary