

**CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**Lincoln Exhibits Committee
Tuesday, June 5, 2007
Urbana Free Library Conference Room
210 W. Green St., Urbana**

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Barbara Wysocki, Vern Zehr, Ray Cunningham, John Hoffman, Kay Grabow, Anke Voss.

Committee Members Absent: Kent Tucker

Early American Museum Representatives Present: Cheryl Kennedy, Barb Garvey

Approval of Agenda/Addendum

Motion by Ray Cunningham to approve agenda; second by John Hoffman. Motion carried

Approval of May 1, 2007 Minutes

Approval of minutes postponed to next meeting. Page 1 missing.

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

Addendum to Agenda: Press Conference and Grant Report

Vern Zehr reported on the press conference held earlier in the day in Springfield to announce the Lincoln Bicentennial Grant Award recipients. The Lincoln Exhibits Committee received \$9700 to create a DVD on Champaign County's Lincoln. WILL received \$30,000 to create public programs on the 8th Judicial Circuit. We talked to Alison Davis Woods about meeting with her to see how we might collaborate to maximize our efforts. The Bicentennial Commission has asked for another \$500,000 and thus there may be another grant opportunity in October.

Applications for the wayside exhibit grants are due on June 15th. The Committee is working on a grant for the Courthouse and one marking the circuit trail at Homer Lake.

Continued Exhibit Space Discussion

Barb Wysocki and Barb Garvey met with Denny Inman to look at the exhibit space again. They learned that virtually everything in the room could be altered with the exception of

the north wall which is the brick wall of the original courthouse and the south wall that houses the electrical wiring. Denny noted that the glass wall could be removed and the exhibit space could expand to the west into the area of the east pillars. With this in mind, visitors could be drawn into a court room scene to become participants in the court case being featured.

Cheryl Kennedy noted that these decisions need to be made soon to allow staff to meet grant deadlines. Barb Garvey was directed to develop a couple scenarios for this space and how the various user groups would interact with this space. Mary Ellen Wuellner will need proposed costs for both the Courthouse exhibit and the upgrade to the media at the museum to develop the grant application for the Committee. A first draft will be emailed to the Committee the week of July 9th.

Once the Committee has a better sense of the exhibit design, these ideas must be presented to the sheriff, the Court administrator and Judge Difanis to determine security issues and concerns.

Planning Forum for Teachers

The next grant application will be to the Illinois Humanities Council. The purpose of this grant will be to bring teachers and Lincoln scholars together to focus on topics that complement the DVD chapters and to work with these teachers on the development of curriculum to support the use of the DVD and the Lincoln exhibits at the Courthouse and the Early American Museum. The suggested format for this forum will follow the model provided by the Teaching American History project, however, we will need to explore meaningful incentives to offset the absence of a stipend.

Barb Wysocki and Kay Grabow will contact Mary Ellen to set a time to meet and discuss forum ideas for the grant application.

Other Business

Barb Wysocki shared that next year (February) is the 175th anniversary of Champaign County.

Decision on July Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting would fall on July 3rd. The date was changed to July 24, 2007.

Adjournment

The next meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.. Anke Voss will place this meeting on the Urbana Library Conference Room schedule.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Kennedy, Recording Secretary