

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Iowa Lincoln Highway Association
Lincoln Highway Association Office, Grand Junction, Iowa
October 13, 2012
Submitted by Jeff Benson

County Consuls and Officers Attendance:

President – Allan Richards (also representing Tama County)
Co-Vice Presidents – Dean & Jeannie Parr
Treasurer - Joyce Ausberger
Secretary – Jeff Benson
Linn County – Van Becker
Benton County – Mike Kelly
Marshall County – Harland Quick
Story County – Margaret Elbert
Greene County- Bob Owens
Noble Sojourner -- Lyell Henry
(A quorum was present: 6 of 11 active County Consuls)

21 others also attended, including from the RC&D Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway project John Mazzello, coordinator and Peter Hoehnle.

President Allan Richards called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

National Lincoln Highway awards were presented to

- Members of the Preston family with roots in Belle Plaine: May Helen Preston, Georgetta Preston, Kimberle Bouard-Preston and Garry Hevalow
- Elaine Ehlert of Harrison County
- Jeff LaFollette of the National Lincoln Highway endowment committee

The minutes of the July 2012 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report. Currently the checking account balance is \$23,376.21 of which \$15,080 is for the Greene County Interpretive Site project. The investment account balance is \$5,685.97.

Membership Report: Dean Parr reported that there are now 329 total members, but some will be dropped in January if memberships are not renewed. There was discussion on the communications process on renewals and reminders.

State Director Report: Three major activities are planned in June/July 2013 to celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the founding of the Lincoln Highway. Auto tours will start on both the east and west ends of the highway and meet in Kearney, Nebraska, starting June 21 and ending June 30. The Great Platte River Road Archway will be the site for a celebration June 30 and July 1. The 2013 Annual Lincoln Highway Conference will be in Kearney through July 5.

At Large National Director Van Becker reported on the successful Lincoln Highway amateur radio club event; more than 300 coast-to-coast contacts were made.

Newsletter Report: The fall newsletter was printed and mailed the day before this meeting. The newsletter editor is reportedly eager to continue to produce the newsletter. Sandii Huemann-Kelly stressed the need for County Consuls to contribute content. Discussed moving the deadlines and not relying on the newsletter for notices of the quarterly meetings. John Mazzello offered the assistance of the RC&D on the newsletter.

Website Report. John Mazzello introduced Afan Pasalic, a professional website developer is volunteering to improve both the ILHA and Heritage Byway web sites: functional, easy to update, reliable, interactive. Various screen shots were passed around. Discussed options for hosting the web site, which is now hosted for free by the national LH web site; but this doesn't offer much control. For now, Afan offered to host the website on his computer at no cost. Sandii Huemann-Kelly moved and Dean Parr seconded that ILHA purchase the iowalincolnhighway.org domain name for \$8 per year and that the site be hosted on Afan's computer while it is being redeveloped. Motion passed unanimously. The Iowa Byways Coalition owns iowabyways.org.

Sandii will continue to be the editor, but the site can be set up to that others can edit or contribute or comment. For example, County Consuls can update the County pages, which is very important for keeping fresh content on the site. Sandii and Afan recommended that contributions and comments be reviewed before be posted onto the website.

Items for Discussion:

1. ILHA Motor Tour discussion. Profit of \$156.22 was made; Joyce will discuss with Jeff LaFollette sharing this profit with Illinois.
2. Lincoln Highway Buyway Yard Sale: The ILHA appreciates the effort Deb Rothmeyer has contributed to this event. We are still seeking more volunteers to help with this. John Mazzello offered the RC&D's assistance.
3. RC&D Report: John Mazzello reported that the new federal transportation funding law changes how this money is made available for byways. As compared to the funding of the last decade, there will only be one source, less total funding, and more state control over how much is spent on byways. State byway programs will remain, but a new process for enhancement projects, of which there have been many on the Iowa Lincoln Highway, will limit fund to infrastructure only. This federal process means byways will need to rely more on private funding sources, which is why the Byways of Iowa Coalition and the Byways of Iowa Foundation are becoming more important.

The new Iowa Byways web site will have a soft launch very soon. The letter sized, color, 16 page Byways Guide is being printed. Grants are being submitted to both the Central and Eastern Iowa Tourism organizations for the Iowa Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway brochure.

The “Kids of the Byway” curriculum, funded by a State of Iowa REAP Conservation Education Grant is being reviewed by teachers and curriculum staff and then will be a pilot project in an Ames school. There will be opportunities for volunteers knowledgeable about Lincoln Highway history to work with the kids.

4. Map Pack: After discussion there appeared to be substantial interest in reprinting the Iowa Map Pack. The costs for graphic arts and printing of 1000 copies will be researched and reported back.
5. Banking Location: Banking has been in Ogden for many years due to support in that community in past. However, with growing partnership in Grand Junction, Joyce Ausberger recommended that the bank in Grand Junction would be a good change. Lyell Henry moved and Jeannie Parr seconded to move the bank account to People’s Trust and Savings Bank in Grand Junction. Motion passed unanimously.
6. Mailing Address: With the office in Grand Junction, more ILHA members are coming to Grand Junction and so it would be more convenient to receive the mail there. Joyce Ausberger moved and Lyell Henry seconded that the mailing address for the ILHA be in Grand Junction. Motion passed unanimously.
7. Greene County Interpretive Site: Jeff Benson provided a written report on the final costs of the project and described what steps will be taken to close it out: payment of some of the remaining costs will be made now from the \$15,080 currently in the checking account for this project, then request will be made to the State Historical Society of Iowa for reimbursement of the remaining grant amount of an additional \$15,080, and then the remaining outstanding costs will be paid. Jeff stated that an additional \$2000 of ILHA funds may be needed to pay the final costs. Joyce Ausberger moved and Jeannie Parr seconded approval of payment of the \$15,080 currently in the checking account and also approval for up to \$2000 more in the future beyond the remaining \$15,080 to be reimbursed by the grant. Motion passed unanimously.
8. County Reports
 - Harrison County. Woodbine is excited about hosting a lunch for the national east motor tour in the summer of 2013. 23,000 images have been discovered in Logan from a photo studio and will be made available through the Genealogy Center. The Welcome Center now offers interpretation of the Lincoln Highway exhibit through visitors’ smart cell phones.
 - Greene County. All bridges are now open and the ILHA is working well with the Greene County Engineer on more interpretation work. Bob Owens surprised all by resigning as the Greene County Consul but cheered everyone by introducing Kim Clark of Jefferson who has volunteered to be the new Greene County Consul.
 - Story County. Margaret Elbert then resigned as Story County Consul and then introduced Scott Berka as the new Story County Consul.
 - Marshall County. Grants for the State Center historic gas station renovation are moving through the process.
 - Benton County. Discussion of the Herring Hotel in Belle Plaine which is still for sale.

- Linn County. The Cedar Rapids City Council approved a new convenience store on Mt. Vernon Road at the site of a historically significant cottage gas station, which had been allowed to become very run down.

9. Elections: The following nominations were made and the candidates were all approved unanimously:

- Co-Presidents – Dean and Jeannie Parr
- Treasurer – Joyce Ausberger
- Secretary – John Mazzello
- Story County Consul – Scott Berka
- Greene County Consul – Kim Clark

The election of a Vice President was tabled to the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned around noon.

The dedication of the Greene County Interpretive Site at Lions Club Tree Park was held in the afternoon.