

Adams County Historic Preservation Commission

Wednesday, 16 July 2025, Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Sandra Leininger at 6:00 PM. Commissioners present included Nancy Carmichael, Jon Brokaw, Roger Hull, Marti Gebbie, Jo Bissell, Jim Reynolds, Dick Blazek. Absent Commissioners were Linda Sargent, Mike Cormack and Linda Newsome. Also present: Cindy Nagel, Tall Grass Archeology, Lisa Allison, House of History and Commissioner's spouses. The agenda was reviewed and approved by motion Hull second by Brokaw. All Ayes. Carmichael moved seconded by Brokaw to approve June minutes as corrected. All Ayes. The FY25 budget was briefly discussed. No votes were taken.

Business:

Leininger announced that CLG funding and timelines for 2026 grants has been suspended until further notice.

Cindy Nagel brought relatable information regarding GPR and how it works. She will scan the chapter of her book covering that information & will email it to Sandra for dispersal to all commissioners. She also discussed more in-depth work needed on the Slide Off.

Gebbie moved and Brokaw seconded approval of extending an invitation to the Kline Museum for Ex-Official representation on the Commission. All Ayes.

Leininger and Carmichael will be on the 7/28 BOS agenda for updates and NRHP signage. No Council reports were given.

Leininger described her work to date with signage for the House of History and Opera House. The aluminum 6x10 signs are being worked on. She additionally asked if QR codes could be installed on future signage. The Snider Bridge, Wayside Inn and future schoolhouse signage will be ordered through Iowa Prison Industries. Adams Co Recorder & IT personnel will help us with QR codes linking to our "projects" button on the website.

Citing lack of funding for repairs, the Mobile Museum will not be available. The "Civics in Action" display celebrating our 250th anniversary as a nation will not be available. The state offered a WWI fixed display for dates in October 2025. Gebbie moved seconded by Brokaw to move forward with bringing the WWI display and a related speaker to the community. All Ayes. Leininger will check for exact dates and locations. Commissioners will host the display when open.

Leininger will stay in contact with Dennis & Cris regarding our cemetery workshop at Mt Pleasant Cemetery in the spring of 2026. Nagel commented on trying to coordinate GPR on that cemetery during that time as well.

Leininger brought attention to the correspondence she received from retired Archeologist and Historian. Gourley's comments regarding the disposition of historical records and artifacts back to 1857. She cited the Dept of Administrative Services decision (without State Historical Society of Iowa's prior knowledge) to close their Iowa City research center and disperse a majority of their collections. She asked for consideration advocating by signing a petition and reaching out to legislators and the governor's office to express your concern.

Commissioners decided to begin oral histories with Leininger in September. A list of questions will be developed. A brief discussion regarding the Larson family's ties to the Rockdale cemetery and their willingness to assist with its National Register of Historic Places application.

The next meeting will be held on August 20, 2023

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Carmichael