



Historic Fort Wayne Coalition

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
HELD
March 7, 2009**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 1:07p

Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Mycek requested a roll call of members present for quorum criteria. 21 members present. Quorum requirement met.

OLD BUSINESS

- Tom Berluca noted the January membership meeting had been cancelled due to weather. No meeting minutes were generated.
 - Motion to accept the old business report / 2nded. – **APPROVED**

TREASURER'S REPORT

- As of 3/7/09 the current funds exist in the following accounts:
 - General Fund: \$4229.23
 - Preservation / Maintenance Fund: \$2242.59
 - Sales: \$2701.64
 - Total: \$9173.46
- As of 7am this morning, \$100 deducted for reimbursement and deposited \$200 in membership dues.
- Cub Scout Pack 252 had donated \$400 for Rich Napier and Joe Rebant helping out snow plow and creating a snow hill. Great job Rich and Joe!
- Receipts for membership dues are being emailed or mailed to members without email.
- Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report – 2nded - **APPROVED**

PROJECTS REPORT

- Of the 5 windows removed from the East face of the 1848 barracks, 4 are almost completely restored and near ready to reinstall. These represent the worst windows that needed immediate attention.
- Casemate doors are nearly completed for casemates 4 and 7. Estimated completion date: June 6, 2009.
- Ric Julian has completed the Blacksmith shop in the Star Fort after 2 years. Next project will be the cover for the wood bin behind the 1848 barracks.
- Motion to accept the Projects Report – 2nd – **APPROVED**

GROUNDS REPORT

- Continue cleaning up the trees that we dropped along Officer's Row.
- Bonnie Trottier (Sec'ty) to send off a list of the Grounds Committee workdays.
- Further motions to accept Committee reports suspended at this time.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- The HFWC is back in the QM Shop after the recent break-in that occurred. 5 people will have access and Tom will talk to the City about which 5 people will be selected. The key will be passed out to only those 5 people and be returned to the guards – will NOT be passed to someone not authorized. There is no news on the break-in. The police are looking at all parties on site, the Coalition included.
 - HFWC KEY POLICY - This policy has been set forth by the Executive Board in order to keep good partnership with the City. This document was read aloud to the membership and will be sent via email and the website for all Coalition members to acknowledge.
- Wandering around the site is to be limited to buildings which we have access to or are authorized to be in due to work. Tours are permitted when cleared by Tom and Security to open typical buildings. The grounds are acceptable for tours, however no access to buildings without authorization.
- DRIC – (Downriver International Crossing)
 - Tom had meeting regarding the intended parking lot to be established across the street from Fort Wayne.
 - MDOT to build a Park & Ride area on the old Copper and Brass site.
 - Copper and Brass site ½ owned by City and will include a possible pond, perhaps to the Detroit River.
 - Intended storm drain line to run under Star Fort.
 - MDOT creating a snow runoff into this drain
 - If this system fails, the Star fort will receive ALL water due to its low location.
 - Southwest neighborhood contributed an 85 page DRIC mitigation document on the bridge construction
 - The City used verbage from this letter at the State level.
 - No effected real estate property has been designated yet. However, this WILL effect 2011/2012 events.
 - This document is accessible via internet @ MDOT DRIC site

DRIC Project Cont.

- Access to Fort Wayne will be limited to approx 1 ½ miles in either direction due to are being blocked off (no longer down Livernois).
 - After 2 years, the City will be responsible for road maintenance.
 - This is a potential upside for the Fort. However the HFWC has only been involved with DRIC planning since Oct 2008. This left little time to prepare.
 - State Senator Rashid is allied with the Fort about concerns with the DRIC project.

CITY REPORT

- No report due to Jim Conway's absence.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE REPORT

- Tom Berlucchi and Kim Simmons of the Fort Wayne Advisory board are involved in the International Freedom Crossing.
 - Fort Wayne would be the only place in the WORLD designated as such due to the Detroit River.
 - Kim is a descendent of the only documented run away slave crossing near Fort property to Sandwich, Ontario
 - Kim will be the Key note speaker at Civil War days in July.

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY PROGRAM

- Will Eichler and Tom went to a meeting in January in Monroe.
 - They met with Check Estee of the Monroe Community College.
 - Chuck want to use Fort Wayne as a site for a film project about Fort Sumter (the forts being quite similar in many ways). More information to follow.
 - The HFWC is tied very strongly to historical areas and societies such as Fort Meigs, Monroe, etc.

2009/2010 COMMITTEE APPOINTEES

- Projects Committee: Rich Napier (Chair), Heather Clark (Sect'y), Jim Rapai.
 - 2 seats still unfilled and are available if interested
- Grounds Committee: Joe Rebandt (Chair), Bonnie Trottier (Sect'y), Adam Jewell, Paul Frtiz, Ron Vilag and Dennis Duggan (Alternate).
 - Bob Griebe will be associated with Grounds for equipment maintenance.

2009/2010 Committee Appointees Cont.

- By-Laws Special Committee: Doris Julian, Jack Mycek, Jonathan Mycek, and Matt Merta **and Tom Berlucchi. – DELETED AS CORRECTION**
 - Secretary Note: This committee is a “special” committee specifically assigned for a project. This committee will terminate at the conclusion of their assigned task.
 - By-Law Committee meeting minutes were provided to the members.

EVENTS

- The events schedule for 2009 is very heavily booked and we will need volunteers for each.
 - A vintage baseball team has been established to play with Fort Wayne as their home field. The Team is named “Early Risers” who played in Detroit from 1858 – 1862
 - Early Riser team comprised of players from “Nationals” and “La Dee Da’s”
 - Andy Staub from “Beat the Train” will be hosting bicycle riders at Fort Wayne. This group is tied with the U.S. Olympic team.
 - Riders will meet at Fort Wayne at 6:00am for those who would like to participate.
 - Ghost Hunts – hosted by the Metro Paranormal Investigators
 - 6 hunts during the year and will begin when dates are approved with City.
 - Will need volunteers to assist with the tours and hunts.

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS

- Lloyd Hevelhorst donated the Military Atlas of the Civil War to the HFWC library. This book is not cheap and we are very grateful. Thank you Lloyd!
- John Weaver mentioned the annual meeting of the Coastal Defense Study Group (CDSG). He has offered, if anyone is interested in procuring a bus, to give a tour of 4 “Best in Class” fort. This trip would be approx 1 week in duration.
 - Forts would include Fort Taber, Fort Trumbull and Fort Niagara (which happens to be the only fort like Fort Wayne in construction)
- HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Sara Rebant!
 - Cake was enjoyed by the membership to celebrate her birthday.

Miscellaneous Topics Cont.

- Interest by members in the creation of an HFWC Leadership Contact List for distribution to membership. Secretary Tom Steele to generate.

- Inquiry about the publication of minutes, other than General Membership. An explanation was provided that since this will be new to the HFWC, this has been discussed and they will be distributed when received.
 - Secretary Note: It is the goal to publish minutes no later than 7 days after that meeting which they are approved. Meeting minutes from any meeting must wait to be approved at the next meeting.

- Motion made to adjourn meeting – 2nded.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:04p

Respectfully Submitted,
Thomas Steele
Executive Secretary
Historic Fort Wayne Coalition

APPROVED
MAY 2, 2009