

VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMISSION
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2020 AT 5:15 P.M.
VIA ZOOM

MINUTES

Attendance: Present: Leo Lease, Randy Hotchkin, Gwen Rieck, Dr. Teresa Coon Absent: Terry Stringfellow

1. **Perfecting Agenda:** Agenda approved by members present.
2. **Approve Minutes:** MOTION to approve August 31, 2020 minutes by Hotchkin, second by Lease, all ayes, motion carried.
3. **Monthly Budget Report:** Balance of \$62,698.00.
4. **Greater Poweshiek Community Foundation:** Balance of \$551,778.00.
5. **Approval of bills:**
 - i. Alliant \$96.27 (paid 8/28/20)
 - ii. RDG INV#47563 \$4059.00 (paid 9/8/20)
 - iii. Amperage INV#027199 \$7415.00
 - iv. Amperage INV#027086 \$45.00

MOTION to approve by Lease, second by Hotchkin, all ayes, motion carried.

6. **RDG Architects:** Lacina reported he talked with Matt from RDG and suggested he be present at the next commission meeting (Oct.) to present the drawings to the members of the commission.
7. **Amperage Marketing:** We will soon be paying the last bill for service but they will be staying with us until the end.
8. **Fundraising Committee Update:** An Iowa Great Places grant application was submitted on September 10, 2020 for the amount of \$400,000. Lease stated he will be speaking to the Lions club and Lacina stated he will be speaking to the Rotary club.
9. **Consider CDAF Marketing Proposal:** After discussion by all present, they were in agreement to wait and discuss again in December.
10. **Veterans Memorial Building Condition:** Hotchkin is working on any issues. The new pictures are in the entrance of the building.
11. **Inquiries:**
 - Joe Lacina is prepared to add an “Artist” page to the website. This will focus on the substance of what an artist will experience at Prairie Star. It will encourage artists and organizations to sign up for a digital newsletter to be kept up to date. To add credibility to the page, Tom Lacina requested Joe appear as “Interim Residency Development Director” or “Residency Development Director.” He will do the work on a volunteer

basis given that he's getting paid for his website work. The commission discussed this request. The request will be added to the October agenda for action.

- Tom is working on a special event in 2021 to feature a showing at the Arts Center of Kurt Vonnegut works from the National Veterans Art Museum, an installation about Iowa military history from the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum, and an installation about local veteran history from the Grinnell Historical Museum. There will also be a display about the Veterans Memorial Building and the Prairie Star Residency. Tom would like to figure out how to parley this into funding. Sponsors are a consideration but he is also thinking about an auction of 20 or less select veteran-created works, with two thirds going to the artist and one third going to the project. This would probably occur next September/October/November and culminate the week of Veterans Day.
- Tom also requested Nicole Behrens put the new fundraising number on the website each month, right after she receives updated information about levy funds.

12. **Adjournment:** MOTION by Rieck, second by Lease, all ayes, motion carried.

Next meeting: October 12, 2020