



Iowa Mississippi River Parkway Commission  
Conference call  
10:00 a.m. April 19, 2021  
800-509-6344. Passcode. 5778996

**Statement:** The members of the Iowa Mississippi River Parkway Commission are holding this meeting by electronic means pursuant to the provisions of the Iowa Open Meetings Law, Section 21.8, Code of Iowa. The meeting is being held by conference call originating from the F&M Bank and Trust, Burlington, Iowa. The public can call in from a remote location and join by conference call. Public notice of the meeting has been issued in accordance with Iowa Code Section 21.4

**MRPC Call to order and roll call** by Martin Graber, Chair

Present: Lisa Walsh, Jenna Pollock, Paula Meyer, Jim Janett, and Ann Geiger

Absent: Jared McGovern, Jay Schweitzer

Technical Advisors: Emily Whalen, Amy Zeigler, State Tourism Manager

Others: Paul Carroll, Muscatine Button Museum; Jim Elias, Matthew Parbs, Director, Sawmill Museum

**Approval of the February 15, 2021 minutes**

Janett moved to approve the February 15, 2021 minutes. Walsh seconded the motion and it carried.

**Motion to approve Treasurer's Report**

Geiger moved to approve the Treasurer's Report in the amount of \$13,800. Seconded by Walsh and the motion carried.

**Budget discussion**

*Review current expenditures*

Reviewed the expenditures approved at the last meeting at the last meeting totaling \$24,400.

*Annual Dues to the national office*

Geiger moved to approve \$5,000 dues to the national organization. Pollock seconded the motion. Janett moved to amend the motion to send annual dues of \$7,500 to the national organization. Walsh seconded the amendment which was approved with Pollock opposed. Motion to approve the amended motion approved with Pollock opposed.



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All American Road possibilities. The Commission discussed the possible implications of funding as a result of the All American Road program.

### **National committee appointments**

*Marketing Committee* - Pollack, Meyer

*Transportation* - Walsh

*Environment, Recreation, Agriculture* - Janett, Carroll (upon appointment)

*Heritage and Culture* - Geiger, Graber

### **Comments from Interpretive Centers**

Button Museum

Pike's Peak Presentation – Jim Elias gave a presentation showing how Zebulon Pike's trip up the Mississippi can mix history with local areas makes it more interesting. Actual notes and first person voice in recording talking about his trip up the Mississippi would be a good tourism interest. Possible radio spots, brochure, using his words linking the trip up the river. Geiger requested they research some ideas and prices for distribution at a May 4 called meeting.

Sawmill has webcam which focuses on river. Clinton is end of Ragbrai

Motormill is opening Memorial Day week-end and open just on Saturdays, because of Covid, through Labor Day.

Camp Langwood having some activities in Louisa County. County Conversation will be involved.

Visitors at are restricted to 35 people at the Driftless Center at Lansing. Janett said the numbers are picking up.

**Ex-Official Members and others** None

**Chairman's Report** – Covered in other discussion.

### **National and Committee Reports**

*Marketing Committee* - None

*Transportation* - Working to get meeting notes done in a reasonable fashion and cleaning up the website.

*Environment Recreation and Agriculture* - None

*Heritage and Culture* – None



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### **Update on Activities**

#### *Cascade Bridge*

Walsh said the new city manager is more supportive regarding the bridge and its future. June 2 zoom meeting regarding and how preservation is important funds and how the community can be involved.

#### *Young Museum*

Meyer will follow up with Schweitzer as to what, if anything he found after looking into it.

### **General Discussion**

#### **Increasing public awareness**

##### *Facebook*

Tracy Branble and Emily discussion Iowa facebook. Discussion on Iowa policies. Meyer asked who is managing the page. Because nothing was posted since October – it is a dormant page DOT will tag any information regarding a byway posting as long as it is not a private business. Individual byways can do postings, promoting MRPC, may have to discuss promoting individual businesses. Meyer wanted to know who is managing the page. It would not be Iowa DOT. The page is still owned by Stahlhut Whalen will call and ask her to be removed as owner. Whalen Stahlhut ownership to turn the page over to Meyer as administrator who said there should be more than one administrator.

*Travel Iowa's Scenic Byways Passport Program* – update. Still working on getting up and running.

*Iowa Byways news monthly letter* – Janett said he tried to access the site to post an article about the Driftless Center.

#### **All American Road**

Discussion on Iowa's role in Great American Roads based on webinar. Geiger said the Pike project may fill some of the boxes.

#### **Future meeting schedule May 4, 2021**

#### **Adjourn for Foundation meeting**