



JOPLIN CELEBRATIONS COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, October 6, 2020, 4pm

Location: Joplin City Hall, 5th Floor Study

Attended: Patrick Tuttle, Lori Haun, Dr. Diane Reid Adams, Abbey Surbugg, Dr. Kerry Sachetta, Barbara Hogelin, Wally Bloss, Paula Callihan, Dr. Chad Stebbins, Brad Belk, Emily Frankoski, Ms. Betty (via phone), and Dr. Tracy Godfrey (via phone)

Absent: Chris Wiseman, Susan Adams, Christina Matekel-Gibson, Paula Baker, and Ann Leach

Guests: Paul Bloomberg and Greg Bertoncino from the City of Joplin Parks and Recreation Department

- I. **Meeting Called to Order by Mr. Tuttle**
 - a. Patrick introduced Abbey, our newest member, to the commission. She is the liaison from Joplin High School.
 - b. Show and Tell: The iris cookie cutters are in, packaged, and ready to sell. They are available at the CVB, Joplin Museum Complex, Evelyn's Beauty Shop (i.e. Paula Callihan's shop), and soon at Joplin Empire Market. Also, one will be on display at the Post Art Library office inside Joplin Public Library, directing people where to go to buy them. They are \$10 each.
- II. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. September 2020: Motion made by Mr. Bloss to approve the September 2020 minutes, seconded by Ms. Callihan, and unanimously approved.
- III. **Iris Gardens**
 - a. Dr. Reid Adams delivered irises to six locations: the Joplin Early Childhood Center, Freeman West, Mercy Hospital, the Roi S. Wood Building, Joplin Public Library, and the City of Joplin Parks and Recreation Department.
 - b. Mr. Bloomberg said that Parks and Recreation planted irises at Mercy Park (to complement a new sculpture being installed); at all of the city entry signs; areas they already have flowerbeds; and will build two new beds on the north

entrance of Landreth in which to plant irises and will eventually do the same at the other Landreth entrance.

- c. Mr. Belk mentioned that irises may be planted at the mansion on MSSU's campus.
- d. Mr. Tuttle said that some of the sites will be revisited by a team for photo ops and promotion. Dr. Reid Adams indicated that the Master Gardeners and The Iris Society would like to be involved with photo ops and promotion.
- e. Discussion about distributing information to the public about irises; Mr. Tuttle will send Ms. Sullivan a document to revise and ready for distribution.
- f. Where are we having the flower show? The regional Iris Society would like for Joplin to host their conference in spring 2023. They will send prize winning irises to plant so they can take people on bus tours to see them.
- g. Discussion about an iris booth at Joplin Empire Market and other potential locations (such as the library) where irises and info could be distributed to the public.

IV. Heritage Trail

- a. Dr. Stebbins distributed a "Joplin Discovery Trail" update sheet.
- b. Dr. Stebbins said that we have enough information to have a storyboard sign on the Osage. Also, that the cultural center in Oklahoma will approve the language and such (e.g Osage Indians vs. Osage Tribe vs. other) for the storyboard sign, as well as provide images. The Osage were hunters who moved in and out of the area and followed springs and rivers, so that poses a challenge when deciding where to place the sign, but perhaps near the Dover Hill soccer parks?
- c. Mr. Belk wrote the text for this and other storyboards.
- d. The committee met with Christina Williams and she is designing the storyboards at no cost to the commission.
- e. These signs are meant to replace the old green and white signs.
- f. Mr. Tuttle will work with Mr. Bloomberg to determine when to bring this project to the Parks Board.
- g. Ms. Sullivan mentioned that the library could present a show/exhibit with Osage artifacts, photographs, etc. if the cultural center is agreeable to the idea.
- h. Dr. Stebbins said that we'll hopefully have a prototype for our next meeting so we can approve it.
- i. Patrick will get the RFP written to start getting estimates.

V. Missouri Bicentennial

- a. Ms. Haun said that Missouri Mainstreet is offering bicentennial passports and that Missouri Mainstreet communities (such as Joplin) are invited to submit events and such to be included on the passport. Email Ms. Haun by end of day November 20th about any Joplin events you would like to include. Existing events are welcome.
- b. Ms. Frankoski updated us about the Charles McPherson events:

- c. Private, ticketed fundraiser event at a yet-to-be-determined location on Friday, July 23, 2021
- d. Free public performance at Central Christian Center on Saturday, July 24, 2021 (which is Mr. McPherson's birthday)
- e. Ms. Frankoski is working the Joplin Jazz Camp for a potential class and performance with Mr. McPherson since a master class at MSSU is no longer an option due to the events having been moved to summertime
- f. The Charles McPherson Mural Committee is working on that portion of the project.
- g. Mr. Tuttle said that there are no updates on when Joplin will host the Bicentennial Quilt Show.
- h. Ms. Sullivan said that other Bicentennial related projects, such as Missouri Art Now, are moving along.

VI. Joplin's 150th


- a. Mostly discussion and brainstorming
 - i. In '73 the graduating class had tassels that coincided with Joplin centennial celebrations
 - ii. the postmaster said we can have a special cancellation stamp for the sesquicentennial
- b. Ms. Haun mentioned the "I Am Joplin" mural; discussion about replacing the mural as a community mural project
- c. Ms. Sullivan said that Post Art Library was given and has digitized a photo album created by the 1973 celebration commissioners and that PAL will have some sort of online exhibit with the album and she will send links to everyone once it's ready
- d. Ms. Sullivan requested that she be given the "go ahead" on writing an email to local organizations about our commission, event endorsement, etc.; perhaps we can use Missouri Bicentennial's process as a model for how people can submit endorsement requests to our commission
- e. Mr. Tuttle mentioned the need to upgrade the Thomas Hart Benton mural info and such in the 2023 timeframe
- f. Ms. Haun said mentioned the possibility of putting historic photo wraps on the electric boxes downtown
- g. Ms. Frankoski mentioned that she saw silhouette sculptures in KC and how that might be a suitable solution for public art near the First Major Lead Strike are
- h. Ms. Sullivan mentioned starting a Local History Week/Month, with it launching in 2023

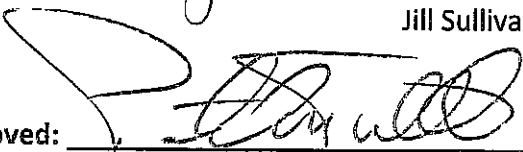
VII. FYI (via Patrick)

- a. The group that did the 5th anniversary of the tornado met to discuss what to do for the 10th
- b. The city will be involved with the milestone years only

- c. Anything done in the media or production wise will be about the recovery rather than the tornado itself
- d. Ms. Surbrugg said that high schoolers would like to be involved in the 10-year anniversary of the tornado, that perhaps they could do a mural project
- e. Mr. Tuttle said that on Sunday evening, a few hot air balloons will fly over Joplin (within a couple of hours before sunset).

VIII. Meeting Adjourned

Approved: 
Jill Sullivan, Secretary

Approved: 
Patrick Tuttle, Co-Chair