



Minutes of the March 6, 2008 meeting of the
Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission of Lincoln, Illinois.

The Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission of Lincoln, Illinois met in Lincoln City Hall on March 6, 2008. Members present included: Mayor Davis-Kavelman, Shirley Bartelmay, Paul Beaver, Darlene Begolka, Ron Keller, Geoff Ladd, Brian Messner (for Keith Ray), Wanda Lee Rohlf, and Richard Sumrall. Paul Gleason was absent.

Ron called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM. Geoff made a motion to approve the February meeting minutes, and Richard seconded.

Announcements. Commissioners announced the following upcoming events:

- o Mayor Davis-Kavelman: Heritage Days fried chicken fundraiser @ City Hall, April 10.
- o Shirley: Brian Fox-Ellis will be at Postville Courthouse again this summer.
- o Paul B: Karen Deal from the Illinois Symphony interested in hosting another concert in Lincoln (Ron noted this be discussed at April meeting)
- o Ron: Ravinia CEO Welz Kaufmann @ LC Museum, March 11, 11:30 for informational meeting on free Ravinia concerts in Lincoln in 2009.
- o Geoff: Tourism Annual Dinner @ Maple Club, April 25, 6 PM.
- o Congrats were also given to Wanda Lee Rohlf for the grant Main Street will receive from the IL Bic. Comm.

Old Business –commissioned painting of 1858 rally

- o Jennifer Boeke presented to the commission her preliminary sketches of the painting, explaining the its details and inclusion of historical intricacies. She reported that it will be close to 6 X 6 finished. She is expected to be finished by late June. The commission is impressed with her work.
- o Mayor Davis-Kavelman expressed concern that perhaps there should be inclusion of a few African-American faces in the scene for fuller acceptance by the community. The commission agreed, but Richard offered to check census records to see how many lived in the county at that time.
- o Wanda Lee remarked that there is money in the grant regarding the painting, and would have a fuller picture by next month of what might be paid.

Bicentennial Day (July 3rd) during Heritage Days

- o Ron again confirmed that Lincoln presenters Max and Donna Daniels will provide a program on Gettysburg for the July 3rd event—the 140th anniversary of the battle's completion. He said that the cost will be \$300 rather than \$250 as stated the previous month. They will be on stage

approximately 6:30 PM.

- The Mayor announced again of the Roasted Chicken Picnic Dinner from 5-6:30. Culver's will donate ice cream again, and Lincoln College will provide the cake. The Mayor announced a band has been secured for later that evening. She also said a P.A. system will be available for the Daniels.
- Paul B. will provide a PowerPoint presentation on Lincoln and Logan County in the Lincoln Woman's Club at about 7 PM.
- Darlene mentioned the possibility of the Railsplitters performing a log-splitting demonstration.
- Wanda Lee said that the "ghost tour" will be during Railsplitter Festival and not during Heritage Days.

Restaging of October 1858 event

- Ron announced that the 1858 restaging at the courthouse has been approved by the Ill Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission as an endorsed program.
- Wanda Lee passed out a matrix with job assignments for all commissioners, and asked for further volunteer help and suggestions for the event.
- Darlene mentioned that the Habitat for Humanity has graciously offered to build the temporary platform for the event. Lumber will need to be secured. She also said she would talk to LAMS and get back to us.
- Several voiced concern about whether permission would have to be secured from the city to block off a few streets, as well as permission from the county. Ron said that he and the mayor would work on this.
- For costuming, the Costume Shop was suggested, as well as folks from San Jose and Mason City who have recently had celebrations. It was discussed that Civil War attire would not have yet been present, but Brian and Richard volunteered to look up Mexican War uniform information.
- Wanda Lee reported she had met with Paul Gleason about getting a curriculum into schools to coincide with the bicentennial, and especially the October event. It was asked whether it might be also geared to reach students with special needs.
- Richard revised the call for volunteers. He reported it was sent out to various organizations, businesses, churches, and civic groups. It would also be advertised in the tourism newsletter.

Possible marker for 1858 rally on Courthouse lawn

- Geoff suggested that instead of a two-way split in cost for the marker between Tourism and Heritage Days as mentioned in the previous meeting, that perhaps give the county the honor of splitting it with them, with additional money from a few individuals who have pledged some funds.
- Paul and Richard discussed further research on options. They both agreed

that perhaps \$4000 to be raised was more practical than the earlier \$3000.

Christening re-enactment

- Geoff firmed up the time of the christening to be 2 PM on August 27. He will be talking further with the Railsplitter group about arrangements.

New Business – Scholarly panel

- Brian mentioned that there are a few funds available for a scholarly panel at LCCS for sometime in the 2008-09 academic year. It was suggested to perhaps combine that with the annual Looking For Lincoln dinner in February.

Other previous projects and ideas still on the table:

- Special art categories in Art & Balloon Festival (there will be a floral and textile category each centered around a Lincoln theme)
- Commission special painting of 1858 Lincoln rally
- Abraham Lincoln Chautauqua at Lincoln College
- Marketing of *From Surveyor to President* video
- Selling souvenir postcards with Feb 12, 2009 postmark from Lincoln, IL
- Writing articles on various Lincoln topics for *Courier*
- Lincoln scholars panel jointly at LC and LCC
- Develop educational programs for local schools/ community
- "Lincoln in Lincoln" special exhibit at LC Museum
- Songfest downtown or stage an old-time theatre
- 1850's fashion show (Shirley volunteered Postville to be a host site)

Paul made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Darlene seconded. The commission adjourned at 6:14 PM. **The next meeting will be on April 3rd at 5 PM at City Hall.**

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