



Minutes of the May 1, 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 May 1, 2008. Members present included: Mayor Davis-Kavelman, Darlene Begolka, Paul Gleason, Ron Keller, Geoff Ladd, Brian Messner, and Wanda Lee Rohlf. Shirley Bartelmay, Paul Beaver, and Richard Sumrall were absent.

Ron called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM. Paul Gleason made a motion to accept the March meeting minutes, and Brian seconded.

Announcements. Commissioners announced the following upcoming events:

- Mayor Davis-Kavelman announced that at the May 5 meeting of the City Council.
- Wanda Lee announced the kiosk on the courthouse lawn will be installed sometime by July 1.

Old Business –commissioned painting of 1858 rally

- Wanda Lee reported that Jennifer Boeke has been behind in getting started with the painting, but the July completion deadline is still on target.
- She also reported that a month will be needed to complete the framing.

Bicentennial Day (July 3rd) during Heritage Days

- The event will begin at 5:00.
- Already slated: roasted chicken picnic dinner and ice cream social; Abe & Mary Lincoln presenters (the Daniels) on Gettysburg; a crosscut and/or tomahawk throw from the Railsplitting Association; the Craft Guild will showcase; and a presentation on Lincoln & Logan County from Paul Beaver.

Restaging of October 1858 event

- Richard will be sending out a letter to the county communities for their help.
- Leigh Henson contacted Ron with updates to his script.
- Discussion followed on possibilities of who to contact on costuming.
- Paul G. said that Eleanor Gunderman may have some barn lumber. Darlene will check with lumber companies for the platform. Habitat For Humanity has offered to build the stage for the event.
- The need to involve a minority representation in the event was voiced.

- The mayor asked that if the Commission knows of anyone who helps in any way, we should record their name and the value of any service they provide.
- Finances and insurance were discussed. The Mayor offered to meet soon with commissioners to develop a budget to request the city for funding. As far as insurance, the Mayor said that since this is a commission of the city, all insurance should be covered by the city, but will double check.
- Ron reminded the Mayor that the City should also be asked permission to close roads for that day.
- Wanda Lee suggested the event start out at the original depot then follow to the courthouse lawn. The event there should shoot for a half-hour. She has the 10 girls in white dresses, and ideas on the horses.

Possible marker for 1858 rally on Courthouse lawn

- Richard and Paul have finished the wording, and will work on final pricing for the marker—the prices keep going up. Those that have offered to financially support the project should be contacted again.
- The Mayor offered that an appropriations budget has to pass by July 31, so perhaps a little might be obtained for the marker.
- Ron recommended to the Mayor that the county be approached soon for their permission and possible financial involvement.

Christening re-enactment

- Geoff previously reported that the christening re-enactment at 2 PM on August 27 will be “short and sweet.” He said that Daris Knauer will supply many of the people involved, and being at 2 PM school kids could attend.

Scholarly panel

- Brian reported that the funding has been secured and they are now approaching national speakers.

Education

- Ron reported that he received an e-mail from Gayal Rademaker, who is student government sponsor at LCHS, and that “Lincoln, the Original Railsplitter,” may be the official theme. She also said she would welcome any participants with a Lincoln themed entry. Please contact her if you have such suggestions.
- Paul G. circulated his educational curriculum he has been working on which is nearly finished. It is entitled, “Logan County’s Abraham Lincoln.” The commission applauded him on his thorough work.

Illinois Symphony Orchestra performance

- The Mayor talked with Karen Deal at great length about the possibility of the

east side of the courthouse, with the possibility of LCC as an alternative. It was suggested that perhaps the performance might coincide with the Railspiltter Festival, or another event. She would like to pursue it for next year.

- The Mayor said we might qualify for a \$3500 grant, but there is still a great deal of money to raise.
- A suggestion was made that perhaps it could be the Chamber's bicentennial role.
- Darlene offered to help the Mayor with this.

New Business – Fashion Show

- Marilyn Craig addressed the commission regarding her idea of a style show. She originally wanted it period to Lincoln's time, but has expanded it to include both young and old fashions, wedding dresses and everyday attire, and in different periods.
- She said perhaps it could be held with a tea in November or in January as a kickoff before the birthday celebration in February.
- She is still looking for venues for the event. The Lincoln Women's Club was recommended.
- Darlene made a motion for the commission to accept the style show as an endorses project, and Wanda Lee seconded. Motion passed.
- Marilyn praised the commission on their work.

Other New Business

- Brian reported that either April 14 or 21, 2009 are the dates that Ravinia will be here in Lincoln.
- Darlene checked into polo shirts with our bicentennial commission logo. It was decided that commissioners, rather than the city, would pay for their own shirts.

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

rk