

Minutes of the Adel Historic Preservation Commission
July 21, 2020 at Adel City Hall – 8:00 p.m.

Members Present: Deb Christensen, Bob Hall, Rich Hughes. **Absent:** Cori Howard, Vonz Odem. **City:** None. **Guests:** None.

Chair Rich Hughes called the meeting to order at 8:11 p.m.

Minutes: Minutes of the June 16, 2020 meeting, were unanimously approved as written (moved by Bob Hall, second by Rich Hughes).

Plaques: Rich sent plaque information and mock-ups to the ten property owners previously identified at the beginning of July. As of this meeting, half have sent in the \$30 needed for matching funds. Rich will check back with those who have not yet submitted their contribution.

Coast to Coast Forum: SHPO announced that this virtual training will be held August 4-8. Please contact Anthony if you are interested in attending.

CLG Grants: The next round of CLG grant submissions is now open with a final deadline of September 3. Drafts are due to SHPO by August 14 for feedback by Paula Mohr. Structures under consideration for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places were discussed, including the museum, Raccoon Valley Community Building, city hall, and Macy's Arch. Grant money would be requested to help fund the application process. Rich will work on this.

Preservation at Its Best Award: Rich invited Aaron Crow to the meeting to accept his Citizenship Award for his work in developing the interactive website platform, but he did not attend. The plaque for Iconic Apparel is not yet prepared as Rich had wanted to talk with the owner first.

DNR Dam Information Request: The DNR requested information on the Adel dam. Deb and Rich both provided information on the history of the dam and contact information for individuals who may have done more in-depth research.

Briefly, research suggests that a water-power grist mill was built by J. H. Strong and H. H. Moffert in 1856-1857, on the banks of the slough cut-off, NE of Adel. In 1889, the mill was improved by L. Swearingen and J. W. Russell, who added steam power. After passing to Noeinger and Cantrel, L. M. Macy purchased an interest in the mill (1891), eventually buying out the shareholders' interests a few years later (1902). In 1906, Macy installed an electric light plant. The initial mill burned in 1914, and was rebuilt. In 1941, the mill and light plant once again burned. This time, a fire-proof light plant called the Electric Light and Power Company was constructed. It may have been sold to Iowa Power, who operated it through the mid-1940s. This plant first powered the entire city, but as demand for electricity increased, it powered just the city lights. There were two turbines on the north side of the river connected via a suspension bridge to the plant on the south side. After a major flood in 1947, it is believed the power plant ceased operation and the building was removed sometime in the later 1950s.

**Minutes of the Adel Historic Preservation Commission
July 21, 2020 at Adel City Hall – 8:00 p.m.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

The **next regular meeting** of the Adel Historic Preservation Commission is scheduled for August 18, 2020, at 8:00 p.m. at Adel City Hall with social distancing practices in place.

Respectfully submitted
Deb Christensen
AHPC Secretary