



GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON FORT SISSETON
Fort Sisseton, 11907 434th Ave, Lake City, SD 57247

**Fort Sisseton Board Meeting
Picnic Shelter
July 13th, 2018**

The Fort Sisseton Commission met July 15th, 2018 at Fort Sisseton State Park. The meeting was called to order at 5:46pm by Judy, President. Commission members present were Mary Dunn, Judy Gulleeson, Duane Hemmah, Kirk Jones, Glen Johnson, Bill Hoskins, Sidney Schroeder, Eileen Warzeka, Marshall Damgaard, Doug Eidahl and Gary Strand. GFP personnel present were Willy Collignon and Ali Tonsfeldt. Minutes were taken by Jason Tonsfeldt and typed by Ali Tonsfeldt.

Review of the Minutes

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved by Doug and second by Eileen. Motion passed unanimously.

Foundation Report

No Report

Old Business

- Fort Sisseton Billboard signs are in place
- Alarm systems are out for bid at this time
- Funds for a sound system for Festival will be raised for by the Commission (see Haunted Fort information).
- Ali presented on visitation. There has been an increase in interest in the Fort thanks to weddings, family reunions, and Fort events.
- Strategic planning date has been set for October 27th, location will be the Fort. It has been decided to start in the morning so people who have to travel can get home at a decent time. Doug Eidahl will be setting the details up. The focus will be Festival improvements, fundraising and working with the sub committees. Doug emphasis the need for people to put their name in a spot for the four subcommittees that was created.

New Business

- Festivals numbers and profit/loss was discussed. It was discussed about approaching larger companies to sponsor the festival as a whole or at least a specific part of the Festival (ie. The military encampment, rendezvous, Buckhorns, etc.).
- Lack of sound system during the Festival did cause some issues especially during the storms and a lost child. Eileen made a motion that the Commission start fundraising for an outdoor sound system, motion was seconded by Doug. Motion passed unanimously.
- Doug talked about the surveys that were handed out to the participants and vendors at the Historical Festival. Responses were good, people made some good suggestions. Doug will be using the results to help with the strategic planning that will be taking place on Oct. 27th.
- Ali brought forth some new ideas for the Historical Festival such as a Kid's zone, military band concert, etc. She will be researching and gathering information on ideas for the 2019 Historical Festival.
- Ali presented on the Harvest Festival. They will be including Dutch oven cooking, Canning Demonstrations, Craft and Vendors this year. Ali approached the Commission wanting them to do a Concession Stand at the Harvest Festival with the idea it would be a fundraiser going towards the sound system. Motion was made by Eileen and seconded by Doug to do the concession stand on September 16th.

- Judy presented on the Haunted Fort which is October 13th. Judy made the motion that the Commissioners would do the Haunted fort as a fundraiser for the sound system by charging \$5 during the “scary” time (8pm to 11pm). Motion was seconded by Doug. Event passed with 10 yes and 1 no. It will need to talk to Pierre reference the funding aspect. It was decided that a haunted south barracks will be taking place in which Jason Tonsfeldt will be in charge. Each commissioner will be in charge of decorating one building or one apartment in the OQs. Buckets will be put out front for people to bid with loose change. Any money in the buckets will go to the fundraising funds. A “haunted” trail ride with ghost stories being told will and other activities will be discussed with Ali. Author of “Haunted Places in South Dakota”, Mr. Fisk, would like to speak at the event and is requesting \$350 for travel expenses. Judy made the motion to pay the \$350 to have him speak at the Haunted Fort Event, motion was seconded by Eileen. Motion passed unanimously. Ali will start making phone calls to set up volunteers for the different parts of the night.

Next meeting is tentatively set for September 11th at noon

Motion was made to adjourn by Judy at 655pm and second by Doug. Motion passed.