

Fort Sisseton Commission Meeting
April 25, 2023

The Fort Sisseton Commission met April 25, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 12:00pm. Commission members present were Calvin Hove, Todd Garry, Bill Hoskins, Bruce Prins, Rosie Smith, Doug Eidahl, Casey Weismantel, JoAnn Hawkinson, Chuck Vrchota and Kirk Jones. GFP personnel present were Al Nedved, Willy Collignon, Lori Skadsen and Ali Tonsfeldt. Present for SD Tourism was Calvin Bloemendaal. Minutes taken by Dalaine Pleinis.

AGENDA ITEMS

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES

After a minor correction MOTION BY TODD SECOND BY CALVIN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AS TYPED. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

FOUNDATION REPORT

The Foundation report was presented.

MOTION BY CASEY SECOND BY DOUG TO APPROVE THE FOUNDATION REPORT. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

OLD BUSINESS

Ali gave an update on the current projects: Adjutant, window update, boardwalk update, climate control units and tuckpointing.

Ali handed out information on Festival including new events, vendor list and other pertinent information.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

NEW BUSINESS

Ali handed out information on upcoming events including the Smithsonian Exhibit and other planned events for the summer of 2023.

Willy updated the commission discussions held with Confluence. One of the questions asked at the last meeting concerned aspect of being a 501C3. There does not seem to be any benefit to move in that direction as the Foundation can handle our needs in that area.

MOTION BY BILL SECOND BY DOUG TO CONTINUE WITH GFP WILDLIFE FOUNDATION MANAGING THE FUNDS FOR THE COMMISSION. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Bruce handed out a survey to help prioritize the commission goals to present to Confluence.

MOTION TO ADJOURN BY BILL SECOND BY CALVIN. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ali will send out a do-dle for a July meeting.

(attachment)

Festival Update:

- **Schedule of Events**
 - o New Events/Speakers
 - Gypsy
 - Heirloom Writing Workshop
 - My Life as a Reenactor
 - Teddy Roosevelt and his camp
 - Tamara St. John "Massacre of 1862 and Fort Sisseton"
 - Dallas Chief Eagle Hoop Dancer
 - Starr Chief Eagle Hoop Dancer
 - 1860's Baseball Game: 10am, Noon, and 2pm
 - Stick Rodeo
 - Plan B Concert
 - Ghost of Fort Sisseton
 - Towering Influence by Jason Lee Willis
- **Food Vendors:**
 - o Ken Bacon Wagon (Major)
 - o Ken Street Taco Wagon (Major)
 - o Guadalupe's Authentic Mexican (Major)
 - o Greek to Me (Major)
 - o Rainbow Concession: Mini Doughnuts (Major)
 - o Garry's Popcorn
 - o Bucklin's Lemonade
 - o Coffee Shop
 - o Ray's Corn Brats
- **Arts and Craft Vendors:**
 - o Wood Bird Houses
 - o Metal Signs
 - o Jewelry/Knitting
 - o Wood Artistry
 - o Scrap Metal Art
 - o Author Hartman: Fort Sisseton Novel
 - o Wood Porch Signs
 - o Fur Merchandise
 - o Canned Goods
 - o Soaps and Lotions
 - o Author Sandvig: Civil War Books
 - o Rugs
 - o Author Jason Lee Willis: Novels
- **Volunteers and Greeters**
- **Chuckwagon Fundraiser**
 - o Tickets available online at Eventbrite.com
 - o \$25 for 13 and up, 5-12 \$15 and under 5 Free
 - o Pork Loin donated from SD Pork Producers

- Beans, Potatoes, Biscuits, Dessert
 - Entertainment: Jason Lee Willis: History of Fur Trading
 - Plates
- **Festival Sponsors and Forms**
 - Only two so far
 - Forms available here
 - Need them ASAP so we can create the banner for marketing and to send their tickets.
- **South Gate Camping**
 - Can be reserved online now
 - Spots are being saved
- **Mobile App Update**
 - New Interface
 - Will contain Schedule, interactive map, and Survey

Upcoming Events:

- **Smithsonian Exhibit**
 - Photography Contest
 - Strand Theater: Tonight last night "Field of Dreams"
 - Grand Opening: May 11th at 7pm
 - Movie Under the Stars May 20th at 9:30pm
 - Author Pam Norwick: June 17 at 2pm
 - Rebecca Hedlund: TBA, sustainable Farming
 - Dennis and Jean Fagerland: TBA, Heritage Farming
- **Movie Under the Stars:**
 - Monthly showing of a family Friendly Movie, May 20th at 9:30pm
- **Open House Weekend: May 19th-21st**
 - Summer Staffing: (2) Maintenance, (1) Cleaning, (1) Attendant Crew Lead, (3) Interns
- **School Tours: 8 schools including two from ND**
- **Northern Fort Playhouse**
 - 2 Tickets will be sent out to each Commissioners to choose what performance they would like to go too.
 - Does not include meal if doing the dinner theater
- **Monthly Speaking at Britton Library**
 - Third Friday of every month
 - Ladies of the Night: May
 - Two Genealogy Classes
 - Ghosts of Fort Sisseton
 - Etiquettes in Victorian Era
 - Usage of Plants for healing
 - Eating out of the Pantry