



WILDWOOD

June 25, 2020

MEMORANDUM

To: Wildwood Historic Preservation Commission Members

From: Department of Planning and Parks

Re: **Update on 2020 Work Program of the City's Historic Preservation Commission (Wards – All)**

Cc: The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor
The Honorable City Council of Wildwood
Sam Anselm, City Administrator
John A. Young, City Attorney
Rick Brown, P.E. and P.T.O.E., Director of Public Works

At the end of last year, the Historic Preservation Commission Members approved seventeen (17) items as part of their anticipated 2020 Work Program. Subsequently, two (2) additional items were added. One (1) was added at the January meeting and the other at the February meeting. These items would provide direction to the Commission on what it would hope to accomplish in this calendar year.

At this time, the Department has an additional item it would like the Commission Members consider adding to the Work Program. Recently, the City accepted a donation of twenty-seven (27) acres from the estate of Joanna Yost, which must be used as a park. The conditions of the donation include the following: 1. the park is to be named Poertner Park; 2. the park access and any use is to be free of any charges; 3. the park is to be maintained as an undeveloped wildlife refuge and preserved for the purposes of picnicking, bird watching, hiking, and fishing; 4. hunting, shooting or killing is not permitted in the park; and 5. the park shall remain in its natural state. Based upon the dedication's requirements there will not be much in the way of park development; however, there are six (6) accessory structures on the site, all of which are a minimum of eighty (80) years old. The restoration of these structures should be reviewed and potentially considered by the Commission. Therefore, the Department is seeking direction on adding this item to the Work Program.

The Work Program items are outlined below, with the current status of each being identified as well.

No.	Work Program Item Description	Status		
		Underway	Complete	Not Started
1.	Undertake minor repairs, along with the painting of trim boards and fascia at Old Pond School.			X
<i>Update from previous meeting: None</i>				
2.	Evaluate the next group of properties to be added to the City's historical survey and conduct an Open House with their owners for input and feedback.			X
<i>Update from previous meeting: None</i>				
3.	Install the one (1) remaining historic community marker – Orrville, while creating a tour map that will highlight all of the eleven (11) locations.			X
<i>Update from previous meeting: This community marker will be installed near the new Eatherton Road bridge. This bridge project began construction on June 1, 2020 and will be completed before the new school year. This bridge project has generated a large amount of community feedback over the last two (2) weeks. Given design and engineering considerations, coupled with federal funding requirements, the bridge does not complement the historic Orrville Community. The impact by some who are participating in this discussion relate the impact to the history of this area.</i>				
4.	Oversee and edit the final chapters in the Wildwood History Book, which is being prepared by representatives of the Wildwood Historical Society (WHS). These chapters include the histories of the incorporation efforts and from 1991 to 2020.	X		
<i>Update from previous meeting: The final version of the contracted author's chapter is complete. Work is underway by City staff, on the incorporation chapter. The Commission delayed overall publication of the book until later in 2020.</i>				
5.	Offer input and oversee/approve the descriptions for the Points of Interest Map - 2020 additions.	X		
<i>Update from previous meeting: Department staff has begun drafting the text for this year's Points of Interests, which are five (5) scenic by-ways from the Orrville and Westland Acres historic communities.</i>				
6.	Initiate identified program steps for promoting Historic Route 66 through the City of Wildwood.			X
<i>Update from previous meeting: None</i>				
7.	Begin planning and design decisions on future Historic Route 66 Pocket Park on Manchester Road.	X		
<i>Update from previous meeting: This project is on tonight's agenda to begin the discussion and planning processes.</i>				
8.	Continue work on Belleview Farms Project, including providing the oversight of the preservation of historic assets associated with it.	X		
<i>Update from previous meeting: A group of residents representing the Sherman Area around Belleview Farms have formed a non-profit called Friends of Belleview. This group has been completing work days at the park site, focusing on property cleanup, which began in February and, by the beginning of April, had completed</i>				

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	more than two hundred sixty (260) hours of work. The group also received a grant from the Missouri Department of Conservation. The grant was in the amount of \$25,000.00 and is to be used for invasive species removal, tools to complete the removal, and restoration. Once more work has been completed on the grounds themselves, discussions will take place regarding installation of the minimum improvements to open the park, and then consideration of certain building restorations at the site.			
9.	Formulate, review, and adopt a Memorial Policy for the recognition of Champions of History in the City of Wildwood, including Lisa Kelpé, Larry Thompson, Judy Sahm, and others.	X		
<i>Update from previous meeting: This item was revised to not just be a more general Memorial Policy, but a Champions of History, at the Commission's February meeting. This item is on tonight's agenda for further discussion.</i>				
10.	Complete specifications and plan sheets for the bidding process in association with the reconstruction of the Essen Log Cabin on a City-owned site, while defining its planned use and location.	X		
<i>Update from previous meeting: The preliminary reconstruction drawings were reviewed by the Commission last month. Discussions will resume on the use of the building and its selected location over the next few months.</i>				
11.	Prepare materials and define steps to participate in the State's Bi-Centennial Celebration in 2021.	X		
<i>Update from previous meeting: Celebrate Wildwood 2020 and the City's written history book project have received approval as <u>Endorsed Projects</u>, as part of the Bicentennial Celebration, while letters were sent to local organizations and property owners to suggest their participation in identifying of their traditions or properties as a <u>Community Legacy</u>. Proposed applications for three (3) Community Legacies are on tonight's agenda for review and discussion by the Historic Preservation Commission.</i>				
12.	Create a Master Plan to address acceptance of donations and the allocations of future funding necessary for their reuse. The Master Plan should include a design for signage that would explain the source and location of re-purposed materials that are used in park construction projects within the City.			X
<i>Update from previous meeting: None</i>				
13.	Archive documents from the City's incorporation.	X		
<i>Update from previous meeting: New item added in January. Scanning and indexing of incorporation documents are proceeding well.</i>				
14.	Install park identification signage at Kohn Park.	X		
<i>Update from previous meeting: New item added in February. The first discussion was held on sign design in February, with the Department staff asked to review copyright and other design considerations, then report back to the Commission at a future meeting.</i>				

Ongoing Items	
A.	Encourage historic preservation efforts through greater public relations efforts, including the City's Gazette, website, and e-newsletter.
<i>Update from previous meeting: The Spring 2020 Gazette included an article on the Commission's efforts and highlights the book to be released, now, after the Celebrate Wildwood Event.</i>	
B.	Expand social media efforts.
<i>Update from previous meeting: Efforts continue on promoting historic preservation.</i>	
C.	Participate in training opportunities of the members' choice.
<i>Update from previous meeting: The first training session of the year was completed in May. Joe Harl, with Archaeological Research Center, provided a session on the pre-history and settlement of Wildwood. The remaining 2020 schedule is: 1.) July – Michael Allen, with Preservation Research Office; 2.) August – Karen Fox, with Wildwood Historical Society, on one-room schoolhouses in Wildwood, particularly the Old Pond School; and 3.) Date to be determined – Route 66 Association of Missouri.</i>	
D.	City project reviews (as projects are initiated and presented to the Commission).
<p>Updates on City Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Manchester Road Phase Three Streetscape Project – The general contractor, Gershenson Construction Company, has made good progress on the project with pouring sidewalks and approaches. The project is anticipated to be complete by the Fall of this year. The project is along the original Historic Route 66.</i> • <i>State Route 109 (two (2) new roundabouts south of State Route 100, on State Route 109, a pedestrian tunnel, and the widening of the State Route 109 bridge over State Route 100) – The project is complete! The project was completed in partnership with the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT). No archeological impacts resulted from this project, but it has a significant impact on the City. This project will be removed from the Work Program after tonight's meeting.</i> 	
E.	Perform other duties, as needed, and as opportunities or issues arise.
<i>Update from previous meeting: None</i>	

If any of the Commission Members should have comments or questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning and Parks at (636) 458-0440. A presentation is planned on these matters at tonight's meeting. Thank you for your consideration of this information and discussion of the same.