

2016 Indiana Bicentennial Commission Meeting

Thursday October 11, 2012

10:30 a.m.

- Members Present:
 - Lt. Governor Becky Skillman
 - Congressman Lee Hamilton
 - Jim Madison (phone)
 - Mary McConnell
 - Judge Sarah Evans Barker
 - P.E. MacAllister
 - Jim McCormick
 - Senator Jim Merritt
 - Steve Ferguson
 - Ellen Rosenthal
 - Tony George
 - Howard Cohen (phone)
- Lt. Governor Skillman opened the meeting and welcomed guests.
- Congressman Hamilton announced the appointment of Chris Jensen as the Executive Director of the Bicentennial Commission.
- Congressman Hamilton stated that he had spoken with Dan Bradley, President of Indiana State University asking how best to involve the Higher Education community in the state in the Bicentennial Commission. Dr. Bradley provided a list of names of the university presidents along with their e-mail addresses and phone numbers.
- Congressman Hamilton also stated that he had spoken with the Community Foundation at the Gift Conference and they are enthusiastic about the work of the Bicentennial Commission and want to participate in the Bicentennial Commission celebration.
- Lt. Governor Skillman announced that the Bicentennial License plate had been unveiled. She also shared the design with the Commission.
- The Indiana Historical Society (John Herbst) & the Indiana Humanities Council (Keira Amstutz) gave a presentation on working with other historical state agencies to promote activities across Indiana to promote the Bicentennial.
 - Mr. Herbst stated that a commission can take a number of roles, 1) sponsor directly 2) partner and 3) endorse.
 - They discussed engaging schools and involving students to participate in the Bicentennial. Destination Indiana is a time travel program where you sit at a screen with multiple people and by touching the screen you can drill back and take journeys back into Indiana history. There are over 300 journeys on all types of subjects. They are going to create a new platform so that students and teachers can access these journeys in the class room.

- Due in 2013 is the Next Indiana with tools that are currently in place that will be able to employ for the Next Indiana are to create some kind of traveling experience that communities can apply to host to engage students and community members to in their own personal way.
- Mr. Herbst discussed the promotion of National History Day
- Mr. Herbst discussed the History Train and the destinations set-up around the state.
- Bicentennial Nature Trust Update
 - Lt. Governor Skillman reported that the 12 approved projects mentioned at the last meeting have a great geographic mix and mix of types of projects.
 - New and expanded trails in parks and wetlands.
 - Announced that there are another 12 projects that have been preliminarily approved
 - Counties where projects have been approved in this second round are: Montgomery, Brown, Wayne, Union/Wayne, Blackford, Perry, Tippecanoe/Warren, Hamilton, LaPorte, LaGrange, Miami and Allen.
- Nature Trust Legacy Project proposal – Mary McConnell
 - A hundred years ago Indiana created the State Park System for the Centennial.
 - The vision was a recommitment to public land.
 - The bicentennial Nature Trust was established with the vision to create one new state park as a legacy for 2016 to build on what happened a hundred years ago.
 - Ms. McConnell proposed to create a Children of Indiana Bicentennial Park.
 - There are 1.1 million students in K-12 in Indiana.
 - Ms. McConnell proposed that every child in the State of Indiana would receive a ceremonial deed for 1 sq meter of land in the Children of Indiana Bicentennial Park.
 - Congressman Hamilton encouraged endorsement of the Children of Indiana Bicentennial Park. Motion passed.
- Indiana Public Broadcasters Presentation – Roger Roads, Lloyd Wright, Rob Anderson
 - The media can be a strong advocate for the Commission
 - Important for Commission members to engage public broadcasting
 - Rich archive of materials
 - Promote and create greater awareness of Bicentennial
 - PBS Learning media available 24/7
 - Teaching tool – interactive modules for teachers to use in the class room with their students, also contains lesson plans and guides
 - Can promote bicentennial projects
 - Help with Social media
 - Statewide media partner for Indiana’s Bicentennial Celebration
 - Congressman Hamilton – Need advisory committee of media – how to most effectively use media
- Connor Prairie – Ellen Rosenthal
 - Received National Science Grant

- With the National Science Grant, Connor Prairie is working with four History Museums across the country including Wabash Historical Museum looking at the history of invention in entrepreneurship in Indiana
 - Math Science Foundation for increasing math skills
 - Indiana inventors video game
 - 200 years of progress
- Open Discussion
 - Next meeting proposed logo
 - Create Bicentennial website
 - Budget needed
 - Mission statement needed – Randall Shepard
 - Proposal on how to tie plan together
- The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.