



Indiana Bicentennial Commission

Commission Meeting Minutes – October 27, 2015

Commission Members Present:

Becky Skillman
Lee Hamilton
Karen Pence
Jim McCormick
Randall Shepard
Ellen Rosenthal
Charlie Brown
Tony George
Mary McConnell
Steve Ferguson
P.E. MacAllister
Jim Merritt
Sarah Evans Barker

Staff:

Perry Hammock
Rene Stanley
Valeri Beamer
Sam Alderfer
Adrienne Smith
Jylian Vigar
Clint Walker

Invited Guests:

Jacob Speer, Indiana State Library Director
Indiana Governor Mike Pence
Brittany Michaels and Fred Nation – Vigo County Coordinators
Amanda Becker – Publishing Liaison, MT Publishing

- Co-chair Becky Skillman called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Perry Hammock called roll and noted a quorum was present. Co-chair Skillman thanked those who were able to join the meeting and moved to the agenda.

Welcome & Introductions

- Jacob Speer welcomed the Commission to the Indiana State Library on behalf of all library staff and announced that the library will be purchasing the Bicentennial commemorative book for each public library in the state.



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Thank You by Governor Mike Pence

- Governor Pence thanked the Commission for their efforts planning the Indiana Bicentennial and their diligent work for 4 years. A signed Bicentennial commemorative book, the first one off the press, was given to the Governor. Members of the Commission also posed for a picture with the Governor.

Bicentennial Visioning Project

- Norm Heikens, Project Manager and Editor, Lt. Governor's Visioning Project reported he will have the report completed in June, 2016. To date, 5 topics are completed with about 5 more to go.
Norm thanked those who gave name suggestions and participated.
A typical topic meeting consists of a welcome, public policy institute presentation, and about 100 ideas generated by the attendees.
Norm explained the tone is very civil and the right people are participating, there is a lot of support and good will.
Sarah Evans Barker asked if there was a good demographic diversity in attendance.
Norm answered that there was.
Lee Hamilton expressed his thanks. He explained that the end product is a report that may become a book to set forth the vision of where Indiana should be in 50 years.
He stated this will be a very valuable work product for the state of Indiana.
The quality of the sessions and attendance has been first rate.
He asked the Commissioners to pass along any other suggestions they might have.

First Lady's Update on County Visits

- First Lady Karen Pence, Bicentennial Ambassador
First Lady Karen Pence recently visited Allen County.
She really wanted to show other counties that you can take current or planned projects and tweak them just a little to make great Bicentennial Legacy projects.
Allen County has many Legacy projects including a walking trail with commemorative walking sticks, the Three Rivers Festival and the University of St. Francis downtown renovation project.
She reported that Allen County is really bringing all the Bicentennial pillars together and making their celebration special.

Task Force on Health and Wellbeing of Indiana Children

- Co-Chairs Becky Skillman and Lee Hamilton
Becky Skillman explained changes for the rollout of the initiative.
Perry Hammock met with the Governor's staff and they suggested moving the announcement to Statehood Day because 400-500 children will be in attendance and will help demonstrate the legacy of the Bicentennial.



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The Governor will make the announcement and all Commission members are expected to be there.

Becky Skillman continued that this announcement will show the importance we place on children and this initiative.

The announcement will be made at the end of the week leading up to Statehood Day with other big news being released each day. This weeklong countdown will be called IN200Hours.

Lee Hamilton asked what will happen following the Statehood Day announcement. Plans are being made for the non-NGO component to bring many other companies that are working on projects for children to light.

There are 127 Youth and Education Legacy Projects including projects from the Department of Education, The Indiana Arts Commission, United Way and about 20 state agencies.

Lee Hamilton asked every Commissioner to think about what they can do to aid in this initiative and to look at children's wellbeing in our state.

Lee Hamilton thanked Sarah Evans Barker, Becky Skillman, Perry Hammock and the IBC staff for working on this initiative. It is going well.

Sarah Evans Barker stated she was pleased with the progress. She suggested meeting with the Indiana Hospital Association about the new initiative. She also suggested Riley Hospital be involved on the day the announcement is made.

Perry Hammock has been in touch with the Hospital Association and will reach out again to their network.

Becky Skillman discussed the pledge that each of these companies should take to focus efforts on the health and wellbeing of children.

Karen Pence offered to discuss Riley Hospital's involvement during her meeting with them later in the day.

Vigo County Update

- Brittany Michaels and Fred Nation, Vigo County Co-Coordinators

Fred Nation explained that it is also the 200th anniversary of Terre Haute next year.

They are bringing past, present and future focuses to their Bicentennial programs.

Legacy projects include the Griffin Bike Park, Wabashiki and Bellwether.

The torch is going to travel by hovercraft through part of Vigo County.

Sarah Evans Barker asked the meaning of Wabashiki. Fred explained it is the Native American spelling of Wabash.

Brittany Michaels showed Vigo County's website and social media. They are using these tools to highlight Legacy projects and feature an online newspaper digitization project.

Sarah Evans Barker stated this is a very modern way to spread Bicentennial news in Vigo County.

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Royalty Agreement

- Perry Hammock, Executive Director

Perry explained that the Royalty Agreement was drafted to work with private sector firms. To date, 3 different organizations have reached out to use the Bicentennial logo on merchandise.

We should be part of this to ensure companies are using the correct logo and correct information.

The royalty starting point has been set at 7% of retail price.

The agreement has been reviewed by state legal.

Steve Ferguson asked where items will be manufactured.

The plan is not to promote these items so they will probably not be made in Indiana.

The Bicentennial Marketplace will, however, promote Indiana companies producing and selling commemorative items.

Becky Skillman stated there is a motion on the table to move forward with the Royalty agreement.

Sarah Evans Barker seconded motion.

Moved with no dissent.

Meeting dates for 2016 calendar year

- Becky Skillman, Co-Chair

A draft of the dates of Commission meetings for the 2016 calendar year was presented.

Perry Hammock stated we need to travel to Allen County. How much traveling should we do next year? The activity is really ramping up.

Karen Pence is visiting the counties with Legacy projects from the IBC website calendar.

The next Commission meeting will be on Statehood Day. 9:30 a.m. Indiana State Library. The Commission will meet then go to Statehood Day presentation.

Sarah Evans Barker stated the Commission members need detailed communication about where they need to be and when for the next meeting.

Following discussion, the tentative dates were approved for 2016.

Committee Reports

- Bicentennial Nature Trust report given by Mark Becker

Will probably have 2 more rounds of BNT projects.

Sarah Evans Barker asked if the projects in the next 2 rounds would cover the sparse areas left on the map.

Mark is hopeful that they will. There are 3 new counties with BNT projects in this round: Jay, Starke and Wabash.

Jim McCormick asked why the southern part of the state had few projects.

Mark stated that the BNT projects really need local support and it is hard to get in some areas.



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Randy Shepard mentioned that the Evansville area is one of the most urban areas so it's harder to get support for a nature project.

Becky Skillman stated there is great coverage of the entire state when looking at BNT and Legacy projects combined.

Sarah Evans Barker asked what landscaping is done when obtaining new land.

Mark answered that the County Parks take over and handles the landscaping.

Mark invited all Commission members to the dedication of Fox Ridge Nature Park in Vincennes on November 5th.

- o Endorsement Committee report given by Ellen Rosenthal

Ellen took time to remember a member of the Endorsement Committee and friend of the Commission, Colleen Smyth, and her work on the Bicentennial and Legacy projects. Ellen explained that the Endorsement Committee had a last minute and time sensitive project to approve if acceptable by the Commission. This project's approval increased the numbers by 1.

81 applications were received from 37 counties and 8 statewide.

77 were brought for Commission review.

6 first time applicant counties include: Fulton, Wells, Grant, Blackford, Rush, Fayette By pillar there were 11 youth and education, 32 community involvement, 28 historical celebration and 5 nature conservation applications.

Ellen Rosenthal made a motion to approve the Committee's recommendation to endorse all 77 applications. P.E. MacAllister second. Co-chair Skillman called the vote. The motion carried with no dissent.

Karen Pence asked about the Art Commission projects that are planned.

Perry Hammock stated the Arts Commission will be submitting around 130 and about half are focused on youth.

There was discussion about Warrick County being the only county in the state without a project. IBC staff member, Rene Stanley is going to Warrick County this week to help them develop a project.

- o Book Committee report given by Amanda Becker, Publishing Liaison for MT Publishing

Amanda brought a book to show the Commission.

Books are now being shipped. Retail price is \$39.95.

Most of the bookstores orders are shipped.

It will be in Costco, Sam's Club and Barnes & Noble for the holidays.

Amanda plans to have the book at Bicentennial and local events.

A press release is going out later this week.

Amanda thanked the members of the book committee.

Sarah Evans Barker stated it really is the people's book as it was completely produced in Indiana and it gives credit to so many people.

Thank you to Tony George for his generous initial support of the project.



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- Capitol Projects Update given by Jessica Robertson, IDOA Commissioner, Jason Larrison, State Architect and Cathy Donnelly, Conner Prairie
 - Jessica gave an update on new State Archives location: Partnering with IU for corner of Blackford and Indiana Streets.
 - Bicentennial Plaza progressing. Working with Indiana Arts Commission.
 - Education Center in Indiana State Library update given by Cathy and Jason.
 - The concept for the Education Center is built around curriculum for students, adding restrooms and improving tunnels.
 - Ellen Rosenthal stated that both teachers and administrators would benefit from the project. When asked, teachers wanted hands on, interactive learning that ties into what they are teaching in the classroom.
 - The Education Center was made possible in part by the First Lady's Foundation.
 - Rough opening will be in September with the public opening planned in October, 2016.

Executive Director's Report

- IBC report given by Perry Hammock.
 - 665 total projects in 91 out of 92 counties. 62 counties have both a Legacy Project and Bicentennial Nature Trust project.
 - Received Bicentennial patch art work for Girl Scouts.
 - Indiana Farmers Mutual Insurance Company has agreed to sponsor the uniforms for the Torch Relay.
 - Bicentennial Marketplace in the works. It will be a place for Indiana vendors to do business with Indiana buyers. Currently working on production and vendors.
 - The commemorative medallion should be available by late November. Working on marketing, fulfillment and roll out.
 - Bicentennial flags are available for purchase through the Indiana Historical Bureau.
 - Ginger Murphy, Deputy Director for Stewardship, DNR, reported on the State Parks centennial. Will have kick off December 16, 2015 with events at McCormick's Creek and Turkey Run State Parks. Ginger passed out flyer highlighting plans for the event.

- With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

The next meeting of the Indiana Bicentennial Commission:

Statehood Day

December 11, 2015

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Indiana State Library, Room 401