



Indiana Bicentennial Commission

Commission Meeting Minutes – April 8, 2016

Commission Members Present:

Becky Skillman
Lee Hamilton
Karen Pence
Jim Madison
Tony George
Jim Merritt

Commission Members via Telephone:

Jim McCormick
Charlie Brown
Steve Ferguson
Brenda Gerber Vincent
Ellen Rosenthal
Sarah Evans Barker
P.E. MacAllister

Staff:

Perry Hammock
Rene Stanley
Valeri Beamer
Sam Alderfer
Adrienne Smith

Invited Guests:

Lynn Lucas – Bartholomew County Coordinator
Captain Jeffery Elder – Commanding Office, NSWC Crane
Karen Niverson – Executive Director, Columbus Visitor's Center

- Co-chair Becky Skillman called the meeting to order at 9:35 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.

Task Force on Health and Wellbeing of Indiana Children

- Co-Chair Lee Hamilton
The new resolution that calls Hoosiers to action to protect the health and wellbeing of Indiana's children has been widely distributed and gaining much attention. There has been recognition from the Governor, cooperation with the Department of Education, January OP-ED piece and over 150 youth and education Legacy projects.



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Children will be a part of the Bicentennial Stamp First Day of Issue and a children's choir will also be performing.

Lee Hamilton would like to ask the Commission to think of ways and take action to get children involved and get more involvement with projects from across the state.

Becky Skillman pointed out the movement this resolution has had in a short amount of time. She thanked Perry and staff for their hard work in getting it going.

Perry Hammock showed coloring pages that have been taken to the State Museum, Boy & Girl Scouts and IDOE. Valeri will email this coloring page to Commissioners.

Sarah Evans Barker recognized the terrific progress that has been made. She pointed out two major topics that should somehow be addressed. Violence and infant mortality. We should use the State Fair to have more initiatives like a day dedicated to children or health.

Lee Hamilton stated how Sarah Evans Barker has been a prime mover in this children's initiative and will see that we follow up with those two issues.

Rene Stanley met with the Peace Learning Center and they will be submitting an anti-bullying Legacy project shortly.

P.E. MacAllister questioned whether there could be an endowment.

Jim Madison brought up the Children's Nature Center in Centerville as a proud partnership for Indiana's children. We will look at having a Commission meeting there.

Sarah Evans Barker followed up on the Lilly Day of Service and the relevancy to the Bicentennial it has. Perry answered that they are co-branding and working with a major children's project spread across the state.

First Lady's Update

- First Lady Karen Pence

First Lady Pence shared her travels around the state as official Ambassador for the Bicentennial. She visited Thomas Jefferson Elementary School in Porter County and James B. Eads Elementary School in Lake County. She also visited the Cedar Lake Bicentennial Shingle Legacy Project.

First Lady Pence will be working with "Blue" from the Colts to read Blue's children's book at schools.

Bartholomew County Update

- Lynn Lucas, Bartholomew County Coordinator

Bartholomew County has been busy with Legacy projects, having been approved for 20 endorsed projects. They had 103 torch bearer nominations and are finalizing details for their participation in the torch relay.

They will be adding town banners bearing the Bicentennial logo on them this summer.

CSWC Crane Presentation



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- Captain Jeffrey Elder, Commanding Officer

It is the 75th anniversary of Crane NWSC. Captain Elder presented the Commission and staff members with his personal coin to thank them for their work on the Bicentennial. The Commission and staff were very thankful for the coin and for his work partnering with the Bicentennial.

Indiana State Fair and the Bicentennial

- Sam Alderfer, Social Media Coordinator

The 2016 State Fair theme is Celebrating Indiana's Bicentennial.

The Commission will have a booth in the newly named Bicentennial Pavilion where we will display the Bicentennial Barn Quilt, the book, the Bicentennial medal, flag and stamp.

We are currently designing a wooden nickel to give out to booth visitors.

In planning the fair's themed days, it was suggested to have an "Indiana Reading Day" with the Colts mascot, Blue.

The Bicentennial Bison will be in either Celebration Park or Pioneer Village and will be judged by the general public and professional judges.

The Home & Family Arts Building is now the Indiana Arts Building and will feature significant Bicentennial programming including the First Lady's watercolor painting exhibit.

There is a Bicentennial Commission meeting scheduled for August 19th. There will be a luncheon on the porch of the Administration Building following the Commission meeting.

Committee Reports

- The Endorsement Committee report was given by Ellen Rosenthal, Chair
140 applications were received from 54 counties and 6 statewide groups.
138 were brought for Commission approval.
By pillar there were 24 youth and education, 63 community involvement, 45 historical celebration and 6 nature conservation applications.
Becky Skillman made a motion to approve the Committee's recommendation to endorse all 138 applications. Jim Madison second. Motion adopted.
- Bicentennial Nature Trust report given by Perry Hammock on behalf of Mark Becker
183 projects have been approved including 2 projects promoted from waiting list in March. There are 107 closed/completed.
There are BNT projects in 66 counties.

Executive Director's Report

- IBC report given by Perry Hammock



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1,013 total Legacy projects represent all 92 counties.

1,196 Legacy and BNT projects statewide

As of April 1, we have sold 3000 books and 670 medals and distributed more than 1900 flags. 300 Hoosiers have expressed interest in a silver medal. 300 books have been distributed to libraries.

The Governor's Arts Awards, a signature Bicentennial project will be Saturday, April 9th, 2016.

2015 Bicentennial Commission and staff accomplishments include: Children's Initiative, Legacy projects, Torch Relay, marketing, county coordination, Bicentennial kickoff, key partnerships, diversity programming, *Indiana at 200*, commemorative medal, flags & proclamations, Bison-ennial art project, commemorative stamp, Bicentennial marketplace

Indiana Office of Tourism Development, Bicentennial Marketing

- Karen Niverson, Executive Director, Columbus Visitor's Center
 - The 2016 Indiana Travel Guide includes special Bicentennial commemorative postcard inserts. There were 525,000 printed.
 - The Indiana Roadway Map includes Bicentennial and Torch Relay information.
 - The visitindiana.com website has a special Bicentennial landing page with 200 things to do bucket list.
 - Major events promoting the Bicentennial include:
 - April – Hoosier Hospitality Conference
 - May – Visit Indiana Week
 - August – Indiana State Fair Visit Indiana Bicentennial Pavilion
 - September – Indiana Bicentennial Torch Relay
- Jim Madison presented the idea of inviting President Barak Obama to Indiana to join a Bicentennial event or host his own.
- Jim Merritt commented how successful the Bicentennial Commission has been and asked how we will capture this after the Bicentennial. How should we prepare to archive what happened in 2016 for Indiana's Bicentennial? Perry answered that there will be a wrap up period in the months after the Bicentennial to prepare a book and video. Jim Madison stated it is our responsibility to make sure this happens.
- Lee Hamilton would like the list of accomplishments updated and sent to the Commission.
- With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

The next meeting of the Indiana Bicentennial Commission:

May 20, 2016

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.