



JOPLIN CELEBRATIONS COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, February 7, 2023, 4:00 p.m.

Location: Joplin City Hall, 5th Floor

Attended: Patrick Tuttle, Jill Halbach, Dr. Chad Stebbins, Emily Frankoski, Dr. Kerry Sachetta, Councilman Gary Shaw, Barbara Hogelin, Brad Belk, Paula Callihan, and guests Dan King and Conrad Gubera

I. **Meeting Called to Order by Mr. Tuttle**

II. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. Approval of January 2023 minutes – Motion made by Ms. Frankoski and seconded by Dr. Stebbins, unanimous approval.

III. **March 23rd Celebration:** Mr. Tuttle presented a draft schedule of events for the City's actual birth date, March 23. This schedule needed fine-tuning, and it was settled that Mr. Belk would present his lecture on Mr. Benton and the significance of the Mural at 2:30 in the Council Chamber. Before 4:00 p.m., the presentation would conclude, move to the 1st floor, and finish with specific mural details in front of Benton's work. This date also marks the 50th anniversary of the mural. Following Mr. Belk's presentation, the Joplin Area Town and Country Quilters will present a handmade quilt to the City of Joplin. These will be followed by cookies and punch provided by the City Clerk.

It was suggested to have LIVING WELL do their show as part of the celebration. Mr. Tuttle will take this on and ask the question of KSN. If they were to broadcast live, the same program would be followed, just at the show's pace.

IV. **March 23rd Celebration of Faith:** Mr. King representing the Joplin Ministerial Alliance, informed the commission of their organization's plan to hold two events. First, on May 20th at Mercy Hospital, for local ministers, a program to celebrate Rev. Harris G. Joplin and the strength of Faith in our community. The public event to be held on March 23rd, at 6:00 p.m. in the Central Christian Center, will be *Honoring Joplin's Journey of Faith* with programming and music. Details are still being developed for both events.

JOPLIN CELEBRATIONS COMMISSION

- V. **Landmark Build:** Mr. Tuttle read an update from Lisa Nelson with Landmark build. The LEGO build teams are progressing with the building projects of the Bonnie & Clyde Apartment, Union Depot, Grand Falls, and Crystal Cave.
- VI. **Percy Wenrich Tribute:** Mr. Tuttle and Mr. Gray reported on the April 14th and 15th planning. Rehearsals are going well, and everything is coming together. Ticketing through MSSU has not been resolved but is being worked.
- VII. **Joplin Goes to the Movies:** This event is progressing as planned. Dr. Stebbins, Ms. Halbach, and Mr. Tuttle met just before this meeting to discuss logistics. Ms. Crain has purchased the DVDs and royalties for each film. Mr. Tuttle reported that the Passport is in the final design phase (printing 500), and the stamps have arrived.
- VIII. **Baseball:** Dr. Sachetta said he has a Zoom meeting scheduled with the participating teams' coaches. The Vintage Base Ball Association teams from *Western Base Ball Club Topeka* will take on the *St. Louis Brown Stockings* in an exhibition game between the high school varsity games. Galena and Columbus will play at 10:30 a.m., with the Joplin and Pittsburg game scheduled for 3:30.
- The team will take on mining-era team names -- Joplin Miners, Columbus Bombers, Galena Miners, and Pittsburg Coal Diggers. They are looking for nostalgic t-shirts and hats for the boys to wear, with their school colors incorporated into the design. Mr. Tuttle is seeking bids from local vendors. Dr. Sachetta said they have everything they need to proceed. They are still looking for a sponsor for the shirts. The American Post 13 is paying the stipend for the vintage teams. \$4-6k is needed for the remaining sponsorship. Dr. Stebbins asked Dr. Sachetta if he would share the information about the Gabby Street program with the other coaches during the Zoom meeting. He said that he would.
- IX. **Community Concert:** Freeman Health System and Downstream Casino are still on board for sponsoring. This is very much in the development stage.
- X. **Joplin Heritage Trail:** Dr. Stebbin finished the text for the 4th and Main Streets signs. Three different signs will be installed in Spiva Park: one about the Hotel Connor; one about Spiva Park, and one about 4th and Main Streets (commercial corridor).
- XI. **Merchandise:** Mr. Tuttle reported on the first round of deposits from the commemorative coin sales. To date, all five Joplin Southwest Missouri Bank locations have sold 338 coins for a total of \$6,760.
- There was some discussion about ordering more cookie cutters. Ms. Hogelin said she would see if the provided was still available.
- XII. **Missouri Preservation Conference:** Ms. Halbach said that planning continues. They are using the Scottish Rite Cathedral as a home base. Tours include Joplin Union Depot, the Olivia, and local historic Black churches. A window workshop is planned for Handy Chapel. They are currently seeking sponsors (and you can ask Ms. Halbach if you are interested).

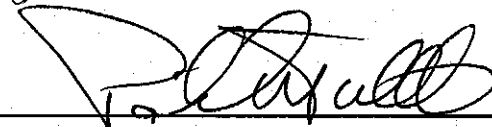
JOPLIN CELEBRATIONS COMMISSION

XIII. **Announcements:** Mr. Tuttle said that a group in California is organizing a Mini Cooper tour, and they are trying to arrive in Joplin just before The Great Race event kicks off. There could be 200 minis in town on June 28th in addition to the 120 Great Race cars.

XIV. **Meeting Adjourned**

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in City Hall, 5th Floor.

Approved:  _____
Jill Halbach, Secretary

Approved:  _____
Patrick Tuttle, Co-Chair