

OVIS Board Meeting Minutes/Notes of October 24, 2024

Those in attendance: Brian Smith, Julie Longen, Todd Guarino, Jim Wiesner, and Dave Ennis.

The meeting was convenient that 7 PM at Molly's restaurant second floor room.

Jim provided information of the current balance is \$18,994.69.

Brian reported that he had filed the golf cart parade permit application, had obtained the event insurance, and was working on the sheriff agreement for traffic management. Based upon discussion, it was concluded to keep the cart participation fee the same as the previous year, which is \$20.

Brian said he's getting information from Stahl Insurance on the flood insurance for the Hall. He said elevation information was needed. Julie provided information on the contact for the certificate of elevation in the floodplain office: Lisa Foster and Maxine Moore.

There was a discussion about the Freedom Floor quotes. A separate work task to prepare for the floor repair is to remove toilets and cabinetry that is on the floor. It was noted there are two proposals for \$54,000 for historic pine wood or \$40,000 for oak wood. A discussion and followed to develop a cost figure for phase 1. The following numbers were developed: oak floor with \$40,000, demolition preparing for floor work \$2000, electric work \$5000, furniture replacement of tables and chairs for \$3000, LED lights \$2000, kitchen and bath fixtures and cabinets \$10,000, and display cabinets at \$5000. The total was \$67,000. Considering contingencies that might occur the group concluded the project would be \$75,000. It was noted that if the project included historic pine, the total would be \$90,000.

Brian indicated based upon research there were few realistic options to obtain money to make these repairs. He noticed that the MSTU grant program of the County has a working limit of \$20,000 per grant. The group was very worried about doing something on a timely basis to preserve the hall and thought this was the best option due to timing. However, the proposal should include a request for the full project cost which is estimated to be \$75,000 or \$90,000 based upon the choice of floor wood. Since this would not be a normal request for such a grant it was determined best to make the application directly to the County Commission. Brian was authorized to make the proposal and transmit it.

It was noted that there are other improvements needed, and that the GoFundMe program could be an option to cover those other costs. It was agreed that state funding would be pursued through the state historic preservation program for follow-up improvements, including the elevation of the hall this coming year.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 7:40 PM.

